Comprehensive and Intelligent Network Security with A10 Networks

McAfee® Network Security Platform and A10 Thunder SSLi provide high-performance decryption and advanced intrusion detection

McAfee and A10 Networks offer a comprehensive network security solution that discovers and blocks malicious attacks hidden in encrypted traffic. A10 Thunder SSLi (SSL Insight) decrypts SSL-encrypted traffic, enabling McAfee to apply advanced detection and emulation techniques to the clear-text traffic, without compromising network performance.
The Business Problem

There is a rapid increase in network traffic encryption, with a large percentage of internet traffic currently encrypted. Organizations are facing new security challenges, as many security devices are not designed to decrypt and encrypt network traffic at high speeds.

Malware and ransomware can be hidden in encrypted traffic. If undetected, malicious content can cause downtime and loss of productivity. In addition, attackers and insiders can use encryption to evade inspection and smuggle data out of the network, causing costly data breaches, regulatory penalties, and reputation damage. Organizations face two hard choices: decrypt traffic and risk performance bottlenecks or bypass decryption and expose network to inevitable encrypted attacks.

Intrusion prevention systems/intrusion detection systems (IPS/IDS) like McAfee Network Security Platform need a way to inspect all enterprise traffic without compromising the network performance.

McAfee and A10 Network Integration

A10 Thunder SSLi eliminates the blind spot caused by secure sockets layer (SSL)/transport layer security (TLS) encryption, offloading SSL decryption and encryption functions from security devices while ensuring compliance with privacy standards. This solution works with all types of enterprise security products, including: next-generation firewalls, secure web gateways, intrusion prevention systems, unified threat management, data loss prevention, advanced threat protection, network forensics, and many more, augmenting them to ensure a client’s entire network is secured against encrypted threats. Add to this technology the advanced intrusion prevention and intelligent malware detection capabilities of McAfee, and the solution becomes a comprehensive defense against the ever-evolving cyberthreat landscape.

Thunder SSLi decrypts traffic and forwards it to McAfee Network Security Platform for inspection. Since McAfee Network Security Platform receives the traffic in cleartext, it can easily perform advanced intrusion prevention and malware analysis to make sure that no malicious content makes it through into or out of the network. Thunder SSLi then re-encrypts the safe traffic and forwards it to the intended destination.

Thunder SSLi’s high-performance SSL/TLS decryption provides complete visibility to the McAfee Network Security Platform. Together, the integration provides organizations with the agility for deep inspection of network traffic and comprehensive threat prevention.

Integrated Architecture

McAfee Network Security Platform is deployed as an active inline IPS on the enterprise perimeter, inspecting all incoming and outgoing traffic. For high-speed SSL/TLS visibility, McAfee Network Security Platform is connected directly to the Thunder SSLi device, as shown in the figure below, placing it in a logical “secure decrypt zone.”

A10 Networks SSL Insight’s high-performance decryption and McAfee Network Security Platform enable you to:

- Gain complete visibility into network activity, including encrypted traffic, to uncover attacks and infiltrations, and to deliver a safe and secure user experience.
- Decrypt traffic across multiple ports and protocols for all types of network security devices, including inline, passive, and ICAP-enabled devices.
- Quickly detect and block advanced, stealthy threats at a scale that complements high-performance, dynamic environments.
- Perform advanced threat detection that goes beyond simple signature-based malware analysis.
- Protect your network and resources against inbound and outbound threats.
- Ensure compliance with privacy standards.
- Simplify deployment, operations, and management.
- Gain access to real-time actionable insights on network traffic, including detailed application visibility.
- Reduce operational costs and increase ROI.
Encrypted traffic is intercepted and decrypted by Thunder SSLi, and the cleartext traffic is directed to the secure decrypt zone for inspection. McAfee Network Security Platform intercepts this traffic and quickly performs malware analysis and makes sure that no unauthorized data extraction is taking place. The same process is followed in reverse for incoming traffic as well, providing McAfee Network Security Platform with complete visibility and making sure that no encrypted intrusion can take place. In dynamic environments, if traffic levels increase and additional security tools are needed, A10 can provide load balancing among multiple security devices to help scale the solution according to the needs of the organization.

McAfee and A10 Networks Detect and Block Accurately

With Thunder SSLi’s superior performance augmenting McAfee Network Security Platform’s intelligent threat prevention, you can rest assured that threats, encrypted or otherwise, inbound or outbound, will be detected and blocked with high accuracy at peak performance. The ease with which this solution is deployed and managed and the level of detailed visibility and control that this solution provides helps strengthen your overall network security, reducing the risk of costly data breaches as well as your total cost of ownership.

About A10 Networks Thunder SSLi

A10 Networks Thunder SSLi is an SSL/TLS visibility solution that is deployed on the enterprise network perimeter and enables your existing security infrastructure to inspect traffic in cleartext. Thunder SSLi can scale to over 40 Gbps of throughput and can be deployed in a number of different ways. It has the ability to decrypt traffic for inline, passive, and ICAP-enabled security devices. The solution, with its security subscriptions, also adds an additional layer of preventive security, all of which can be deployed easily with wizard-driven configuration and management. To learn more about the A10 Networks Thunder SSLi and McAfee Network Security Platform, please contact your A10 Networks representative or visit www.a10networks.com.
About McAfee Network Security Platform

McAfee Network Security Platform is a next-generation IPS that discovers and blocks sophisticated malware threats across the network. It utilizes advanced detection and emulation techniques, moving beyond mere pattern matching to defend against stealthy attacks with a high degree of accuracy. To meet the needs of demanding networks, the platform can scale to more than 40 Gbps with a single device.

Learn More

For more information, contact your McAfee representative or channel partner, or visit www.mcafee.com.