



Service descriptions

Firewall management, monitoring, and threat hunting services

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1 SERVICE OVERVIEW

Network firewalls still play a key role in any well-balanced cyber security strategy. New technologies embedded into network firewalls have shown to successfully fight today's threats that attack companies' systems and users. As the complexity of the firewall increases, the underlying management increases correspondingly bringing additional challenges for internal IT teams.

Foresight Cyber has recognised that this shift in technological and procedural complication increases risk and offer a superior firewall management service that helps organisations overcome these burdens.

Our services are structured to fit each client's needs as follows:

The Silver level: Firewall Platform Management ensures that your firewall(s) are continually operational, maintained with appropriate system updates, and all available features provided by your firewalls are managed confidently.

The standard Service Level Agreement (SLA) delivers timely changes and standard availability incident resolution. While firewalls are monitored by our fully automated Foresight Cyber Platform, the resolution of any issues and implementation of required changes occurs during London business hours.

The Gold level: in addition to the Silver level adds a risk-related service by reviewing requested changes for risks and compliance. The SLAs of the service provide faster response times.

The Platinum level: in addition to the Gold level adds threat hunting by collecting security logs from the firewalls, enriching with open-source threat intelligence data (OSINT); using a specially designed rulebook to find actual threats and incidents. The more data points we get from the customer, such as DHCP, AD and server logs, the superior the hunting service becomes.

The Platinum level is ideal for companies with requirements for high-availability, 24/7 service, regulatory and PCID SS compliance. The service provides annual recertification of the firewall rules.

The Platinum level includes 24x7 management.

Service levels at glance

| | Silver | Gold | Platinum |
|---|---|--|----------------|
| Real-time automated availability and performance monitoring | Included | | |
| Software updates * | | | |
| Firewall rules management | | | |
| IDS package management | | | |
| Proxy anti-malware package management | | | |
| Client read-only access to configuration and logs | | | |
| Access to reporting and monitoring portal | | | |
| Included changes per Firewall per year | 10 | 20 | Unlimited |
| Reports | Availability Performance Firewall / VPN usage | Silver + Threats detected by firewall Rules compliance | |
| Threat management services | Technical management of built-in features | Threat monitoring | Threat hunting |
| High-availability setup & management | Included | | |
| Firewall rules risk analysis for compliance and risk * | | | |
| Annual firewall rules re-certification | N/A | N/A | Included |
| Site to Site VPN setups & management | 2 per firewall | 8 per firewall pair | Unlimited |
| User VPN setup & management | 2 profiles | 4 profiles | Unlimited |
| SLA to implement changes ** | 16 hours | 8 hours | 2 hours |
| SLA to begin fixing incidents ** | 4 hours | 2 hours | 20 minutes |

* Required for CE+ (<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberessentials/overview>) and PCI DSS

** An OoB device required for these SLAs to be in effect, otherwise out teams will work on best effort basis as we cannot guarantee our access to the firewall

Unless specified in a contract, the 'business hours' are defined as 8am to 5pm local London time, Monday to Friday.

2 FIREWALL SERVICES DESCRIPTION

With our upgraded firewall management service, we support the installation, configuration, on-going management and monitoring for the following technology vendors:

- PFSense on
 - Netgate HW
 - Netgate virtual appliance
 - our certified HW
 - or as a virtual appliance
- Cisco Meraki MX

2.1 Silver Service components

For the above technologies, we provide, subject to SLAs, the following services.

2.1.1 24/7 Availability and Performance monitoring

We add all firewalls to our monitoring system provided in Foresight Cyber Platform©. This will alert our team to any potential availability issues and maintain appropriate firewall performance reports. We will also advise clients when a HW firewall or virtual appliance is at 80% of its average capacity.

2.1.2 Software updates

We will ensure that the firewall software is always at the latest stable version, unless the functionality required is no longer supported, or where a risk assessment has shown that a temporary delay is required, e.g. because a critical business operation occurs simultaneously. Security updates to the firewall operating system and applications are installed as per our vulnerability management policy unless a client requires a more stringent policy to be applied.

2.1.3 Implementation of changes on a firewall device

All changes to firewall configurations, requested and approved by a client, will be implemented according to strict requirements of the agreed change management process. This will include taking a backup of the configuration before the change, and agreed date and time for change, together with a follow up communication with the client after the change. In our own process, a change is not labelled as 'Completed' until the changes are

thoroughly tested. As part of our standard security management, a log of all firewall changes is meticulously maintained.

The following table lists standard changes and credits consumed:

Table 1 - firewall changes and change credits consumed

| Standard change request | Credits consumed per change |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Adding, modifying, and removing firewall rules | 1 |
| Adding, modifying, and removing a user | 1 |
| Adding, modifying, and removing user group | 1 |
| Adding, modifying, and removing alias | 1 |
| Changing configuration parameters of the firewall itself | 1 |
| Changing firewall licensed security modules and configuration of them | 1 |
| Adding new VPN (user or site to site) with associated firewall rules | 2* |
| Changes to physical, virtual interfaces and VLANs and routing | 3* |

** Subject to a review by Foresight Cyber security consultant and confirming the go ahead*

Other changes are charged on time basis using our standard hourly/daily rates. The following are not exhaustive examples of non-standard changes, these are typically those that would typically require a design document update, a detailed review by our firewall consultants and a discussion with a customer.

2.1.4 Management of advanced threat monitoring and protection features

As standard, the Intrusion Detection System (IDS) component is implemented on all firewalls, unless instructed by the client not to do so. On request, and after careful consideration, we can also enable rules in blocking mode.

All firewalls are configured with daily updates of malicious IP addresses and with client agreed rules to block traffic from and to these IP addresses.

2.1.5 Management of user remote access VPN

We configure and manage remote access configuration, typically by SSL, IPsec VPNs, Wireguard, or anything native in the firewall platform. We support internal firewall authentication, certificates or external authentication and authorisation.

2.1.6 Management of site-to-site VPNs

On request, we will setup and manage site-to-site VPN connectivity between client sites, or the client site and a 3rd party partner. For the latter, we will require assistance from and work with the 3rd party firewall or network team.

2.1.7 Management of Web proxy function

On request, we will configure an explicit proxy function on firewalls. The proxy server will be configured to prevent or report traffic to malicious domains, and this may also be used to monitor access to sites in breach of company's code of conduct if the client so wishes.

2.1.8 Standard platform reporting

We provide monthly reporting to the client that includes availability statistics, changes performed, any service issues encountered.

2.2 Gold Service Components

2.2.1 Reviewing firewall rules requests

We will undertake a review of change requests for security risks and compliance issues and advise the client appropriately. We use our best practice, NIST 800-41 as well as industry best practices relevant to the client profile and their environments.

2.2.2 Firewall rules risk analysis for compliance and risk

Monthly review of rules on firewalls to checks:

- Invalid rules and objects
- Obsolete rules – no longer used
- Rules not compliance with the firewall policy without active approved compliance exception

- Rules enabling risky protocols (regardless of compliance) without active approved compliance exception

A report is produced and sent for client review and sign.

2.2.3 Security and compliance reporting

We provide monthly report of threats detected by the firewall software. We provide quarterly report of compliance of the firewall rule-base compared to your security , Cyber Essentials, and PCI DSS.

2.2.4 Management of high-availability clusters

We manage high-availability clusters to ensure continuation of service in case of HW or SW failure.

2.3 Platinum Service Components

2.3.1 Security event monitoring and threat hunting

As part of our service, we setup a log collection service and ingest firewall logs. Depending on the platform and firewall modules enabled, we monitor for security, availability and change events. We use these events for reporting and to trigger security responses as appropriate.

Our automated platform is supported by a team of experienced security operations analysts who review flagged events and make decisions if these require investigation and reporting to a client.

2.3.2 Annual re-certification of all firewall rules

On an annual basis, we will issue a request to the client to re-certify all firewall rules. This process forms part of the primary certification standards and helps maintain effective and efficient control of both ingress and egress to the network.

Recertification of all active risk and compliance exceptions.

2.3.3 24/7 Management and incident response

Our team uses 24/7 monitoring and reacts to incidents affecting availability and performance, critical threats detected.

Scheduled approved changes are implemented.

3 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

3.1 Client access to firewalls

On request, we will supply read-only access to the firewall configuration, all changes and approvals relating to managed firewalls.

We will also copy firewall logs – audit, traffic, and application specific – to the client's log management tool. We do not permit sharing firewalls between two or more clients, thereby negating any possibility of accidentally disclosing other clients' data.

3.2 Contacting our support team

Our service is designed to be semi-automated: therefore, it is extremely important that communications between the Foresight Cyber support team and the client team is always maintained as closely as possible.

Our support team is accessible via email and Microsoft Teams – individual engineers have named accounts, and these are shared with customers at the start of the service.

3.3 Service requirements

To deliver the best service possible, we require the following:

- Setup of a site-to-site VPN to our Foresight Cyber Operations Centre used for management, automatic monitoring, and backup operations
- We require the installation of Foresight Cyber Out of Band (OoB) device and providing Internet connectivity, or setup an independent Internet connection – subject to specific agreement. This OoB device is then connected to the firewall using either Console or Ethernet cable. The connection is only used when the site-to-site VPN is not working correctly, as per agreed processes/protocols
- Access to a firewall management console where applicable, i.e. central firewall management console
- Firewalls that do not have an OoB device connected and fully working are not fully covered by the SLAs, specifically related to changes and resolution of incidents.
- PKI certificates for your users' remote access, unless you require us to create certificates for those users

- A list of whitelisted IP addresses and domains – typically your business partners and key business web sites
- Acceptable use policy for optional proxy service including permitted / prohibited website access monitoring and alerting for attempts to exploit the vulnerability of Foresight Cyber Security's systems.

FORESIGHT[®]

CYBER

Registered address:

71-75 Shelton Street
Covent Garden
London
WC2H 9JQ
United Kingdom

Business address CZ:

Daliborova 423/19
709 00
Ostrava - Mariánské Hory
Czechia

Contacts:

UK Office: +44 20 8159 8942
General enquiries: info@foresightcyber.com
Finance team: finance@foresightcyber.com
Data protection Office: dpo@foresightcyber.com
Directors: directors@foresightcyber.com

<https://foresightcyber.com>
[@foresightcyber](#)

VAT: GB144735213
Company number: 06871193
D-U-N-S number: 211601017

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