

Networking Solutions

LAN switching

Building the network infrastructure

Over recent years switching has evolved from switches that support basic routing to switches that support features such as load balancing, URL inspection, firewalling, virtual private networks and other enhanced network security functions. This new breed of multilayer switch has become an all-in-one component of the network infrastructure. In large scale network design a multilayer switch is now often deployed in place of multiple network components such as routers and Firewalls.

This technology is now becoming more available for smaller network infrastructures with the introduction a greater number of features and enhancements to the smaller switch appliances. Security enhancements, Quality of Service (QoS) and Power over Ethernet (PoE) are some of the features that are now included on a standard LAN switch.

Wireless technologies

Effective coverage, performance and security

Implementing a wireless solution in a small office environment may be considered by some as a relatively straightforward task. However coverage, performance and security must be carefully planned and prepared before combining a wireless and a wired network.

For example, it may be necessary to configure separate guest access to the wireless network to prevent unauthorised users connecting to network resources on the general LAN. The type of security and encryption configured must be effective to prevent rogue devices from gaining access to the network.

MPLS networks

Private WAN solutions

An MPLS network is an effective way for an organisation to connect multiple office locations via a single private, secure infrastructure. As the network is private, communications between different locations do not pass over the public Internet. This eliminates the need for encryption and the provisioning of Firewalls at each individual site.

Instead, most MPLS networks are configured with a single, shared Internet breakout point via one Firewall. By having a single Firewall an organisation can significantly reduce costs including the cost of managing multiple devices, the investment in hardware and the purchase of multiple licenses for enhanced Firewall features such as content filtering.

Another advantage of MPLS networks is scalability; sites can easily be added or removed from the network without causing any disruption. MPLS is an ideal solution for companies that grow through acquisition.

activereach has relationships with many different connectivity vendors which enables us to select the solution with the best network coverage depending on your organisations geographic locations. By choosing activereach, you will have access to engineers who have vast experience and knowledge of designing, installing and supporting MPLS networks.

Internet and WAN design

Reliable, secure and scalable

Whatever your requirement, perhaps just a single Internet access link or maybe several connections to enable connectivity between different offices, activereach are able to provide a service that is fit for purpose. With more businesses adopting cloud based services, the link to these Internet based services is more critical than ever. Your Internet link needs to be reliable, secured and scalable to meet any future bandwidth demands.

As well as basic connectivity, activereach can also supply the hardware and services to achieve the most from your Internet connectivity. A secure, encrypted VPN (virtual private connection) is required for remote offices to communicate across the Internet. Firewalls need to be configured correctly to prevent unauthorised access. Internet bandwidth utilisation should also be monitored frequently for evidence of security breaches and misuse.

activereach engineers have the knowledge and experience to help whatever your requirement. From the design and implementation of a secure wireless infrastructure to the design, configuration and support of a scalable multilayer switched network.

For more information, call **0845 625 9025** or email contactus@activereach.net or visit our website www.activereach.net.

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