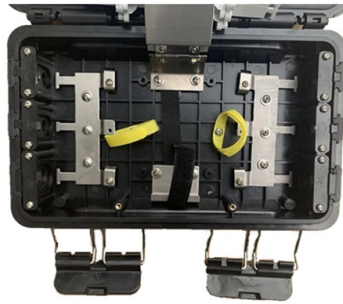


Problems with network security equipment



AI Overview

Network security equipment faces challenges from hardware and software vulnerabilities, misconfigurations, insider threats, and the complexity of modern hybrid networks.

Common Hardware and Software Vulnerabilities Network devices such as firewalls, routers, and IoT devices can have hardware flaws or outdated firmware that attackers exploit to gain unauthorized access or install malware. Software vulnerabilities include bugs, unpatched operating systems, and insecure applications, which can compromise the entire network if exploited. Unauthorized or poorly managed devices, including mobile endpoints, increase the risk of breaches and lateral movement within the network.

Misconfigurations and Cloud Challenges Misconfigured cloud services, such as open storage buckets or overly permissive access roles, are a frequent source of security incidents. Hybrid and multi-cloud environments complicate visibility and monitoring, creating encrypted blind spots and fragmented telemetry that make detecting threats difficult. Security tools often aggregate logs without session-level context, slowing investigations and increasing false positives.

Insider Threats and Credential Abuse Insider threats remain a significant problem, as employees or contractors with legitimate access can unintentionally or maliciously compromise systems. Credential abuse allows attackers to move laterally using legitimate tools, bypassing traditional signature-based detection. Behavioral analytics and full packet capture are essential to detect these subtle threats.

Human and Operational Factors Human error, such as phishing, weak passwords, or unauthorized software installation, is a leading cause of network security issues. Employees may inadvertently introduce malware or expose sensitive data, highlighting the need for training, access controls, and strict policy enforcement...

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