Network Security challenges in a cloud environment – A perspective

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Introduction

 IaaS Cloud is a collection of multiple enterprise IT

• Significantly complex architectures

• Internet, Storage, LAN traffic



Introduction

• East West traffic problems

• Scalability & automation issues



Enterprise IT

- Small workload
 - 5-10 VMs, 2-3 VLANs, single IP space
- Medium workload
 - 10-50 VMs, 5+ VLANs, multiple IP subnets, VPNs
- Large workloads
 - 50+VMs, 10 VLANs, dedicated firewalls, load balancers
 - Distributed DC deployment & L2 interconnects



Traffic inspection in virtualization Layer

 75% of data center network traffic is East-West

 Nearly all security controls look exclusively at North-South traffic, which is the traffic moving into and out of the data center; 90% of East-West traffic never sees a security control.



Network Traffic Monitoring





Virtual firewalls

• Intra host communication

• Physical Firewall vs Virtual Firewall



Next Generation Firewalls

- Management of firewall clusters.
 - Traffic Flows Increased
 - Expensive design

- Virtual firewall :
 - Design challenge
 - Programming challenge



10Gbps Interfaces

BUM – Broadcast, unknown and Multicast traffic

• For 20 server 48 x 10Gbps

Sflow – Network trends monitoring



Software Defined Networks

- Network control function separated from forwarding function
- New approach to network management.
- Agility and control for network designers.





Bare-metal & white-box switches

- Reduce cost
- Increased flexibility
- Switches has a programmable control panel and data fwd plane
- Bare metal switches can help in monitoring of inter VM traffic, Storage migration/replication and hypervisor communication



TAPS

• Legal Intercept of traffic

- Monitoring
 - SIEM
 - DLP
 - Flow analysis



Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)

• Active log management

• Log correlation

Ticket management

• Vulnerability assessment



SIEM VENDORS

- HP
- IBM Security
- McAfee
- SPLUNK
- ALIENVAULT
- LOGRHYTHM
- EMC



Conclusion

- Networking in an IaaS cloud is a new paradigm
- Network engineers should learn programming
- Openflow based switches are the future
- Flow analysis and programming is the key to an agile and self-healing network
- SDN is the key

