

Re: [fw-wiz] Integrated IDS/IPS/Firewall (Cisco ASA and Juniper ISG)

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Chris Blask wrote:

An interesting proof of open source philosophy would be Enterprise-viable open source solutions large and small that would compete with commercial offerings.

I believe that open source solutions are also a factor in the consolidation and eventual demise of security as an "industry." By offering a "free" alternative they remove wiggle room from the small start-ups at the bottom of the economy – if you're trying to compete with Symantec or Cisco you get crushed between "huge" on one side and "free" on the other. "Traditional" business customers are going to go with the mega-player because it's the safe bet, while the technically clueful ones will mount an in-house open source-based effort. The net effect is that "free" becomes the enemy of "good" by preventing the small vendor from being able to offer a high-quality low-cost solution.

mjr.

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