



# Network Notes

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### Special points of interest in this issue:

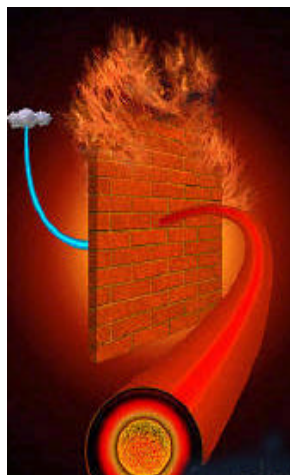
- CERT has reported over 3,200 vulnerabilities through 2002 Q3
- Bugbear worm most threatening virus this year.
- ANS becomes NACSE NEP Provider
- ANS signs contract with Michael Baker Jr. Engineers

## Why You Need a Firewall

When you connect your computer and network to the Internet, you are physically connecting your network to over 50,000 unknown networks and all of their users, some good, some BAD. While the Internet can open many doors to valuable information and applications that can help your business, it also exposes your network to the bad or "seedy" side of the Internet.

Imagine parking your car on the street, with the windows open and keys in the ignition. In effect, without the appropriate security your network and computer systems are just as vulnerable when connected to the Internet.

Most network or system vulnerabilities are caused by misconfigurations, failure to apply software patches or inherent system weaknesses. Through 2002 Q3, CERT ([www.cert.org](http://www.cert.org))



[cert.org](http://www.cert.org)) has reported on over 3,200 vulnerabilities and has had over 73,300 security incidents reported. Even small networks and home users can be attacked, and with the number of incidents growing each year, the odds eventually being affected increase.

Not all Internet users are involved in lawful activities. Those that actively "attack" and try to unlawfully access computers have a full arsenal of tools and utilities at their disposal. From port scanners, password

crackers and IP spoofing tools, hacking has become easy enough for a 12-year old.

A firewall connected at the perimeter of your network provides the basic level of defense to protect your network and computers from unauthorized access and attack from the Internet. Since technology continues to grow and expand, so do the methods that hackers use, as a result, security is a continuing process, which includes firewalls, passwords and virus protection.

Access Network Solutions can help you secure and manage your security needs, protecting your business and computer systems.

## Bugbear Worm Repellent!

Security experts warn the W32.Bugbear@mm worm is among the most threatening viruses this year. Bugbear is mass-mailing worm that has shown up worldwide. Bugbear worm allows hackers to take control of infected machines remotely and attempts to terminate various anti-virus and firewall programs as well as flooding shared printer resources.

Want to protect your vital network from malicious attacks that are often invisible until the damage has been done? Access Network Solutions can provide a solution utilizing today's leading software and hardware such as Symantec and Cisco.



## Tips and Tricks - Shortcuts for Windows

Using the windows key on the newer keyboards you can quickly access various parts of your PC. This key is located between the Ctrl and Alt keys on either side of the space bar.

Pressing the Window Key plus the key below will give the following results.

<b>Press</b>	<b>To</b>
Window Key	Display or hide the <b>Start</b> menu.
+BREAK	Display the <b>System Properties</b> dialog box.
+D	Goes to <b>Windows Desktop</b> .
+M	Minimize or restore all windows.
+E	<b>Explore</b> My Computer
+F	Search for file, folder, or computer.
+F1	Display Windows 2000 Help.
+R	Open the <b>Run</b> dialog box.
ALT+TAB	Switch between open items. (Don't use the Windows Key for this shortcut)
+U	Open <b>Utility Manager</b>
+P	Printers Window (Windows 9x and ME)

The properties key displays the shortcut menu for the selected item, the same as a right click.

## Access Network Solutions becomes NEP Provider



Access Network Solutions has met the all the requirements and has been approved as a NACSE Endorsed Provider (NEP).

The NACSE Endorsed Provider program defines a set of standards and criteria that Information Technology service and solution providers must meet in order to obtain the NEP endorsement. The criteria and standards include ethics, project management, administration processes and procedures, along with having trained and certified professional on-staff.

NACSE is a vendor-neutral IT credentialing organization worldwide. Formed as a non-profit IT standards professional organization in 1993, NACSE partners with colleges and universities who deliver NACSE endorsed curriculum. NACSE is the only organization of its type that promotes and supports vendor neutral IT education worldwide. For more information about NACSE see [www.nacse.com](http://www.nacse.com).

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Access Network Solutions, Inc (ANS) opened for business in 1996 providing network engineering services to small and medium sized businesses in Colorado and across the nation. Our specialties include, but are not limited to:

- Engineering, design and implementation of secure networks for local and wide area environments
- Security and disaster recovery
- Network monitoring and remote network control and support
- Hardware sourcing
- Training and on site support

With these strengths as our cornerstone we provide our clients with a single source for all of their network needs. Please call us at 720.875.1480 or visit our web site at [www.access-solutions.com](http://www.access-solutions.com) to learn more about ANS and how we can help your business succeed.

## New Projects and Clients

Access Network Solutions has signed a contract with Michael Baker Jr. Engineers ([www.mbakercorp.com](http://www.mbakercorp.com)) to perform security vulnerability assessments for several water districts and utilities in the Salt Lake City region. Access Network Solutions is working with Michael Baker Jr. engineers to interview utility personnel and perform surveys of data networks and SCADA systems, determining if they are vulnerable to either internal or external attack.

## November Specials

Access Network Solutions is offering the following specials on these Cisco PIX firewall models and NetIQ Firewall Management software for the month of November.

	<b>List Price</b>	<b>ANS Special</b>
Cisco PIX 501	\$ 595.00	\$ 475.00
Cisco PIX 506E	\$ 1,695.00	\$ 1,315.00
Cisco PIX 515E	\$ 3,495.00	\$ 2,710.00
NetIQ Webtrends Firewall Suite		\$ 1,925.00



The Cisco PIX 501 is designed for SOHO environments with less than 10 users. The Cisco PIX 506E is a reliable security appliance for remote office/branch office environments, while the PIX 515E is designed to handle more users in a small-to-medium and Enterprise environments.

NetIQ WebTrends Firewall Suite is a server-based application which provides real-time monitoring and reporting, allowing network administrators to monitor the performance, traffic and security functions of the firewall.

Ask about our engineering, installation and firewall management services.

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