Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution

Empower your employees to work from anywhere, on corporate laptops as well as personal mobile devices regardless of physical location. And provide the security necessary to help ensure that your organization's data is safe and protected. That's what you get with the Cisco AnyConnect® Secure Mobility Solution (Figure 1). Cisco AnyConnect is a unified agent that delivers multiple security services to help enable and protect the enterprise. It provides the visibility and the control you need to identify who and what is accessing the extended enterprise before, during, and after an attack. The Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution offers a comprehensive endpoint security platform with remote access functionality, posture enforcement, and web security features. Cisco AnyConnect® gives your IT department all of the secure access features necessary to provide a robust, user-friendly, and highly secure mobile experience.

Figure 1. Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution

Features and Benefits

The industry-leading Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client is a multifaceted endpoint software product. That means it not only provides VPN access through Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) but also offers enhanced security through various built-in modules. These include the Cisco Network Access Manager, Cisco AnyConnect ISE Agent and Cisco AnyConnect Web Security Client. The Cisco AnyConnect Client is available across a broad set of platforms, including Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, iOS, Android, and more.
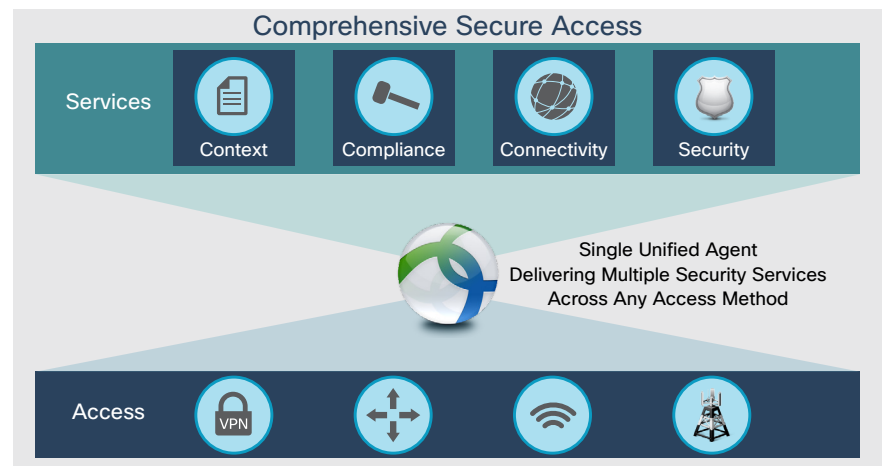
Benefits

For End Users

- Highly secure mobility across a popular mobile device platform
- Consistent user experience
- Intelligent, dependable, and always-on connectivity

For Security Administrators

- Higher productivity, low total cost of ownership through a single client
- Context-aware, comprehensive, and easy secure access policy enforcement
- Flexible policy-driven access to corporate resources and applications for each user group and device across wired and wireless networks and VPNs

Major features are shown in Table 1.

Table 1.   Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution Features

Feature	Description
Unified Endpoint Compliance	The Cisco AnyConnect ISE Agent provides unified endpoint posture and remediation for Cisco ISE across wired, wireless, and VPN environments. Services as the key source of endpoint posture checking for OS levels, latest AntiVirus update, and other resources to strengthen endpoint security and compliance. In addition, endpoint posture is available with Cisco Hostscan with ASA.
Highly Secure Network Access	The Cisco AnyConnect Cisco Network Access Manager provides superior connectivity features, allowing administrators to control which networks or resources that endpoints can connect to. It provides an IEEE 802.1X supplicant that can be provisioned as part of authentication, authorization, and accounting (AAA) capabilities along with some unique encryption technologies such as MACsec IEEE 802.1AE.
Web Security	Cisco AnyConnect has a built-in module that implements web security either through the on-premises Cisco Web Security Appliance (WSA) or the cloud-based Cisco Cloud Web Security (CWS) offering. Combining web security with VPN access, administrators can provide comprehensive secure mobility to all end users, which is vital for bring-your-own-device (BYOD) deployments. Enterprises have a choice of deployment to defend the network against web malware and to control and secure web usage.
Clientless Access	The Cisco Adaptive Security Appliances (ASA) provide SSL connectivity through a variety of browsers across multiple platforms. Cisco ASA enables administrators to provide clientless VPN access to unmanaged endpoints and offers access to various web and TCP/IP-based applications. These are provided through a rewriter, plugins, or smart tunnels using browser-embedded SSL technology while implementing fine-grained access control and end-to-end security.
Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) Access	The Cisco ASA can terminate a VDI session with a high degree of security, and it delivers transparent access to virtualized applications and desktops. Client and clientless access to virtual resources are offered for mobile devices, laptops, and desktop devices. Virtual-resource access powered by highly secure remote access is vendor-agnostic and benefits from a single access policy defined for virtual and traditional resources.
Mobile Device Support	With the BYOD phenomenon, administrators need to support end-user productivity by enabling the use of personal mobile devices for remote access to the company network. Cisco AnyConnect can be deployed on the most popular devices used by today's diverse workforce. Highly secure remote access can either be device based or driven transparently by select enterprise mobile applications with per-application VPN. The new per-application VPN functionality eliminates unapproved applications from accessing confidential business resources, further reducing malware intrusion risks and bandwidth costs for remote access.

Next Steps

- Licensing and ordering: The Cisco AnyConnect Ordering Guide covers licensing for AnyConnect and clientless SSL VPN usage.

- Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Client:
  http://www.cisco.com/go/anyconnect

- Cisco ASA 5500-X Series: http://www.cisco.com/go/asa