

Foreword

Cisco pioneered Network Admission Control (NAC) in 2003. Until then, client and network security were two disjointed worlds and islands, with little linkage between them. NAC has been an industry-wide effort to overcome this gap and create explicit trust boundaries and policies that did not exist before. Today, NAC is more than technology or product only. It is a system, requiring important architectural and design guidelines as well as collaboration between industry partners. Cisco's NAC alliance has grown from three to more than 75 partners in the past three years.

Successfully deploying and troubleshooting the Cisco NAC solution requires thoughtful builds and design of NAC in branch, campus, and enterprise topologies, of any size network. It requires a practical and methodical view toward building layered security and management with troubleshooting, auditing, and monitoring capabilities. NAC has unified wired with wireless, networks with devices, and transcends traditional boundaries for security decisions.

The authors of *Cisco Network Admission Control, Volume II: Deployment and Troubleshooting*, Omar Santos, David White Jr., and Jazib Frahim, are industry veterans in network security, switching, and customer deployments, with cumulative expertise of more than 20 years. I hope you enjoy their comprehensive, informative, and thoughtful review of NAC highlighting real-world recommendations.

Jayshree V. Ullal

Cisco Systems, Inc.

Senior Vice President, Datacenter, Switching, and Security Technology Group

August 22, 2006