

READY NET GO ... NEWS

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<http://www.readynetgo.net>

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Tips of the Month

Internet Explorer 7 Tips

1. In IE 6, the main menu was visible but in IE 7 it's hidden by default (replaced by the Command bar).

To show the main menu, including File – Edit – View – Favorites,

- click the Tools button on the Command bar;
- then select **Menu Bar** from the list

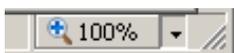


2. Oftentimes, you may need to clear your **browsing history** or **cookies** to get a webpage to display correctly.

- click the Tools button on the Command bar;
- then select **Delete Browsing History**
- choose the button you want or click the **Delete all** button at the bottom
- click **OK**
- close IE, then re-open IE



3. If you're on a webpage with tiny text, click the **Zoom** feature in the lower right corner of the browser window.



Click it once and the zoom increases by 25%, click twice - 50%, etc. To return, click the drop down arrow and choose 100% when you're finished.

Unified Threat Management Appliances

What are they? What do they do?

Security is one of the most important aspects of managing computers these days. From viruses to spam to intrusion detection, networks and individual workstations are highly vulnerable to attacks and compromises.

Managing security software and hardware can be overwhelming due to the number of avenues that hackers are likely to use to infiltrate workstations and networks. If you're burdened by your separate security applications and hardware, there is an alternate solution that is revolutionizing how businesses secure their networks.

Unified Threat Management (UTM) Appliances

A UTM appliance is an **all-in-one perimeter security solution** that encompasses firewall, anti-virus, anti-spam, anti-spyware, VPN, content filtering, and intrusion detection components. This hardware device sits outside the network monitoring and detecting security threats and adds additional protection to your existing internal security controls. It can be used in a wired or wireless LAN environment as well as with remote/branch offices.

The best part of a UTM appliance is the **management console**. Manufacturers have fine-tuned the interface to make it accessible, time-saving, and convenient to monitor and assess all major activities relating to potential security threats all in one location.

You can add a UTM appliance to an existing network gateway (firewall or router) for additional security or it can replace hardware you currently use (i.e., if you want to set up a VPN). Simple configurations in the UTM appliance make it easily malleable to your specific network design.

WWW (Websites Worth Watching)

Save Someone's Life!

1. www.marlow.org – National Marlow Donor Program
2. www.redcross.org – Donate blood or plasma
3. www.organdonor.gov/ - Donate organs, tissue, blood and stem cells

UTM appliances have been around for about 5 years now and their growth is expected to increase. Watchguard, a leader in network security solutions, attributes this demand to the following: **low total cost of ownership, ease of management, high performance, and greater network control.** For small to medium size businesses as well as larger enterprise institutions, UTM appliances are proving to be a worthwhile and advantageous solution.



Watchguard Firebox X Edge series

Who should use a UTM appliance?

- 1) Small businesses use UTM's as replacements for perimeter firewalls. Due to increased processor capabilities, UTMs do not degrade performance.
- 2) If some of your employees or departments are prone to spyware or viruses, a UTM appliance can provide an extra layer of protection.
- 3) If you are being deluged with SPAM, a UTM appliance can be used to filter SPAM from mail servers so that legitimate messages get priority.

How do UTM appliances fit into a network?

- 1) The UTM appliance can sit between the network firewall and the internal network (servers, workstations, printers, etc.) scanning all traffic using real time deep packet inspection protocols.
- 2) The UTM appliance can also replace the firewall and would be the first line of defense in network protection, catching intrusions before they begin circulating. [See Figure 1 below]

For both scenarios, security software is still recommended on each PC and server.

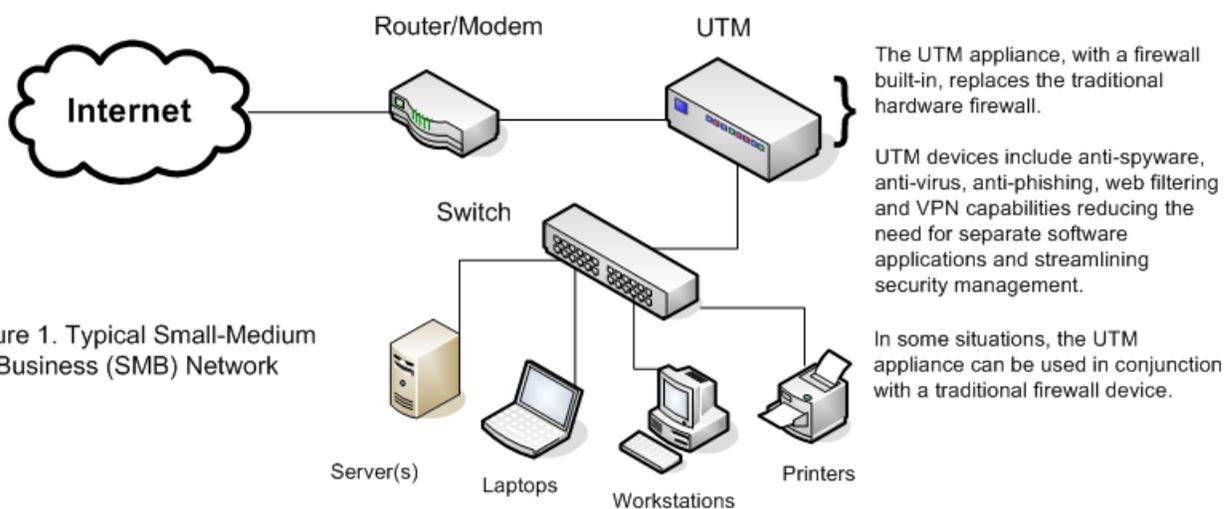


Figure 1. Typical Small-Medium Business (SMB) Network

Any disadvantages?

You must use the security products built into the UTM – you can't pick and choose individual products. Most manufacturers would say they've already done the legwork for you and they've chosen the best and most reliable products. While the UTM appliance excels in ease of management, it's important to purchase a product that will fit in with your existing, internal security systems.