

Locking Up Your Storage Network (Securing the SAN Infrastructure)

Kamy Kavianian Director, Product Marketing Network Security and Architecture Brocade Communications Systems



April 2002

Why Secure SANs?

- Security is a fundamental requirement for enterprise SANs, just like any other network
- As SANs increase in size and are inter-networked over MAN/WANs, physical monitoring and management is no longer feasible or cost-effective
- Multi-tenant environments have new security requirements
 - Security enables sharing of SAN resources among multiple customers securely
 - Reduces xSP infrastructure costs and enables economies of scale



SAN Security Requirements

- New levels of access control
- Strong authentication
- More controls in SAN Fabric Management
- Confidentiality (data privacy)



© Brocade Communications Systems, Inc

New Levels of Access Control

• SAN fabrics require more controls to prevent unauthorized access:

- To a switched fabric to gain access to sensitive information such as zoning data, security policies etc.
- To SAN fabric switches (using a laptop) through unprotected connections (serial ports etc.)
- Through the front panel of fabric switches and other SAN infrastructure devices

 SAN fabrics require more granularity in management access controls

 Multiple user/administrator roles



Strong Authentication

• Without authentication, SANs are susceptible to:

- Spoofing: Hosts (servers) sign on with phony WWNs and get access to devices they shouldn't
- Denial of service attack: unauthorized host application sends out a high volume of dummy management messages or I/Os to a LUN it doesn't own
- Rogue devices could be added to the fabric



More Controls in SAN Fabric Management

- The need for controlling how a SAN fabric is managed
 - Ability to turn on or off certain management access to the fabric
 - Control of end points accessing management facilities within the fabric
 - Secure remote management access
 - Centralization of configuration (security) parameters secure distribution of critical management data



Confidentiality

Encryption is required to eliminate eavesdropping threats:

- Cleartext passwords and other data
- Secure Remote Access Encrypted management data
- Unauthorized analysis on the Fibre Channel line or other interfaces to analyze management or data traffic (e.g., Sniffers)



SAN Security – An Infrastructure Decision

 Security is a fundamental consideration when designing SANs and selecting SAN infrastructure

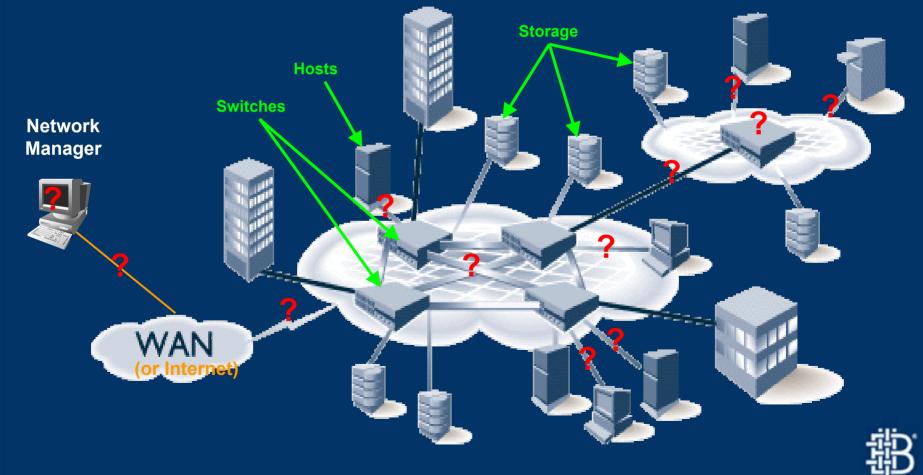
• As with any network, SAN security must be:

- Robust
- Scalable
- Policy-based
- Based on proven, standards-based mechanisms
- Manageable
- Auditable

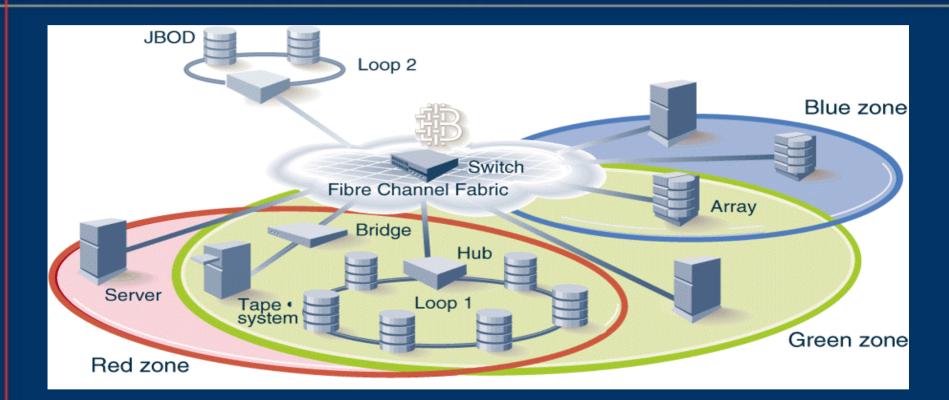


SAN Fabric Security Vulnerabilities

? = Potential Security Control Points



Zoning: Association of Storage with Servers (Today)

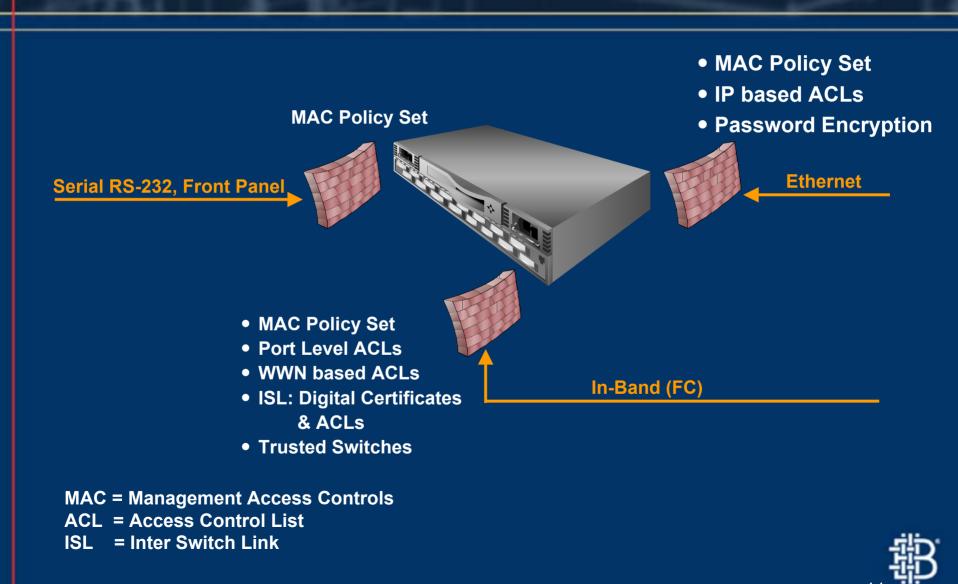


Zoning: Logical association of storage with servers

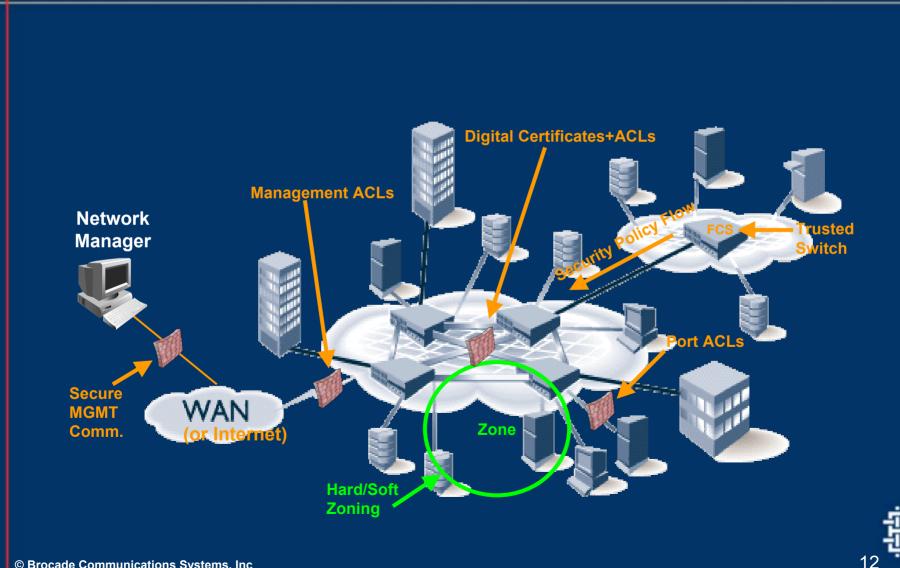
- Used for access control (I.e. No zone sees Loop 2)
- Must be hardware enforced

© Brocade Communications Systems, Inc

Fabric Security Controls



A Secure SAN Infrastructure



Security Threats and Best-in-Class Solutions

Threat/Risk	Best-In-Class Solutions
Unauthorized/ Unauthenticated User Access	 Multilevel password control and encryption Strong authentication – Integrate with customer's existing RADIUS / TACACS+ / other infrastructure
Insecure Management Access	 Management access control policies Encrypt mgmt. information (user name/password) where applicable Other Solutions : SSL, SSH, IPSEC
Spoofing of Device Names (WWNs)	 More granular access control for hosts/servers (at port level) Strong in-band authentication of SAN fabric logon attempts
Management Controls From Uncontrolled Access Points	 Asymmetric management approach-Trusted switches to set security controls Use of strong authentication (PKI)

13

For More Information

- Please access the Secure Fabric OS white paper and datasheet at:
 - http://www.brocade.com/SAN/white_papers.jhtml
 - http://www.brocade.com/SAN/data_sheets.jhtml
- Other Educational Tools
 - Brocade SAN Security Course (2 days)
 - SAN Security A Best Practice's Guide
- Contact your Brocade Partner or Sales Executive
- E-mail: info@brocade.com





Thank You

Brocade Communications Systems

