

Is the network access control device a switch



Article Overview

No, a network access control (NAC) device is not a switch; it is a security solution that works with switches and other network components to enforce access policies.

Understanding NAC

Network Access Control (NAC) is a security framework designed to manage and enforce policies for devices and users attempting to access a network. NAC ensures that only authorized and compliant devices can connect, and it can restrict, quarantine, or deny access to noncompliant devices . It operates by performing authentication, authorization, and endpoint compliance checks, often using protocols like 802.1X and RADIUS .

NAC and Switches

While NAC is not a switch, it integrates closely with network switches. In enterprise networks, NAC enforcement typically occurs at the access layer, where switches or wireless access points act as authenticators. The switch communicates with an authentication server (such as a RADIUS server) to determine whether a device should be granted full network access, restricted access, or denied entry . This means that NAC leverages switches to control access but does not replace the switch's primary function of forwarding network traffic.

Deployment Types...

Article Content

What is Network Access Control (NAC)? Explained

Network access control (NAC) is a foundational cybersecurity approach used to manage and secure access to organizational

How does a switch work?

Switches are key building blocks for any network. They connect multiple devices, such as computers, wireless access points,

Premier Network Access Control (NAC) Solutions & Security | Fortinet

With network access control that enhances the Fortinet Security Fabric, FortiNAC delivers visibility, control, and automated response

Network Admission Control

When a network device (switch, router, wireless access point, DHCP server, etc.) is configured for NAC, it can force user or machine

How Crucial Is Network Access Control? Can It Truly Secure Your

At its core, Network Access Control is a security framework that governs device access to a network. Think of it as a sophisticated

What is Network Access Control (NAC)?

Learn how Network Access Control (NAC) improves visibility, enforces access policies, and helps secure devices, users, and third

What is Network Access Control? | VMware Glossary

Network access control is the act of keeping unauthorized users and devices out of a private network. Organizations that give certain

Network switch

Network switch Avaya ERS 2550T-PWR, a 50-port Ethernet switch A network switch (also called switching hub, bridging hub,

What is a Network Access Device (NAD)?

A network access device (NAD) is a type of hardware device that allows computers or other network devices to connect to a network.

What Is Network Access Control (NAC)?

Learn what Network Access Control (NAC) is, and how NAC solutions ensure that devices connected to the corporate network are

What Is Network Access Control (NAC) And How Does It Work?

Ericom's Approach to Network Access Control Solutions At Ericom, we understand that the modern network landscape is constantly

What Is a Network Switch? | How Do Network Switches Work? | Akamai

What Is a Network Switch? A network switch is a technology that allows two or more IT devices such as computers to communicate

Network access control

NAC solutions allow network-operators to define policies, like the types of computers or roles of users allowed to access areas of the

Contact Us

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