CISCO Meraki

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Meraki MX60W vs. SonicWALL TZ215

Summary

The Meraki MX60W offers superior security, maintains higher throughput and comes bundled with 24x7 support, a lifetime hardware warranty, and cloud based centralized management.

The MX60W is packed with next-generation firewall features like Layer 7 application visibility and traffic shaping. To provide ironclad security, the MX60W includes the industry's best intrusion detection engine (SourceFire SNORT®), best anti-virus solution (Kasperksy), and best content filtering database (Webroot BrightCloud).

SonicWALL TZ215 offers "homemade" intrusion detection (IDS), antivirus (AV), and content filtering lists, which do not stack up against the MX60W. The TZ215 wireless max wireless capacity is 66% of the MX60W. The firewall throughput drops significantly when additional security services are enabled. In addition, customers who need a centralized management solution must use an overlay system item that has to purchased separately and is expensive and difficult to setup andmaintain.

Meraki MX60W Security Appliance

Ironclad security

- Layer 7 application-aware firewall and application prioritization

- Industry's best intrusion detection (IDS) engine, using Sourcefire SNORT®

- Content Filtering with 80+ categories and billions of URLs based on the Webroon Brightcloud database

- Kaspersky antivirus and anti-phishing engine

Superior networking

- Patent-pending Auto VPN for one-touch creation of site-to-site VPN connections

- Dual WAN ports, plus 3G/4G connectivity with load-balancing and Layer 3 failover

- Built-in WAN optimization without additional devices or hidden costs, including protocol optimization, compression and caching

Cloud based centralized management

- Centralized management accessible via any web browser, without the cost and complexity of overlay management software.

- Single pane of glass for managing the entire firewall, switch, and wireless networks across multiple sites.

- Zero-touch provisioning; automatic firmware, security signature and policy updates from the Meraki cloud.

- PCI DSS Level 1 certified cloud service with dual-factor authentication, SSAE 16 certified datacenters, and 99.99% SLA.

| Key Differentiators	MERAKI MX60W	SonicWALL TZ215 Wireless
Ironclad Security	**Better engines** — The MX60W comes with the Sourcefire SNORT® Intrusion Detection (IDS) engine, Kaspersky Anti-Virus protection, and BrightCloud Content Filtering database. These deep-packet-inspection engines are considered among the best in the industry, and are always kept up-to-date via the Meraki cloud.	**Limited coverage** — SonicWALL maintains its own intrusion detection, antivirus and content filtering lists. Conversations with existing customers show that only a limited subset of modern threats are covered. Unlike the Meraki solution, administrators have to update these definition lists manually. Did you update your lists lately?
Auto VPN	**Simply amazing** — Site-to-site connectivity is established through a single click in Meraki's dashboard. Gone are the configuration headaches of traditional site-to-site VPNs; route discovery, key negotiation, authentication, security policies, crypto maps, and access lists are all handled automatically from the cloud.	**Difficult** — If you have multiple sites, you have multiple headaches. You have to manually enter all the tedious steps for VPN settings at each location, and thenimplement a separate monitoring solution. Basic settings like failover to a secondary link or 4G connection are too complex for most administrators.
WAN Optimization	**State-of-the art and free** — Enable WAN optimization on the MX with just two clicks – without any additional hardware, training, or overlay system. Reduce inter-site application bandwidth by up to 99% and accelerate CIFS, FTP, HTTP, and TCP traffic by up to 200x. The state-of-the-art WAN optimization engine uses advanced algorithms including deduplication, compression, and hard-disk based caching to make the WAN feel like a LAN.	**Impractical and expensive** — SonicWALL also touts a WAN optimization solution. But you need to buy an additional WXA appliance and a license for each location. You have 2 devices to manage and twice as many chances for hardware failure. Unlike the Meraki MX, it is impractical to create a mesh site-to-site VPN (hub-and-spoke only) with SonicWALL. Branch sites can only talk to HQ, so no WAN optimization occurs between sites.
Layer 7 Firewall & Traffic Shaping	**Built for next generation networking** — The MX was purpose-built for modern, multi-use networks. Far beyond simple host- and port-based solutions, the MX's Layer 7 deep-packet-inspection engine blocks evasive and encrypted applications including P2P, throttles bandwidth hogs like Netflix and BitTorrent, and even prioritizes productivity apps like VoIP.	**Clunky UI** — Layer 7 application awereness is tablestakes for any modern firewall. But SonicWALL's interface makes it extremely hard to use. Simple tasks like reporting which user on which device has used which application are very hard to configure.
Centralized Management	**Lightyears ahead** — Meraki's cloud networking enables plug and play deployments and provides centralized visibility and control across distributed locations. Meraki's cloud management platform provides state-of-the-art security features like dual-factor authentication and password enforcement policies and comes with SSAE 16 and PCI DSS 2.0 L1 certification.	**Aging technology** — Customers who need a centralized solution from SonicWALL have to buy the GMS software ($2995 for 10-node license) and have to create and maintain their own server infrastructure and databases. Also, each device has to be provisioned ahead of time before shipping to remote locations.
Warranty, Maintenance & Upgrades	**No additional charges** — Lifetime warranty, 24x7 support & maintenance included. Firmware upgrades and new features are seamlessly delivered via the cloud at no extra cost: admins receive a notice when new firmware is available, with the option to schedule or defer the upgrade.	**Support and upgrades not included** — Software patch releases, feature upgrades and hardware warranty (after the 1st year) require a support plan. Support must be purchased separately. Firmware upgrades must be manually applied, requiring patch management & increasing potential for error and unplanned downtime.

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Delivering Security & Performance

The MX60W offers best-in-class intrusion detection, antivirus, and content filtering protection. Network performance is greatly enhanced with built-in WAN optimization, Auto VPN, and Traffic Shaping. Everything is controlled and monitored from an intuitive cloud-based dashboard.

Organization Level Threat Assessment
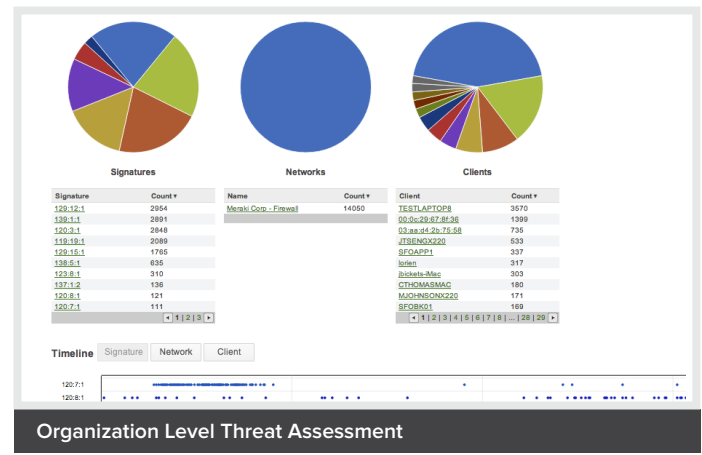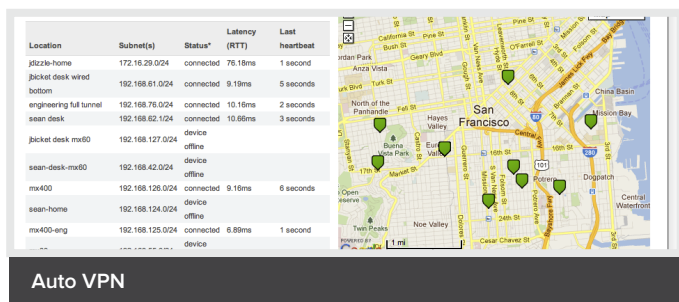
Layer 7 inspection engines deliver advanced security features including intrusion detection (IDS), content filtering, and antivirus and anti-phishing protection, while providing the throughput and capacity for modern, bandwidth-intensive networks.

Auto VPN
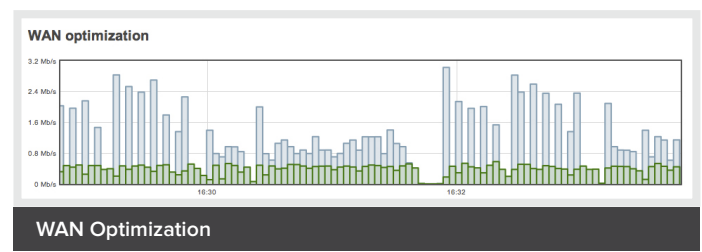
Meraki's unique auto provisioning site-to-site VPN connects branches securely, without tedious manual VPN configuration. Leveraging the power of the cloud, MX Security Appliances configure, monitor, and maintain your VPN so you don't have to.

WAN Optimization

Meraki WAN optimization technology uses a combination of techniques to dramatically improve application performance and reduce bandwidth requirements at remote sites. The MX60W features basic WAN optimization, which provides link compression, protocol optimization, and memory-based object caching.

Feature Comparison

Features	Meraki MX60W	SonicWALL TZ215
NAT, DMZ, DHCP, multiple VLANs	✓	✓
Dual-band 802.11n a/b/g/n wireless	✓	✓
Stateful Layer 3 firewall	✓	✓
Layer 7 application firewall	✓	Difficult to configure
Layer 7 application traffic shaping	✓	Difficult to configure
Intrusion-detection engine	Sourcefire SNORT®	SonicWALL homemade
Content filtering database	Webroot BrightCloud	SonicWALL homemade
Anti-virus / anti-phishing engine	Kaspersky Safestream II	SonicWALL homemade
Mesh (site-to-site) VPN	✓	–
Automatic site-to-site VPN configuration	Meraki Auto VPN	–
Built-in WAN optimization	✓	–
Built-in multi-network security monitoring	✓	–
Built-in centralized management	✓	–
Automated firmware and security signature updates	✓	–

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[1] Nécessite l'éligibilité à des critères définis par Cisco Meraki, vérifiez que vous êtes éligible sur le site de Cisco Meraki