

PRIVATE COUNCIL & PUBLIC NETWORKS

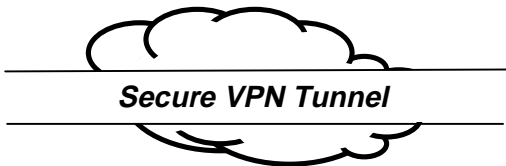
Privacy is in jeopardy as law firms and their clients are linked with public networks – electronically accessible to anyone. To regain control, the Secure Virtual Private Network was developed. RedCreek Communications' Ravlin offers an affordable solution suited to law office users that demand confidentiality along with ease of operation, transparency, and standards compliance.

Confidentiality is to legal consultation what water is to desert travel – an absolute prerequisite. Clients need and require security of their records and legal affairs.

At the same time, no one wants to wait. The Internet has changed the rules of communication and, today, electronic mail and document attachments fly across the Internet. It's efficient, cost-effective, and demanded by clients.

But it's not secure. Internet communications can easily go to the wrong person or be intercepted, and incoming message signatures can be forged. The Internet also creates a door for hackers to invade a law firm's network and databases.

Firms have installed a variety of solutions to close the security window. These have culminated in the development of the Secure Virtual Private Network (SVPN) – often the ideal solution for securing law firm communications across shared or public networks.



SVPNs authenticate people and locations on the network and encrypt transmissions so they can't be read, changed, or forged. Effectively, SVPNs build steel-like tunnels among authorized recipients and locations across public networks.

Choosing a Solution

The popularity of SVPNs has resulted in many products and SVPN designs. Some familiar, fundamental criteria can help in choosing the right solution.

Standards are essential to today's computing environment. IP security protocol (IPSec), developed by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), has emerged as the standard for SVPNs. IPSec defines how well known, trusted standards are applied to building secure tunnels

through the Internet. IPSec endorses the Data Encryption Standard (DES) and triple DES (3DES) as traffic ciphers. International Key Exchange (IKE), a component of IPSec, defines the use of digital certificates for key management and authentication. IPSec supports 2nd level authentication systems, such as RADIUS, and widely used token generators, such as Security Dynamics' SmartCard and CryptoCard.

SVPN Guidelines

- **Stick to the Standards**
- **Use Hardware-Based Encryption**
- **Keep the System Transparent**
- **Make it Easy to Manage**

Speed is crucial to today's applications. If the system is slow, productivity sinks along with user satisfaction. The fastest, most efficient, and least expensive solution is hardware-based encryption. Encryption is a compute-intensive operation. The latest standard, 3DES, processes every piece of data three times in order to complete the encryption.

Hardware solutions for SVPN products are superior to software-based systems. Hardware solutions embed the encryption algorithm in firmware and process data through a dedicated processor. Software-based encryption products, on the other hand, must share the host processor, which slows the entire system and uses expensive host resources.

Well-designed SVPN systems should be transparent to users and avoid misuse and circumvention. Many studies and news stories have demonstrated how application level security is often responsible for degraded security as users mishandle passwords and bypass other inconvenient security systems. SVPNs should be implemented and maintained without user intervention.

The new SVPN should support a simple graphical management system, as well as remote management capability. Managers installing a new SVPN should find it unnecessary to hire several people to handle new management tasks.

LAW VPN APPLICATION

RedCreek Ravlin

RedCreek Communications designed its breakthrough Ravlin product line to meet these SVPN criteria. Ravlin's unique CryptoCore (patent pending) technology supports both IP and Microsoft NT networks.

Ease of installation. Ravlin's Ethernet ports permit installation in seconds behind any router, including Cisco, Bay Networks, and 3Com.

Ease of use. New SVPNs are created with point-and-click simplicity using Ravlin Manager.

High performance. Ravlin CryptoCore's on-board processor delivers optimum speed even with compute intensive, 3DES encryption.

Scalability. The Ravlin family lets users select the right price-performance components to meet their needs from single users to 100Mbps access.

Standards. Ravlin supports the IETF, IP Security (IPSec) standard for SVPNs, and the requirement for NIST validation according to FIPS-140-1.

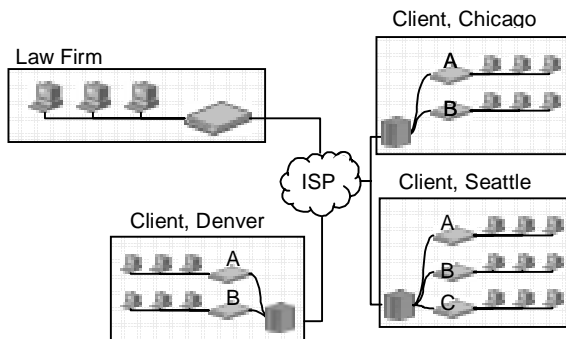
Partners. RedCreek is supplier and technology partner to industry market leaders such as Cisco Systems, Com21, Fourelle, Secure Computing, and Security Dynamics. RedCreek chairs the I2O Security Committee on intelligent architecture with the desktop leaders Compaq, Hewlett Packard, Intel, and Microsoft.

Application of SVPNs in Law Firms

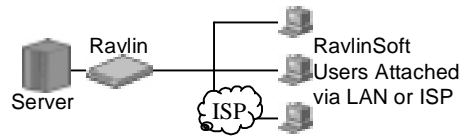
Law firm applications demand unique levels of reliability, scalability, and flexibility. The following are some examples of RedCreek Ravlin SVPN applications in law firms.

BASIC NETWORK

Private line SVPN service can be established across the Internet with Ravlin hardware for secure, cost-effective connections with client offices.

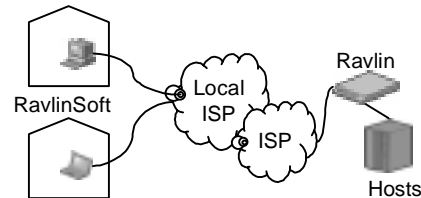


SERVER PROTECT



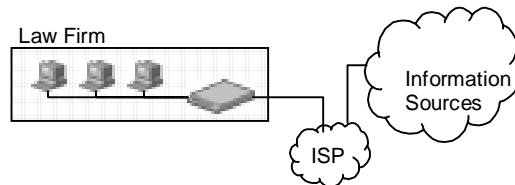
Ravlin unit placed just outside server protects information across internal networks and prohibits unauthorized users from accessing servers. Encryption is performed outside the server, eliminating server overhead and performance degradation.

TELECOMMUTING ATTORNEYS



With RavlinSoft Client, telecommuting attorneys can send encrypted communications across the Internet to their offices or clients. RavlinSoft works with hardware tokens and other standard systems to authenticate users. Disk encryption also can be used to further protect mobile assets.

LEGAL RESEARCH



Ravlin units can pass unencrypted information, such as legal research, across the office network. Those same Ravlins will encrypt intra-office traffic that requires security (manager-defined by secure associations among users or groups).

COLLABORATION

Temporary programs requiring work between outside departments, contractors, and others can be established securely across the Internet and revoked just as quickly with RavlinNodeManager.

RedCreek Solutions for Law Firms

For information on meeting your VPN requirements, contact your RedCreek dealer, or call 1-888-745-3900.