



# The Internet, Intranets, Extranets -- and VPNs

ICA Network Technology Institute  
Boulder, CO  
August 3, 1999

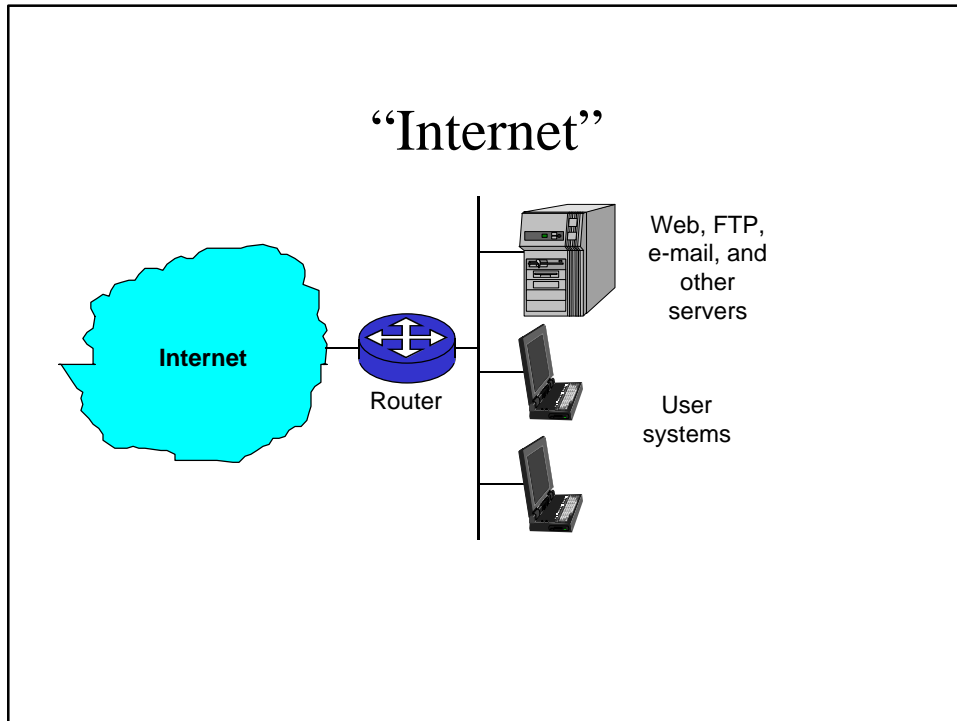
Gary C. Kessler  
Senior Network Security Analyst  
SymQuest Group

30 Community Drive  
So. Burlington, VT 05403  
<http://www.symquest.com>

[gkessler@symquest.com](mailto:gkessler@symquest.com)  
+1 802-658-9848  
+1 802-658-9801 (fax)

## Overview

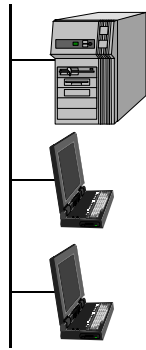
- Definition of terms
- Remote access methods
- VPNs
  - » More definitions of more terms
  - » Tunneling and tunneling protocols
    - PPTP, L2F, L2TP, GRE
    - IPsec
- VPN products and services



## Why Use the Internet?

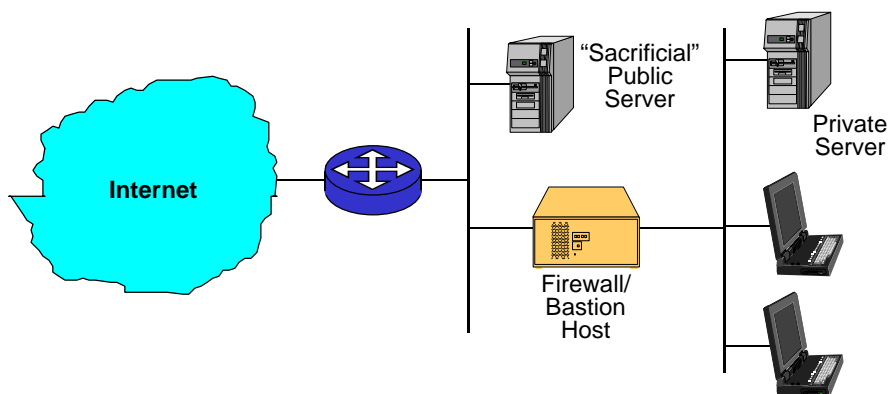
- The Internet is a “network of networks”
- Primary application is to enhance inter-organizational communication
  - » Collaboration
  - » Publishing and research
  - » Sales and commerce
  - » Customer service
  - » Training and education

## “Intranet”



- Applies TCP/IP technology for intra-organizational communication
  - » Internal corporate memos
  - » Customer records
  - » Faster access to employee programs, benefits, etc.
- Results in cost savings, better service

## “Extranet”



**Extranet = Internet + Intranet**

## What is an Extranet?

- Extranet = Internet + intranet
  - » Intranet servers accessible via the Internet, with password and/or other authentication protection
- Extranets allow *some* users of the public Internet with access to intranet servers, e.g.:
  - » Customer access to sales/product information
  - » Employee access to corporate information, e-mail
  - » Students access to their records, assignments, etc.

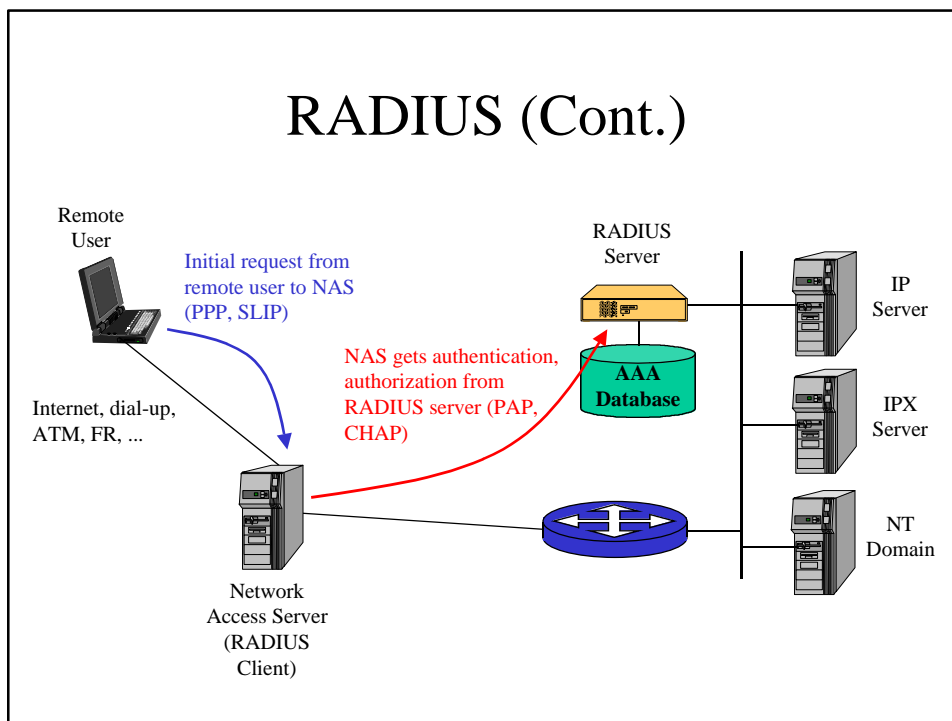
## Remote Access Security

- Major issue for remote access security is the ability to control and monitor access to network resources by users employing many different access technologies
- AAA
  - » Authentication
  - » Authorization
  - » Accounting

# RADIUS

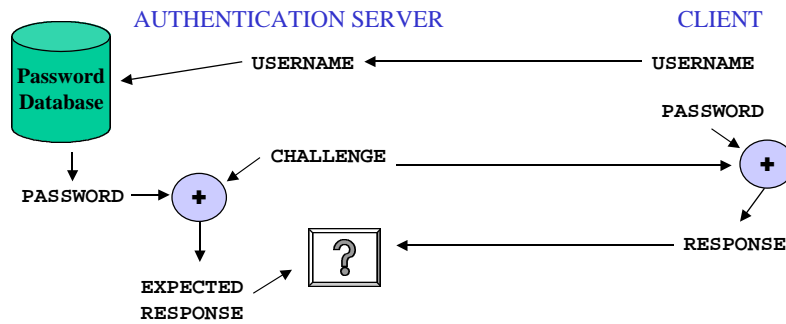
- Remote Authentication Dial In User Service
  - » Provides centralized storage of all AAA information (Accounting optional)
  - » Developed by Livingston (now part of Lucent)
  - » RFC 2138, 2139
  - » Authentication uses PAP or CHAP
  - » Runs over UDP (auth/auth on port 1812, acct on port 1813)
- Widely-used industry de facto standard

## RADIUS (Cont.)



# CHAP

- User identification and authentication *without* sending password over the network (RFC 1994)



## Alternatives to Passwords

- Passwords are "what you know"
- Alternatives include
  - » "What you have"
    - Tokens
    - One-time Passwords
  - » "What you are"
    - Click rate
    - Biometrics: Retina scan, fingerprints, voice prints



## TACACS/TACACS+

- Terminal Access Controller Access Control System
  - » Developed by Cisco to control access to terminal servers
  - » RFC 1492
  - » Runs over TCP (port 49 or other configurable port), sometimes UDP (port 49)

## Virtual Private Networks

- *VPN*: Establishing private connectivity over a public network
- *Internet-based VPN*: Secure transmission over the Internet where the security is implemented at the Network Layer (rather than at the application)
- *virtual* = something you pay for... and don't get!

## VPN Applications

- Cost savings
  - » VPNs (and local ISPs) can replace dial-up servers and toll calls... and even frame relay
- Enhanced connectivity
  - » Can economically provide global access
- Build partner networks/extranets
  - » Uses global, internetwork infrastructure to replace private facilities

## VPN Applications (cont.)

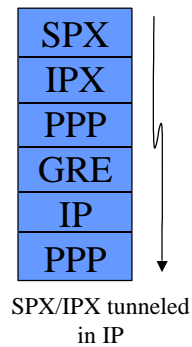
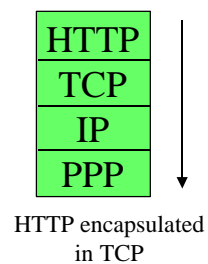
- Enhanced security
  - » Can use network to authenticate users prior to connecting to servers/applications
- Enhanced protocol support
  - » Internet only carries IP...
  - » ...but IP can tunnel IPX, NetBEUI, DDP, and more!



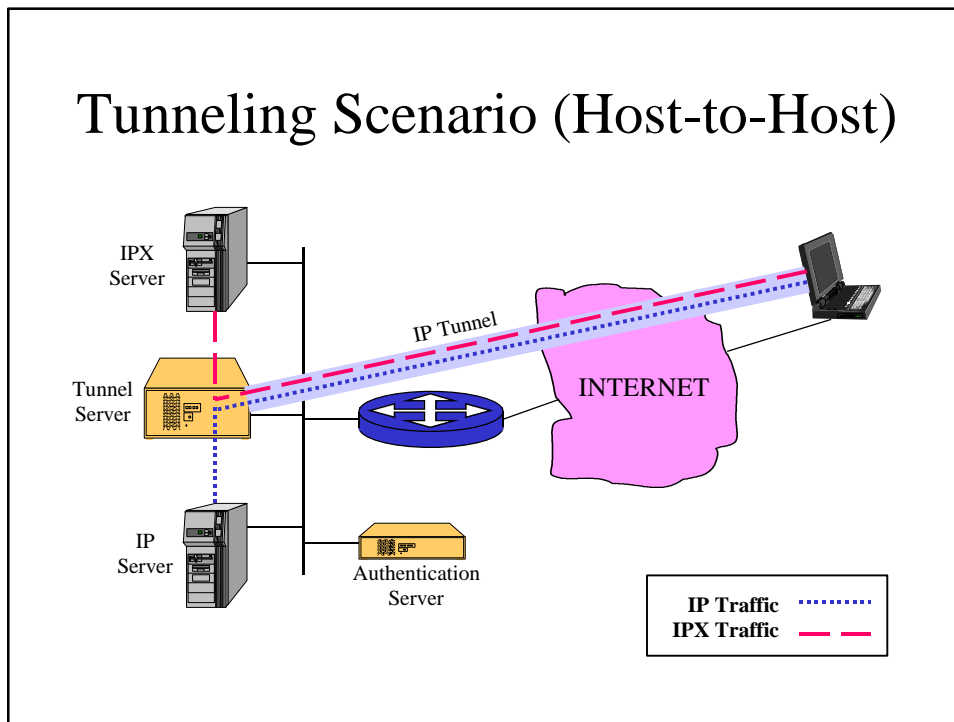
## What Are We Really Worried About?

### *Tunneling vs. Encapsulation*

- Both use "enveloping" à la OSI but only encapsulation respects OSI layering



## Tunneling Scenario (Host-to-Host)



## Tunneling Scenarios

- Client-initiated
  - » User dials ISP, sets up tunnel to remote tunnel server (e.g., firewall, router, VPN server)
  - » Requires VPN client software
  - » Transparent to network
- NAS-initiated
  - » User dials ISP, ISP's dial-server sets up tunnel
  - » Transparent to client
  - » *No encryption on the dial-up line*

## Some Advantages of Tunneling

- Uses IP for multiprotocol encapsulation
- Supports additional applications without having to change firewall (*double-edged!*)
- Allows network-based authentication (e.g., WINS, NDS)
- Supports compression for improved throughput

## VPN Protocols

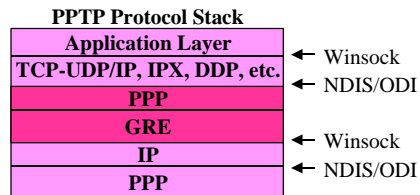
- Lots of protocols to choose from...
  - » Ascend Tunneling Management Protocol (ATMP)
  - » Generic Routing Encapsulation (GRE)
  - » Layer 2 Forwarding (L2F)
  - » Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol (L2TP)
  - » Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol (PPTP)
  - » Secure Tunnel Establishment Protocol (STEP)

## PPTP

- Developed by PPTP Forum

- » Ascend, ECI, Microsoft, & 3Com
- » RFC 2637

- Uses PPP and GRE to route over the Internet



- PPTP offers encapsulation (GRE), authentication (CHAP), encryption (PPP), compression (PPP), and management

## RAS

- Standard feature with Windows NT Server
  - » Supports direct dial-up users and tunneling
  - » Employs MS-PPTP for tunneling
  - » Employs PAP or MS-CHAP for authentication
- Depends upon WINS
  - » Client configuration required
  - » Open many more *vulnerable* ports in the firewall to deal with NetBIOS!

## Sidebar: MS-PPTP Security

- Several security problems with MS-PPTP
  - » Keys are *effectively* less than 128 bits in length
  - » Uses RAS "shared secret" encryption
    - Shared secret is the password hash, which is weak
  - » Poorly designed control channel leaves server open to attack
  - » Encryption can be disabled via the "You Are Now in France" attack

## Sidebar: MS-CHAP

- Server sends 8-byte challenge
  - Client creates two 24 byte responses, using LAN Mgr. hash and then WinNT hash each to derive 3 DES keys
  - Server uses stored hashes to decrypt response
- MS-CHAP has a number of potential vulnerabilities:
- Use of LANMAN hash
  - *change password* flaw allowed access to hash
- DUN 1.3 introduced MS-CHAPv2

## Sidebar: MS-CHAPv2

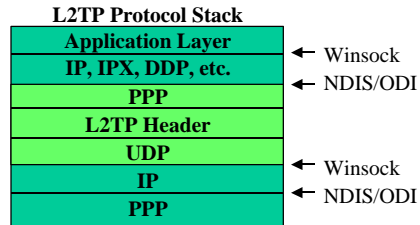
- Available in DUN 1.3
- Improved many weaknesses in PPTP
- MS-CHAPv2
  - » Authenticates both client *and* server
  - » Does not use LANMAN hash
  - » Fixed *change password* flaw
- New MPPE uses different keys in both directions
- Because backward compatibility is retained, a *version rollback* attack may be possible even if MS-CHAPv2 is used

## L2F

- Developed by Cisco
  - » Defined in RFC 2341
- Tunnels data in HDLC, PPP, or SLIP over UDP across the Internet
- Uses PAP or CHAP for authentication

# L2TP

- Developed by IETF
  - » Combines PPTP and L2F
- Uses PPP for encapsulation, authentication, compression, & management
- Uses IPsec for encryption



# GRE

- IETF specification (RFC 1701) for multiprotocol encapsulation
  - » Not a tunneling protocol, per se; offers no authentication, encryption, etc.
  - » Usually deployed in conjunction with additional security mechanisms, such as IPsec
- Firewall friendly!
  - » Runs over IP or UDP

## IPsec

- Mechanism to provide information for data integrity, authentication, privacy, and nonrepudiation to IP
- Defined by the IETF, primarily for IPv6
  - » RFCs 2401-2406
- IP Authentication Header (AH)
  - » Provides integrity and authentication for IP packets using MD5 or SHA-1

## IPsec (cont.)

- IP Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)
  - » Provides message integrity and privacy using MD5/SHA-1 and DES
  - » Preferred industry direction
- Key management uses ISAKMP/Oakley or IKE
- VPNet Technologies' scheme forms IP Payload Compression Protocol (IPcomp)
- *IP-level security will not make firewalls obsolete*



## Security Association

- An SA is a simplex logical connection between two communicating IP endpoints
  - » SA provides security services to the traffic
  - » Endpoint can be host or security gateway
- An SA is uniquely identified by:
  - » Security Parameter Index (connection i.d.)
  - » IP Destination Address
  - » Security protocol (AH or ESP) i.d.

## IP Authentication Header

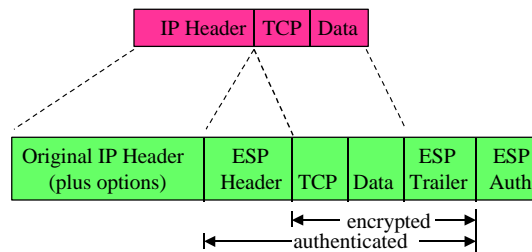
- RFC 2402
- Uses IPv4 PID/IPv6 Next Header = 51
- AH data follows mandatory IPv4/IPv6 header and precedes higher layer (e.g., TCP, UDP) information
- Includes:
  - » Anti-replay mechanism (sequence numbers)
  - » Authentication using HMAC with MD5 (RFC 2403) or HMAC with SHA-1 (RFC 2404)

## IP ESP

- RFC 2406
- Uses IPv4 PID/IPv6 Next Header = 50
- ESP must use HMAC with MD5/SHA-1 authentication (RFCs 2403/2404) and DES-CBC encryption (RFC 2405)

## IPsec ESP Transport Mode

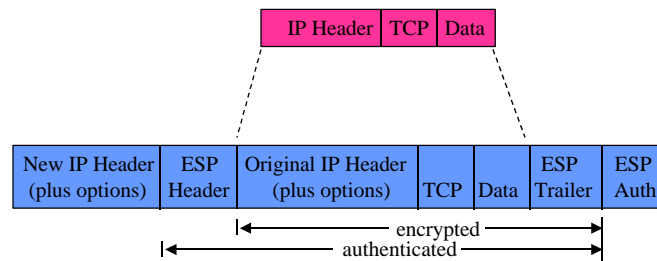
- Encrypts only data portion of tunneled IP packet
- May only be used host-host



Adapted from RFC 2406

## IPsec ESP Tunnel Mode

- Encrypts entire IP packet
- Used between hosts and/or security gateways



Adapted from RFC 2406

## VPN Protocols Compared

- PPTP
  - » Available from a variety of vendors
  - » Most common version is MS-PPTP, used with RAS and available with all "modern" Windows systems, but has many security problems
- L2TP
  - » Early deployment; part of IETF's security framework
  - » Not yet seen in many products but support expected in Windows 2000

## VPN Protocols Compared (cont.)

- IPsec
  - » Large base of products
    - Axent, BSDI, Check Point, Cisco, Data Fellows, DEC, FTP Software, IBM, Intel, Linux, Lucent, Mentat, Microsoft, Nortel, Novell, Process, Sun, 3Com, TimeStep
  - » Integral portion of IETF's security framework
  - » Robust, flexible, scalable, extendable!!
  - » Long-term direction for mainstream VPNs

## Lucent VPN Gateway (Hardware)

- Lucent VPN Gateway "brick"
  - » Acts as IPsec tunnel endpoint for LAN-to-LAN or client-to-LAN communication
  - » Bridge-like device; no network configuration required
  - » 333 MHz Pentium II, 10/100-BASET

## Lucent VPN Gateway (Software)

- Management Server
  - » Provides Java-based GUI VPN management
  - » Employs SSL, IKE with ISAKMP/Oakley key management
  - » Runs on Windows NT or Sun Solaris, with Netscape Enterprise Server
- Lucent IPsec Client
  - » Enables remote host to set up encrypted link to "brick" over IP
  - » Uses IPsec with DES, 3DES, MD5, and SHA-1, and IKE key management
  - » Runs on Windows 95/98, NT

## VPN Hardware Vendors

- Altiga
- Aventail
- Cisco Systems
- Compatible Systems
- Data Fellows
- Effnet
- Extended Networks
- Indus River
- Lucent (Livingston)
- Nortel Networks
- Radguard
- RedCreek Communications
- 3Com
- TimeStep
- VPNet Technologies
- Xedia

## VPN/Firewall Product Vendors

- Axent Technologies
- Check Point Software
- Cisco Systems
- FreeGate
- Internet Devices
- Lucent
- NetScen Technologies
- Technologic
- WatchGuard Technologies

## A VPN Can Also Be...

- A public network provider's offering
- Service options vary widely
  - » Remote access services to corporate LAN via dedicated, managed network
  - » Corporate intranet on provider's dedicated facilities, possible employing Internet tunneling
  - » Extranet access via managed service

## UUNET VPN Service

- UUNET
  - » *Extralink Remote*: Remote access network service available in 1000 cities worldwide; client is authenticated and data is encrypted; data transported over a *private* (non-Internet) frame relay network to customer's intranet.
  - » *Extralink*: Managed VPN for multiple corporate sites over private facilities; offers SLAs for network availability and latency

## Bell Atlantic Managed VPN Service

- Managed dial-up
  - » Access control via X.500 directory
  - » DES/3DES encryption
  - » SLA: 97% availability, 99% at 26.4 kbps
- Managed dedicated
  - » IPsec-based, X.509 certificates, DES/3DES encryption
  - » SLA: 99.9% availability of VPN equipment, network connectivity, local loop, and CPE

## Other VPN Services

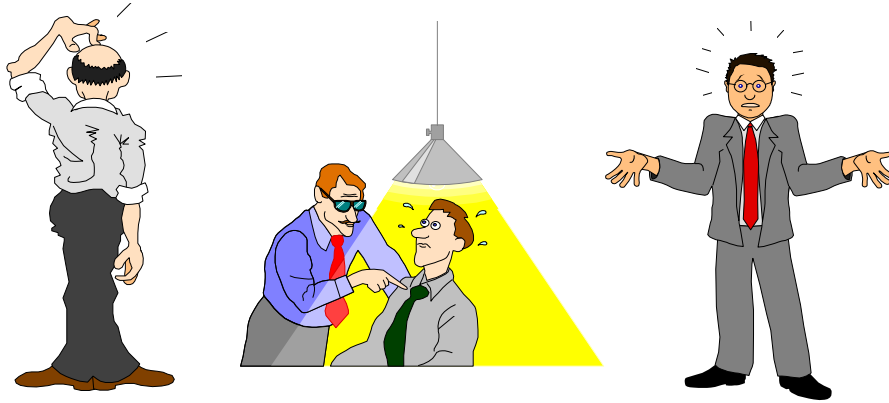
- @Home's @Work Remote
- AT&T's WorldNet VPN Service
- Concentric's Enterprise VPN, RemoteLink VPN, CustomLink VPN
- Frontier VPDN
- GTE's VPN Advantage
- MCI WorldCom Advanced Network Service
- Qwest's Remote Access VPN
- Sprint's Data VPN Service

## Some References

- *Building and Managing Virtual Private Networks*, Kosiur (Wiley)
- Thomas Porter's VPN Web Page  
» <http://www.dtool.com/vpn.html>
- *Extranet Strategist* (Aventail)  
» <http://www.extranet-strategist.com>
- *comp.dcom.vpn* Usenet list
- GCK's pointers to VPNs ([www.sover.net/~kessfam/gck/library/commcomp.html#vpn](http://www.sover.net/~kessfam/gck/library/commcomp.html#vpn)) and security ([www.sover.net/~kessfam/gck/library/securityurl.html](http://www.sover.net/~kessfam/gck/library/securityurl.html))



## Questions? Comments? Queries?



## Acronyms and Abbreviations

3DES	Triple DES	IPcomp	IP Payload Compression Protocol
AAA	Authentication, authorization, accounting	IPsec	IP Security Protocol
AH	Authentication Header (IPsec)	IPv4/v6	Internet Protocol version 4/version 6
ATM	Asynchronous Transfer Mode	IPX	Internetwork Packet Exchange (NetWare)
BIOS	Basic Input/Output Interface	ISAKMP	Internet Security Association and Key Management Protocol (IETF)
CBC	Cipher block chaining mode	ISP	Internet service provider
CHAP	Challenge-Handshake Authentication Protocol	LAN	Local area network
CPE	Customer premises (or provided) equipment	LANMAN	LAN Manager (MS)
DDP	Datagram Delivery Protocol (Apple)	L2F	Layer 2 Forwarding (Cisco)
DES	Data Encryption Standard	L2TP	Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol (IETF)
DUN	Dial-Up Networking (MS)	MD5	Message Digest 5
ESP	Encapsulating Security Payload (IPsec)	MPPE	Microsoft Point-to-Point Encryption
FR	Frame relay	MS	Microsoft
FTP	File Transfer Protocol (IETF)	NAS	Network access server
GRE	Generic Routing Encapsulation (IETF)	NDIS	Network Driver Interface Specification (MS/3Com)
GUI	Graphical user interface	NDS	NetWare Directory Service (Novell)
HDLC	High-level Data Link Control	NetBEUI	NetBIOS Extended User Interface (MS)
HMAC	Hashed message authentication code	NetBIOS	Network Basic Input/Output System (MS)
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol (IETF)	ODI	Open Data Link Interface (Novell)
IETF	Internet Engineering Task Force	OSI	Open Systems Interconnection
IKE	Internet Key Exchange (IETF)	PAP	Password Authentication Protocol
IP	Internet Protocol (IETF)		

## Acronyms and Abbreviations (cont.)

PID	Protocol Identifier (IP)	SPX	Sequenced Packet Exchange (NetWare)
PPP	Point-to-Point Protocol (IETF)	SSL	Secure Sockets Layer (Netscape)
PPTP	Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol (MS)	TACACS+	Terminal Access Controller Access Control System plus
RADIUS	Remote Authentication Dial-In User Service	TCP	Transmission Control Protocol (IETF)
RAS	Remote Access Service (MS)	UDP	User Datagram Protocol (IETF)
RFC	Request for Comments (IETF)	VPN	Virtual private network
SHA	Secure Hash Algorithm (NIST)	WINS	Windows Internet Name Service (MS)
SLA	Service level agreement		
SLIP	Serial Line IP (IETF)		