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Magic Quadrant for Unified Threat Management

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Summary

Unified threat management devices provide small or midsize businesses and heavily distributed enterprises with multiple network security functions in a single appliance. UTM buyers should evaluate performance, security, ease of use, local support and UTM's ability to handle new SMB practices.

Strategic Planning Assumptions

By 2020, 50% of SMBs will use mobility or wireless management capabilities from their UTM platforms to enforce

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Browser-based management, ease of configuration, embedded reporting, and localized software and documentation don't specifically appeal to large enterprises, but are highly valued by SMBs in this market. Gartner sees very different demands from the large-enterprise and branch office firewall markets (see "Magic Quadrant for Enterprise Network Firewalls" and "Next-Generation Firewalls and Unified Threat Management Are Distinct Products and Markets"). These generally require more complex network security features and are optimized for very different selection criteria.

Small businesses with fewer than 100 employees have even more budgetary pressures and even fewer security pressures than larger organizations. Most security procurement decisions are driven by nontechnical factors and rarely by competitive feature comparisons. For these reasons, this Magic Quadrant focuses on the UTM products used by midsize businesses.

The branch offices of larger companies often have different network security demands than midsize businesses, even though they may be of similar size. Large enterprises often use low-end enterprise products at their branch offices to ensure interoperability and to take advantage of economies of scale in getting larger discounts from their firewall

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