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## **NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY REPLACED CISCO WITH SAFE•CONNECT™ NAC**

*Impulse Point's Network Access Control Solution Reduces Help Desk Calls*

**KIRKLAND, WA, July 23, 2009**– Impulse Point, provider of the most scalable network access control (NAC) solution for large enterprise networks, and Northwest University announced today that Safe•Connect™ is successfully deployed to provide endpoint security policy management for the University's wireless and residential networks.

Northwest University chose Impulse Point's Safe•Connect NAC to replace Cisco Clean Access (CCA) after using CCA for four years and reviewing other NAC products. The University was facing an end-of-life upgrade option with Cisco and looking for a solution with increased stability that would also be easier to support and maintain. Among the requirements considered by Northwest University when selecting Safe•Connect was the product's end user experience and track record of reducing help desk and support calls.

"It has been a smooth transition for us, we haven't seen any issues," relates Nathan Henderson, Director of Information Technology at Northwest University. "We have a relatively small IT staff and the reduction in help desk calls means we can focus our efforts elsewhere. We haven't had any complaints from students, which is a huge improvement over CCA."

"Safe•Connect is designed to remain nonintrusive to the end user as long as the device is compliant with security policies," says Peter Bonalos, Regional Sales Manager of Impulse Point. "For those instances where a device is not compliant, the solution provides remediation guidance and essentially walks a user through the process of correcting the problem. Students are able to self-remediate and that makes a big difference in the number of calls made to the help desk."

"The entire process of getting Safe•Connect installed and deployed was great," continues Henderson. "In short, Impulse Point has delivered and has another happy customer."

Safe•Connect™ offers an easy to implement and support endpoint policy management solution that allows organizations to control access to their networks based on an end user's compliance with security policies, while seamlessly connecting to their existing multi-vendor infrastructure. Although not required, Safe•Connect is also compatible with 802.1x, providing the flexibility to quarantine users at the router, switch, or endpoint device.

The Safe•Connect™ network access control solution provides the following capabilities:

- Prevents unauthorized user access to wired, wireless, and VPN networks.
- Ensures users maintain compliance with anti-virus, anti-spyware, Microsoft security patches, P2P file sharing software, and custom endpoint security policies through real-time continuous security posture validation and enforcement (pre- and post-admission control).
- Automates the isolation of non-compliant devices at Layer2 and provides individualized remediation guidance independent of network switch hardware.
- Enables flexible identity-based policy management for students, employees, vendors, and guests.
- Allows the organization to send on-demand broadcast messages for emergency or informational communications by network location or policy group.

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Safe•Connect™ is supported by the NAC industry's only Managed Support Service offering. Impulse Point provides continuous proactive monitoring and support that includes hardware server and software problem determination and resolution, as well as upgrade protection to future software functional releases.

***About Impulse Point***

*Designed for highly scalable and vendor diverse environments, Impulse Point's Safe•Connect™ Network Access Control solution enables organizations to automate and enforce end user authentication, anti-virus, anti-spyware, Microsoft security patches, P2P file sharing, and custom endpoint security policies. The result is a more secure, reliable, and predictable IT infrastructure. Impulse Point ([www.impulse.com](http://www.impulse.com)) is headquartered in Florida and is one of Tampa Bay's premier technology innovators.*

***About Northwest University***

*Northwest University is a regionally-accredited, Christian coeducational undergraduate institution offering baccalaureate college education. The campus overlooks Lake Washington and the city of Seattle with a view of the snow-clad Olympics to the west. The mission of Northwest University is to provide, in a distinctly evangelical Christian environment, quality education to prepare students for service and leadership. For more information, please visit [www.northwestu.edu](http://www.northwestu.edu)*

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