

# matasano playbook is firewall sync

Virtually every enterprise in the world operates **multiple firewalls** to protect their internal networks from the Internet, and to control access to customer data and sensitive business units. Playbook gives network teams a **single console** to stage changes, track devices, peer-review changes before deploying, and research firewall rules.

- **Search across devices**

Playbook fully parses firewall rules and indexes them based on their semantic meaning. It can quickly answer questions about which rules reference hosts, protocols, and ports, across multiple device types.

- **Push-button deployment**

Playbook can easily acquire firewall rules directly from devices (or engineers can upload rulesets manually). From then on, Playbook establishes an authenticated connection to the device, which it uses to deploy changes from authorized users. Firewall rule changes no longer require engineers to directly log in to management consoles.

- **Comprehensive change tracking**

Playbook is built on Subversion, a proven, industry-standard version control system relied on by tens of thousands of software companies worldwide. Because it's built on a real version control system, every change to every device is tracked, tagged with the author of the change, traceable, and easily rolled back.

- **Flexible work support**

Most network teams have multiple seniority levels, with some changes restricted to the most senior engineers. Playbook allows "normal" users to stage complicated changes to firewalls, which can then be reviewed as graphical change snapshots by senior team members.

- **Error and syntax checking**

Because Playbook fully understands the rules that it manages, it can detect common syntax errors and flag them before allowing the network to be disrupted by broken configurations.

- **Global and area-wide rules**

Playbook creates "groups" of firewalls, for which a single rule change can be applied to tens of devices. A network-wide rule change across every device might require only one firewall rule line.

- **Document devices, hosts, and protocols**

Playbook includes a powerful wiki-based documentation system, which allows teams to organically create

documentation for all the details, designs, and artifacts involved in running a large network. The Playbook wiki also provides information about common network protocols, and even makes the hosts referenced in firewall rulesets "clickable" so they can be documented and inventoried.

- **Ticketing and change requests**

Playbook includes a straightforward ticketing system, which offers the network team's internal customers an interface to submit requests to change firewalls. When engineers work on change requests, all their changes are tagged with tickets, which makes their changes traceable to the customer requests that motivated them.

- **Timelines and syndication**

All changes and events in Playbook are tracked in a continuous timeline, which can be queried and filtered by device and kind. Engineers can also securely subscribe to the timeline in an RSS feed reader to stay up to date with network changes.

Learn more at [runplaybook.com](http://runplaybook.com)



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#### About Matasano

Since 1994, Matasano researchers have had founding roles in the first security research labs, discovered new classes of vulnerabilities, secured operating systems, and shipped large software projects. We've been behind some of the first breaks in SAN technology, virtualization, and financial protocols. Our work has been featured in Network World, eWeek, Forbes, Macworld, Wired, and the Washington Post, and at conferences ranging from Black Hat to Gartner.

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