OUTLINE
2026

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Sophos XGS Firewall

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TAWANA TECHNOLOGY

2026

Teaching Sophos XGS Firewall

1. Introduction to Sophos XGS Firewall

1.1 Overview of Sophos XGS Firewall

- What is Sophos XGS Firewall?
- Key features and benefits
- Comparison with previous versions (XG Firewall)

1.2 Licensing and Models

- Licensing options: Home, Standard, Advanced
- Hardware appliances and virtual appliance options

2. Getting Started with Sophos XGS Firewall

2.1 Initial Setup

- Unboxing and hardware installation
- Connecting the firewall to the network
- Accessing the Web Admin Console

2.2 Basic Configuration

- Setting administrator credentials
- Configuring network interfaces (WAN, LAN, DMZ)
- System settings: time, DNS, hostname

2.3 Firmware Updates

- Checking firmware versions
- Performing firmware upgrades

3. Network Configuration

3.1 Network Zones

- Understanding zones (LAN, WAN, DMZ, VPN)
- Creating and managing zones

4. Firewall Policies and Rules

4.1 Firewall Rule Fundamentals

- Rule components: Source, Destination, Service, Action
- Rule order and precedence

4.2 Creating Firewall Rules

- Allowing and blocking traffic
- NAT configuration:
  - Source NAT (SNAT)
  - Destination NAT (DNAT)

4.3 Advanced Rule Configuration

- Time-based rules
- User-based rules
- Application-based rules

5. Security Features

5.1 Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)

- Enabling IPS
- IPS policy tuning and custom rules

5.2 Web Filtering

- Web filtering policies
- Blocking malicious and unwanted websites

5.3 Application Control

- Blocking or limiting applications

5.4 Anti-Virus and Malware Protection

- Scanning HTTP, FTP, and email traffic

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5.5 SSL/TLS Inspection

- SSL/TLS decryption concepts
- Configuring SSL inspection policies

6. VPN Configuration

6.1 Site-to-Site VPN

- IPsec VPN between Sophos firewalls
- IPsec VPN with third-party firewalls

6.2 Remote Access VPN

- Sophos SSL VPN
- Client configuration and access

6.3 VPN Troubleshooting

- Common VPN issues
- Diagnostic and resolution steps

7. High Availability and Redundancy

7.1 High Availability Concepts

- Active–Passive mode
- Active–Active mode

7.2 Configuring High Availability

- Creating HA pairs
- Testing failover scenarios

7.3 WAN Load Balancing

- Multi-WAN configuration
- Link monitoring and failover

8. Logging, Reporting, and Alerting

8.1 Log Management

- Viewing and filtering logs
- Log storage options

8.2 Reporting

- Traffic, threat, and usage reports
- Custom report creation

8.3 Alerts

- Email alerts
- Critical event notifications

9. Advanced Features

9.1 SD-WAN

- Multi-WAN optimization
- SD-WAN routing policies

9.2 Wireless Protection

- Integrating Sophos Access Points

9.3 Sandboxing

- Advanced threat detection and analysis

9.4 Zero-Day Protection

- Sophos Synchronized Security overview

10. Troubleshooting and Maintenance

10.1 Troubleshooting Tools

- Packet capture
- Diagnostic utilities
- System health monitoring

10.2 Common Issues

- Connectivity problems
- Policy and configuration errors

10.3 Backup and Restore

- Configuration backups
- Restoring firewall settings

11. Best Practices and Security Hardening

11.1 Security Best Practices

- Regular firmware updates
- Strong password policies
- Restricted administrative access

11.2 Firewall Hardening

- Disabling unused services
- Enabling advanced threat protection

11.3 Compliance and Auditing

- Overview of GDPR, PCI-DSS compliance

12. Hands-On Labs and Practical Exercises

12.1 Lab Setup

- Virtual lab environment configuration

12.2 Practical Scenarios

- Basic firewall deployment
- VPN and security policy implementation
- Attack simulation and defense testing

12.3 Troubleshooting Labs

- Identifying and resolving real-world issues

13. Certification and Next Steps

13.1 Sophos Certification Path

- Sophos Certified Engineer (SCE)

13.2 Advanced Training

- Advanced Sophos courses

13.3 Staying Updated

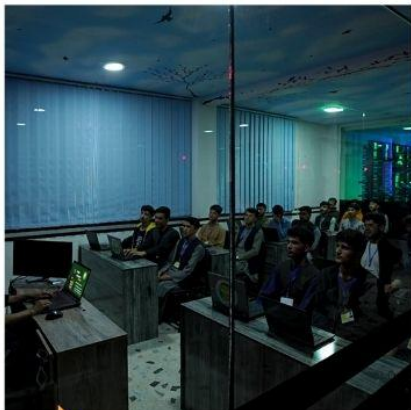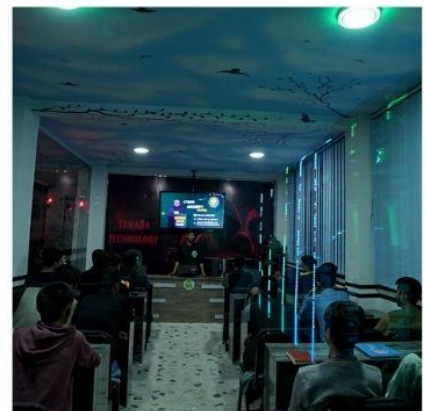- Sophos community, documentation, and updates

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