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Great article on the different firewalls. Personal firewalls do work well to a certain extent however they are a problem for most end users because it either blocks things they are expecting to work and many end users turn it off so that applications can run, or rules are not setup correctly and, in both cases, this opens new doors for malware, spyware, adware and ransomware to infect the machine (Almut HerzogNahid Shahmehrie, 2007).

In my personal experience, companies have done all the hard work and defined all the rules needed by the personal firewalls contained within an operating system like Windows and roll this out to end users with group policy and they lock down the firewalls so that end users cannot tamper with it. Anti-Virus solutions like Symantec and ESET to name some of the vendors, control the Firewall with the Anti-virus solution and it takes over from the personal firewall and is controlled by a cloud solution or management server giving companies the ability to control the firewall instead of Windows controlling it (Broadcom, 2019)

While personal firewalls provide the user with some form of protection, in an environment where you have multiple computers on a LAN (Local Area Network), you need to provide additional layers in the form of a network firewall to protect the LAN from external threats. Network firewalls unlike personal firewalls have three different classifications associated to them, namely, Packet-Filtering firewalls, Circuit-level firewalls and Application-level firewalls (Wes Noonan, 2006). Each firewall has pros and cons, and you will always find that end users will challenge the system because it interferes with what they want to achieve.

References

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