PIX/ASA : Port Redirection(Forwarding) with nat, global, static and access-list Commands

Document ID: 63872

Contents

Introduction

In order to maximize security when you implement Cisco PIX Security Appliance version 7.0, it is important to understand how packets pass between higher security interfaces and lower security interfaces when you use the **nat−control**, **nat**, **global**, **static**, **access−list** and **access−group** commands. This document explains the differences between these commands and how to configure Port Redirection(Forwarding) and the outside Network Address Translation (NAT) features in PIX software version 7.x, with the use of the command line interface or the Adaptive Security Device Manager (ASDM).

Note: Some options in ASDM 5.2 and later can appear different than the options in ASDM 5.1. Refer to the ASDM documentation for more information.

Prerequisites

Requirements

Refer to Allowing HTTPS Access for ASDM in order to allow the device to be configured by the ASDM.

Components Used

The information in this document is based on these software and hardware versions:

- Cisco PIX 500 Series Security Appliance Software version 7.0 and later
- ASDM version 5.x and later

The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, make sure that you understand the potential impact of any command.
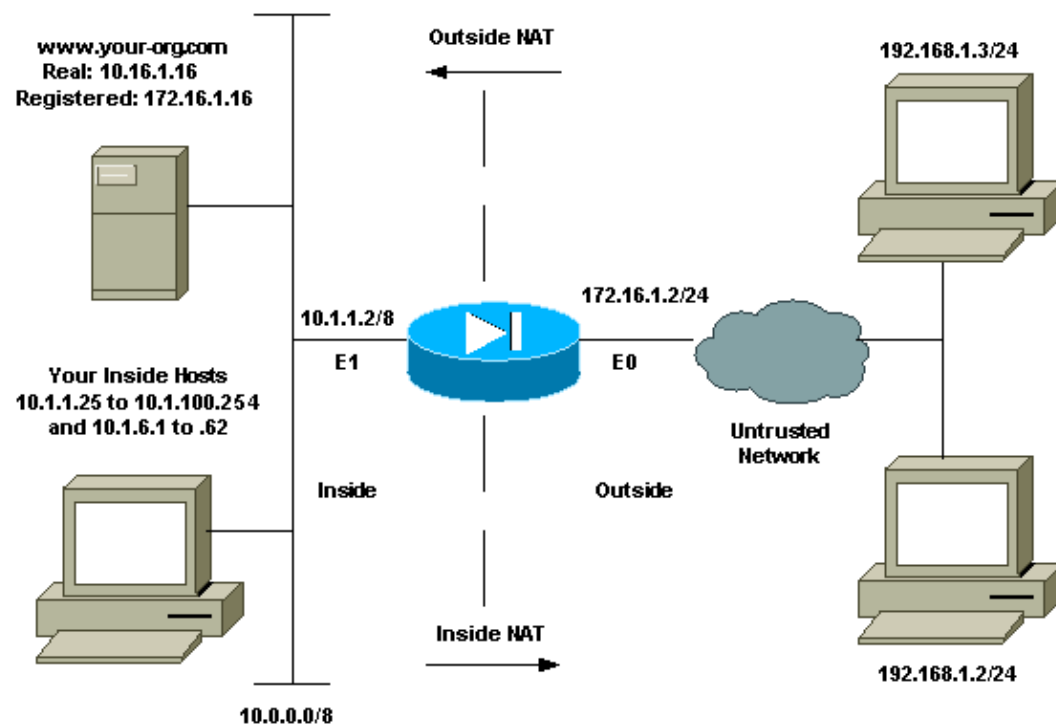
Related Products

You can also use this configuration with Cisco ASA Security Appliance version 7.x and later.

Conventions

Refer to the Cisco Technical Tips Conventions for more information on document conventions.

Network Diagram

The IP addressing schemes used in this configuration are not legally routable on the Internet. They are RFC 1918 addresses which have been used in a lab environment.

Initial Configuration

The interface names are:

- **interface ethernet 0** nameif outside
- **interface ethernet 1** nameif inside

Note: In order to find additional information on the commands used in this document, use the Command Lookup Tool (registered customers only) .

Allow Outbound Access

Outbound access describes connections from a higher security level interface to a lower security level interface. This includes connections from inside to outside, inside to Demilitarized Zones (DMZs), and DMZs to outside. This can also include connections from one DMZ to another, as long as the connection source interface has a higher security level than the destination. Review the "security−level" configuration on the PIX interfaces in order to confirm this.

This example shows the security level and interface name configuration:

```
pix(config)#interface ethernet 0
pix(config-if)#security-level 0
pix(config-if)#nameif outside
pix(config-if)#exit
```

PIX 7.0 introduces the **nat−control** command. You can use the **nat−control** command in configuration mode in order to specify if NAT is required for outside communications. With NAT control enabled, configuration of NAT rules is required in order to allow outbound traffic, as is the case with previous versions of PIX software. If NAT control is disabled (**no nat−control**), inside hosts can communicate with outside networks without the configuration of a NAT rule. However, if you have inside hosts that do not have public addresses, you still need to configure NAT for those hosts.

In order to configure NAT control with the use of ASDM, select the Configuration tab from the ASDM Home window and choose **NAT** from the features menu.

Enable traffic through the firewall without translation: This option was introduced in PIX version 7.0(1). When this option is checked, no **nat−control** command is issued in the configuration. This command means that no translation is required for traversing through the firewall. This option is usually checked only when internal hosts have public IP addresses or the network topology does not require internal hosts to be translated to any IP address.

If internal hosts have private IP addresses, then this option has to be unchecked so that internal hosts can get translated to a public IP address and access the Internet.
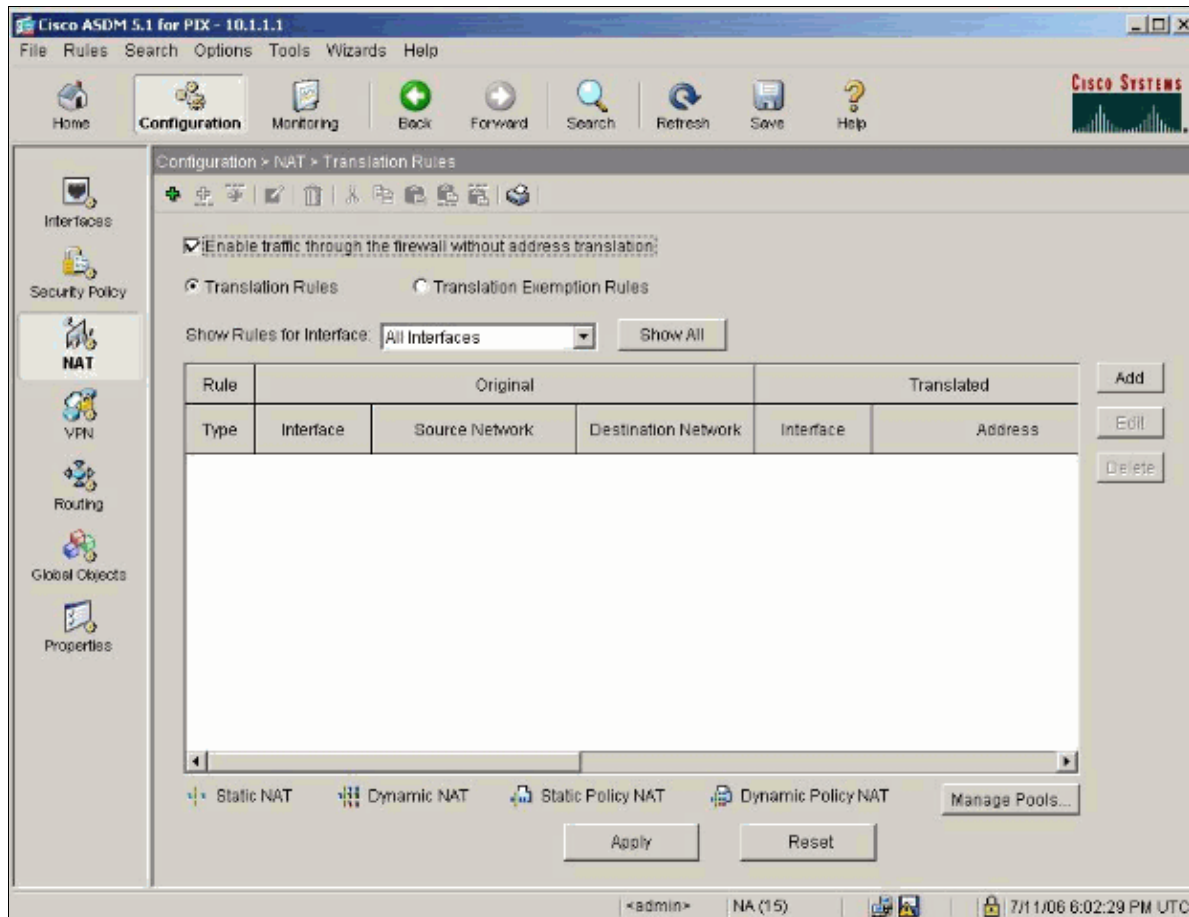
There are two policies that are required in order to allow outbound access with NAT control. The first one is a translation method. This can be a static translation with the use of the **static** command, or a dynamic translation with the use of a **nat**/**global** rule. This is not required if NAT control is disabled and your inside hosts have public addresses.

The other requirement for outbound access (which applies whether NAT control is enabled or disabled), is if there is an access control list (ACL) present. If an ACL is present, then it must allow the source host access to the destination host with the use of the specific protocol and port. By default, there are no access restrictions on outbound connections through the PIX. This means that if there is no ACL configured for the source interface, then by default, the outbound connection is allowed if there is a translation method configured.

Allow Inside Hosts Access to Outside Networks with NAT

This configuration gives all of the hosts on the subnet 10.1.6.0/24 access to the outside. In order to accomplish this, use the **nat** and **global** commands as this procedure demonstrates.

1. Define the inside group you want to include for NAT.

   ```
   nat (inside) 1 10.1.6.0 255.255.255.0
   ```
2. Specify a pool of addresses on the outside interface to which the hosts defined in the NAT statement are translated.

   ```
   global (outside) 1 172.16.1.5-172.16.1.10 netmask 255.255.255.0
   ```
3. Use ASDM in order to create your global address pool. Choose **Configuration > Features > NAT** and uncheck **Enable traffic through the firewall without address translation**. Then click **Add** in order to configure the NAT Rule.
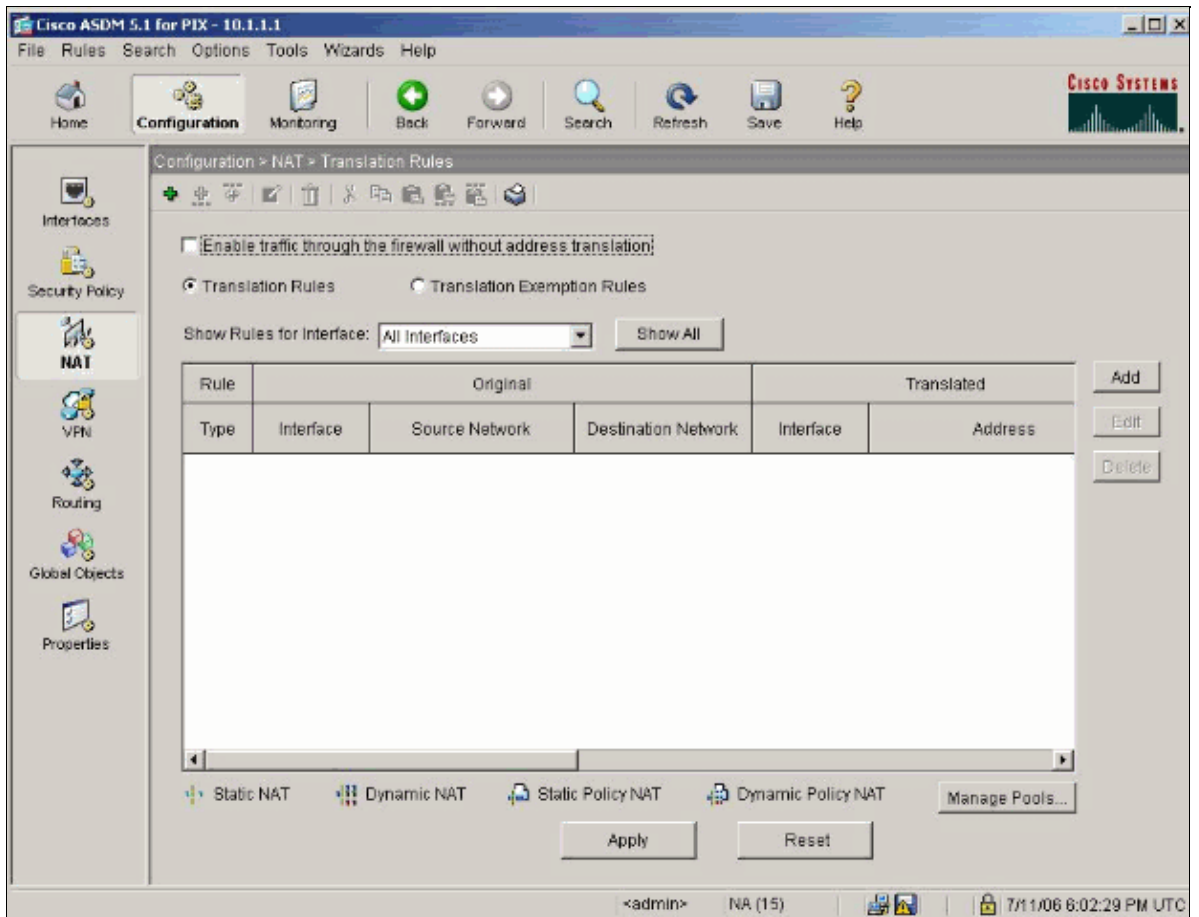
4. Click **Manage Pools** in order to define the NAT pool addresses.
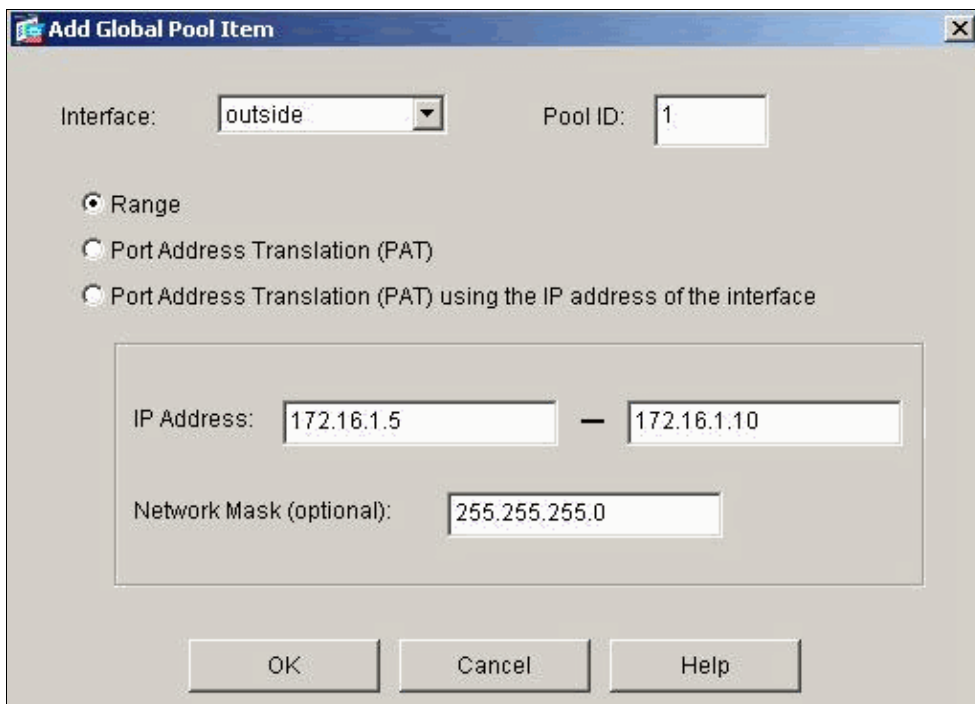
5. Choose **Outside > Add**, and choose a range to specify a pool of addresses.
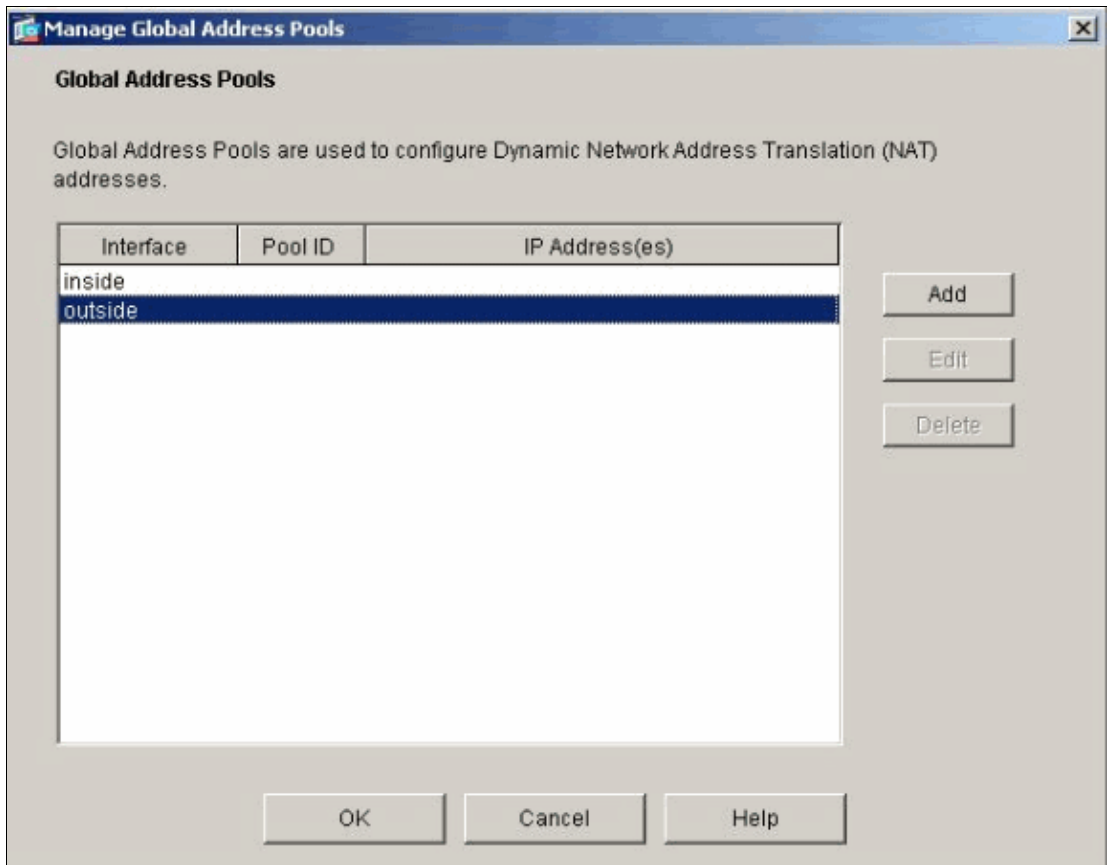
6. Enter your address range, enter a Pool ID, and click **OK**.

7. Choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules** in order to create the translation rule.
8. Choose **Inside** as the Source Interface, and enter the addresses you want to NAT.
9. For Translate Address on Interface, select **Outside**, choose **Dynamic**, and select the Address Pool you just configured.
10. Click **OK**.
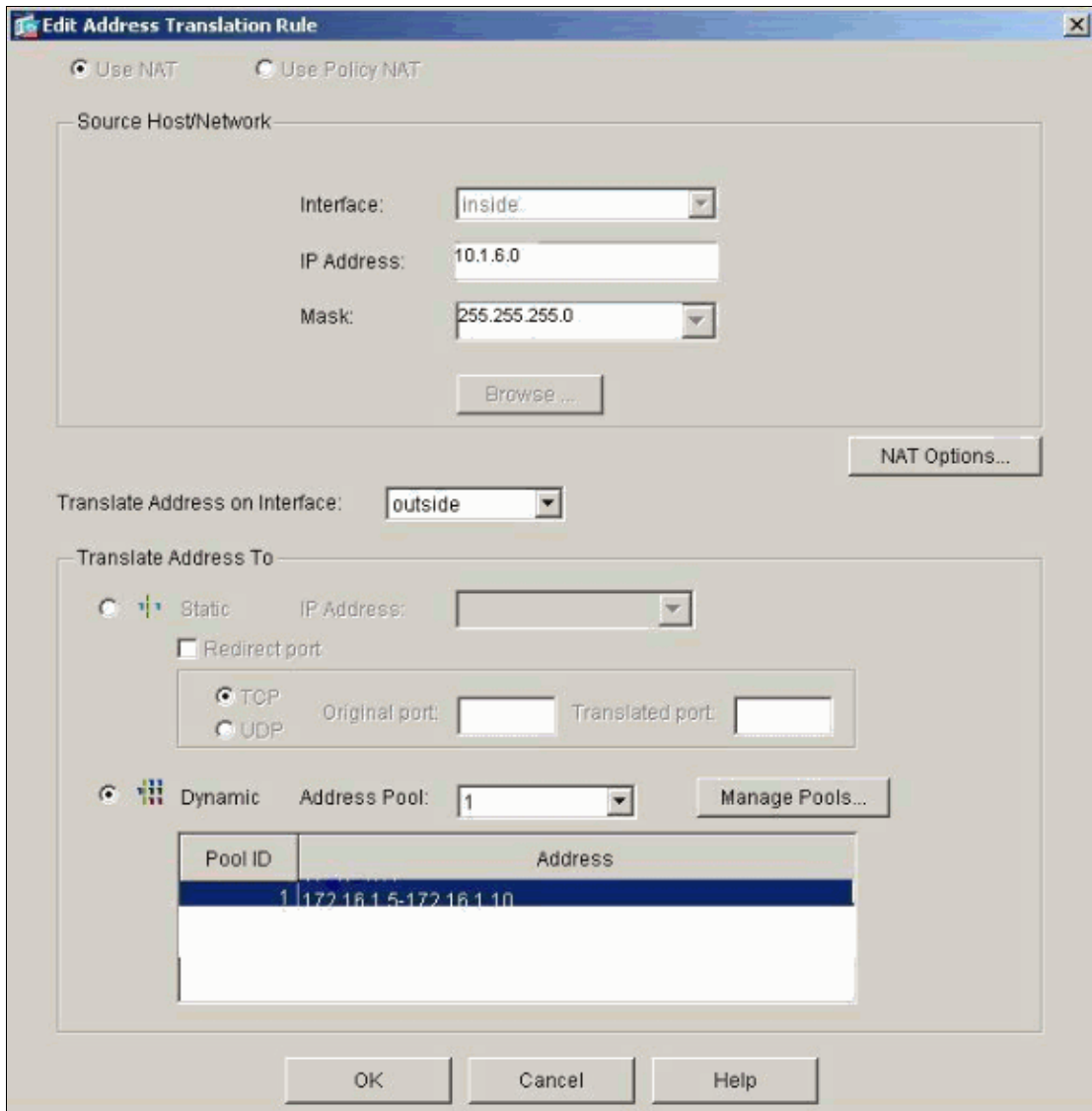
11. The translation appears in the Translation Rules at **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
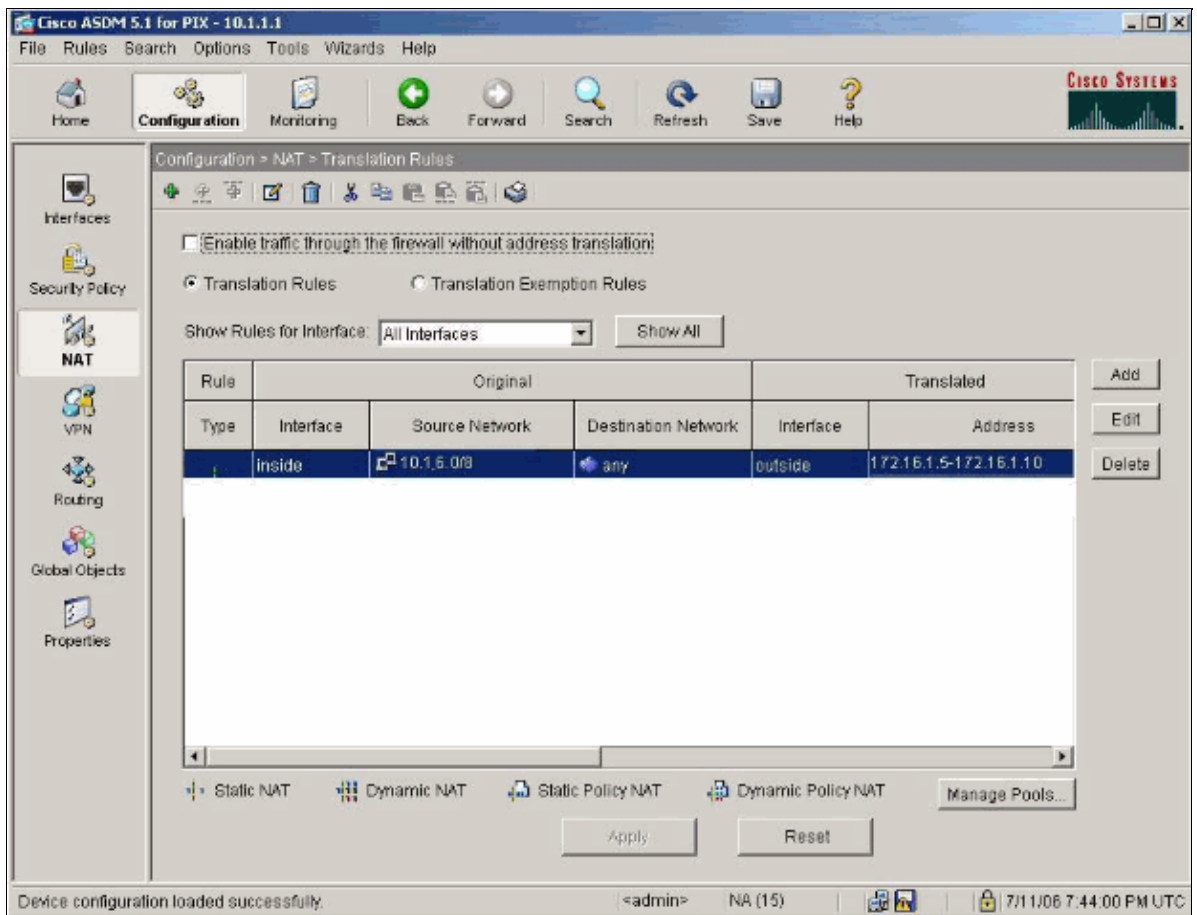
Now the hosts on the inside can access outside networks. When hosts from the inside initiate a connection to the outside, they are translated to an address from the global pool. The addresses are assigned from the global pool on a first–come, first–translated basis, and start with the lowest address in the pool. For example, if host 10.1.6.25 is the first to initiate a connection to the outside, it receives address 172.16.1.5. The next host out receives 172.16.1.6, and so on. This is not a static translation, and the translation times out after a period of inactivity as defined by the **timeout xlate hh:mm:ss** command. If there are more inside hosts than there are addresses in the pool, the final address in the pool is used for Port Address Translation (PAT).

Allow Inside Hosts Access to Outside Networks with the use of PAT

If you want inside hosts to share a single public address for translation, use PAT. If the **global** statement specifies one address, that address is port translated. The PIX allows one port translation per interface and that translation supports up to 65,535 active xlate objects to the single global address. Complete these steps in order to allow inside hosts access to outside networks with the use of PAT.

1. Define the inside group you want to include for PAT (when you use 0 0, you select all inside hosts.)

   ```
   nat (inside) 1 10.1.6.0 255.255.255.0
   ```
2. Specify the global address you want to use for PAT. This can be the interface address.

   ```
   global (outside) 1 172.16.1.4 netmask 255.255.255.0
   ```
3. In ASDM, choose **Configuration > Features > NAT** and uncheck **Enable traffic through the firewall without address translation**.
4. Click **Add** in order to configure the NAT rule.
5. Choose **Manage Pools** in order to configure your PAT address.
6. Choose **Outside > Add** and click **Port Address Translation (PAT)** in order to configure a single

address for PAT.

7. Enter an address, a Pool ID, and click **OK**.

8. Choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules** in order to create the translation rule.
9. Select **inside** as the source interface, and enter the addresses you want to NAT.
10. For Translate Address on Interface, select **outside**, choose **Dynamic**, and select the Address Pool you just configured. Click **OK**.
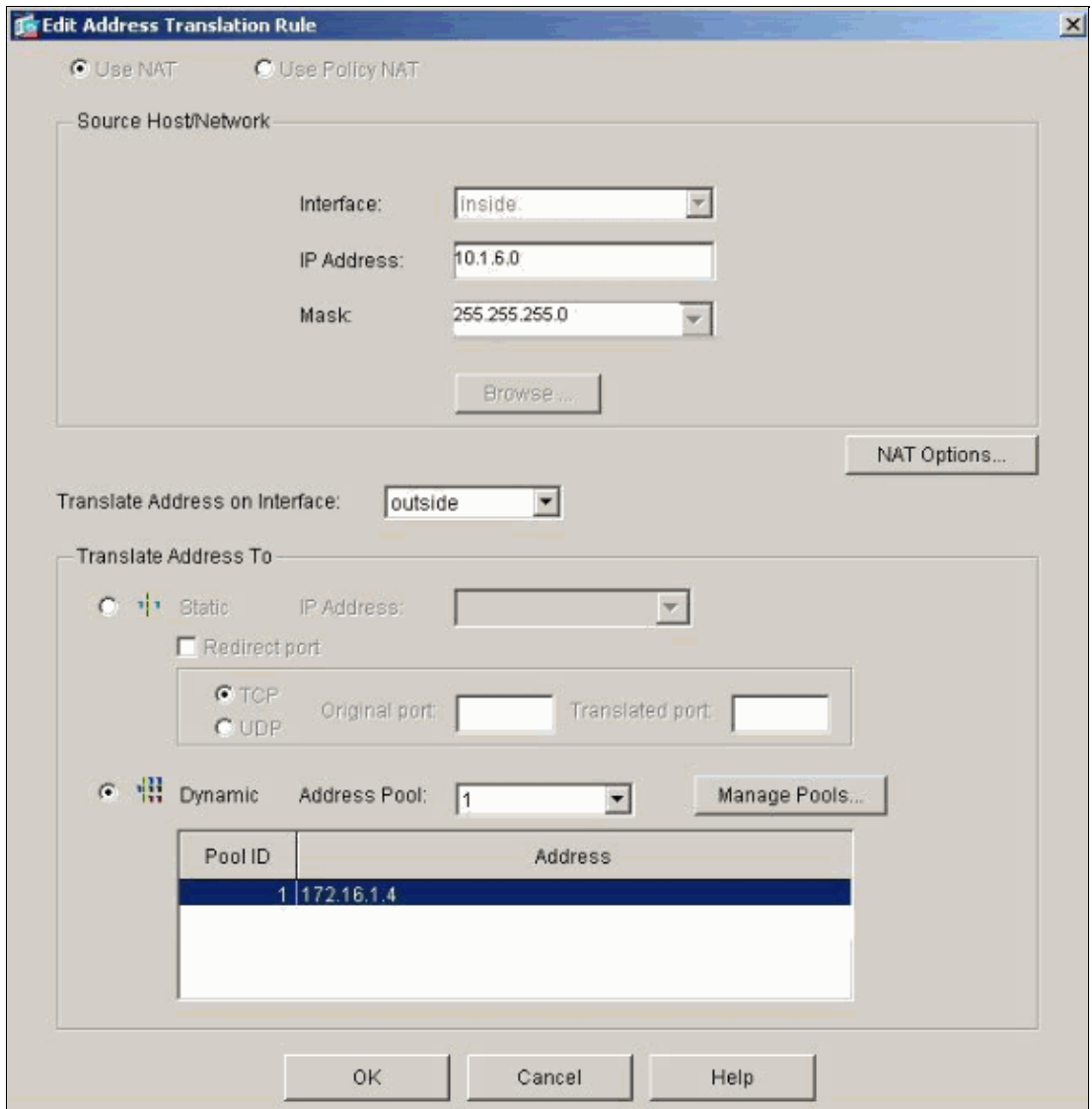
11. The translation appears in the Translation Rules at **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
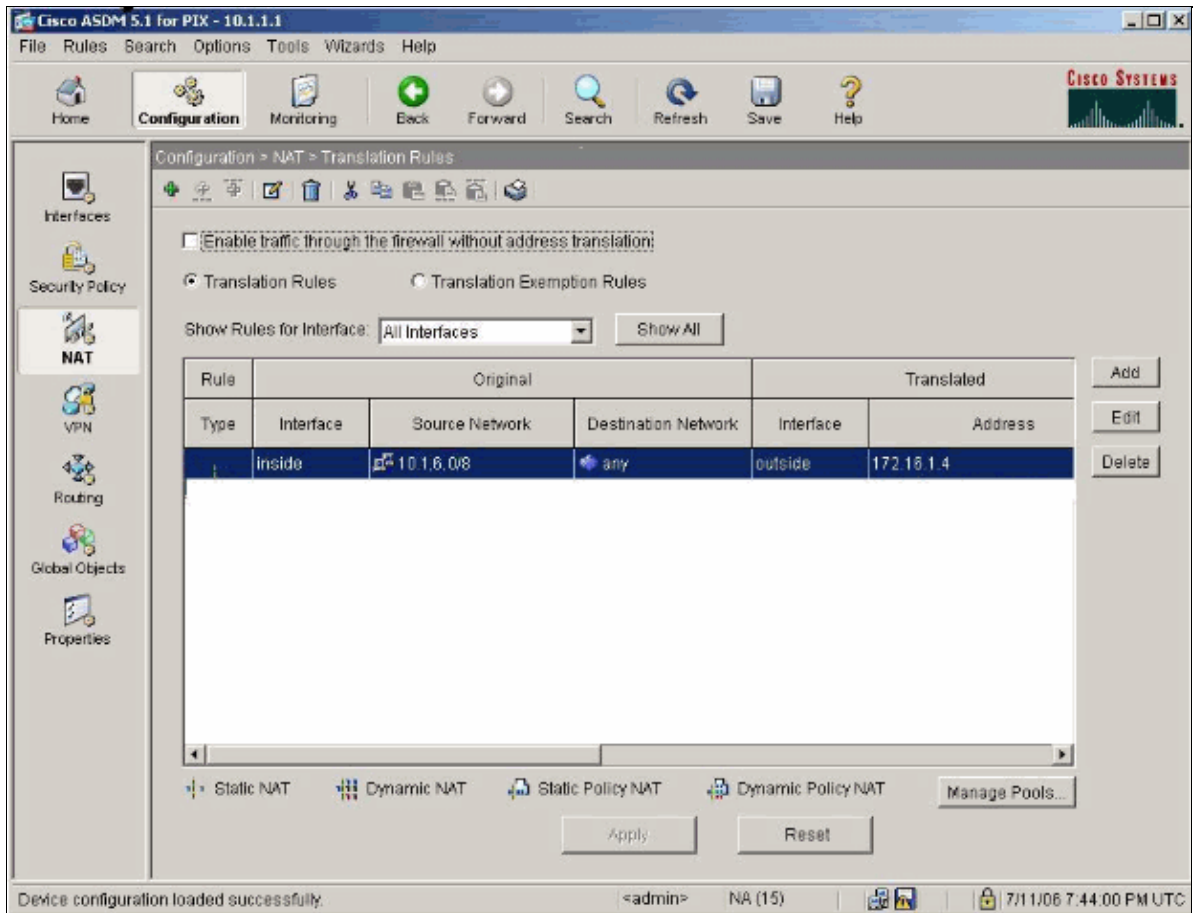
There are a few things to consider when you use PAT.

- The IP addresses you specify for PAT cannot be in another global address pool.
- PAT does not work with H.323 applications, caching nameservers, and Point−to−Point Tunneling Protocol (PPTP). PAT works with Domain Name Service (DNS), FTP and passive FTP, HTTP, mail, remote−procedure call (RPC), rshell, Telnet, URL filtering, and outbound traceroute.
- Do not use PAT when you need to run multimedia applications through the firewall. Multimedia applications can conflict with port mappings that PAT provides.
- In PIX software release 4.2(2), the PAT feature does not work with IP data packets that arrive in reverse order. PIX software release 4.2(3) corrects this problem.
- IP addresses in the pool of global addresses specified with the **global** command require reverse DNS entries in order to ensure that all external network addresses are accessible through the PIX. In order to create reverse DNS mappings, use a DNS Pointer (PTR) record in the address−to−name mapping file for each global address. Without the PTR entries, sites can experience slow or intermittent Internet connectivity and FTP requests fail consistently.

  For example, if a global IP address is 192.168.1.3 and the domain name for the PIX Security Appliance is pix.caguana.com, the PTR record is:

  ```
  3.1.1.175.in-addr.arpa. IN PTR
  pix3.caguana.com
   4.1.1.175.in-addr.arpa. IN PTR
  pix4.caguana.com & so on.
  ```

Restrict Inside Hosts Access to Outside Networks

If there is a valid translation method defined for the source host, and no ACL defined for the source PIX interface, then the outbound connection is allowed by default. However, in some cases it is necessary to

restrict outbound access based on source, destination, protocol, and/or port. In order to accomplish this, configure an ACL with the **access–list** command and apply it to the connection source PIX interface with the **access–group** command. You can apply PIX 7.0 ACLs in both inbound and outbound directions. This procedure is an example that allows outbound HTTP access for one subnet, but denies all other hosts HTTP access to the outside, while allowing all other IP traffic for everyone.

1. Define the ACL.

   ```
   access-list acl_outbound permit tcp 10.1.6.0 255.255.255.0 any eq www
   access-list acl_outbound deny tcp any any eq www
   access-list acl_outbound permit ip any any
   ```

   Note: PIX ACLs differ from ACLs on Cisco IOS® routers in that the PIX does not use a wildcard mask like Cisco IOS. It uses a regular subnet mask in the ACL definition. As with Cisco IOS routers, the PIX ACL has an implicit "deny all" at the end of the ACL.

   Note: New access–list entries will be appended to the end of the existing ACEs. If you need a specific ACE processed first, you can use the `line` keyword in the access–list. This is an example command summary:

   ```
   access-list acl_outbound line 1 extended permit tcp host 10.1.10.225 any
   ```

2. Apply the ACL to the inside interface.

   ```
   access-group acl_outbound in interface inside
   ```

3. Use ASDM in order to configure the first access–list entry in step 1 to allow HTTP traffic from 10.1.6.0/24. Choose **Configuration > Features > Security Policy > Access Rules**.
4. Click **Add**, enter the information as this window shows, and click **OK**.
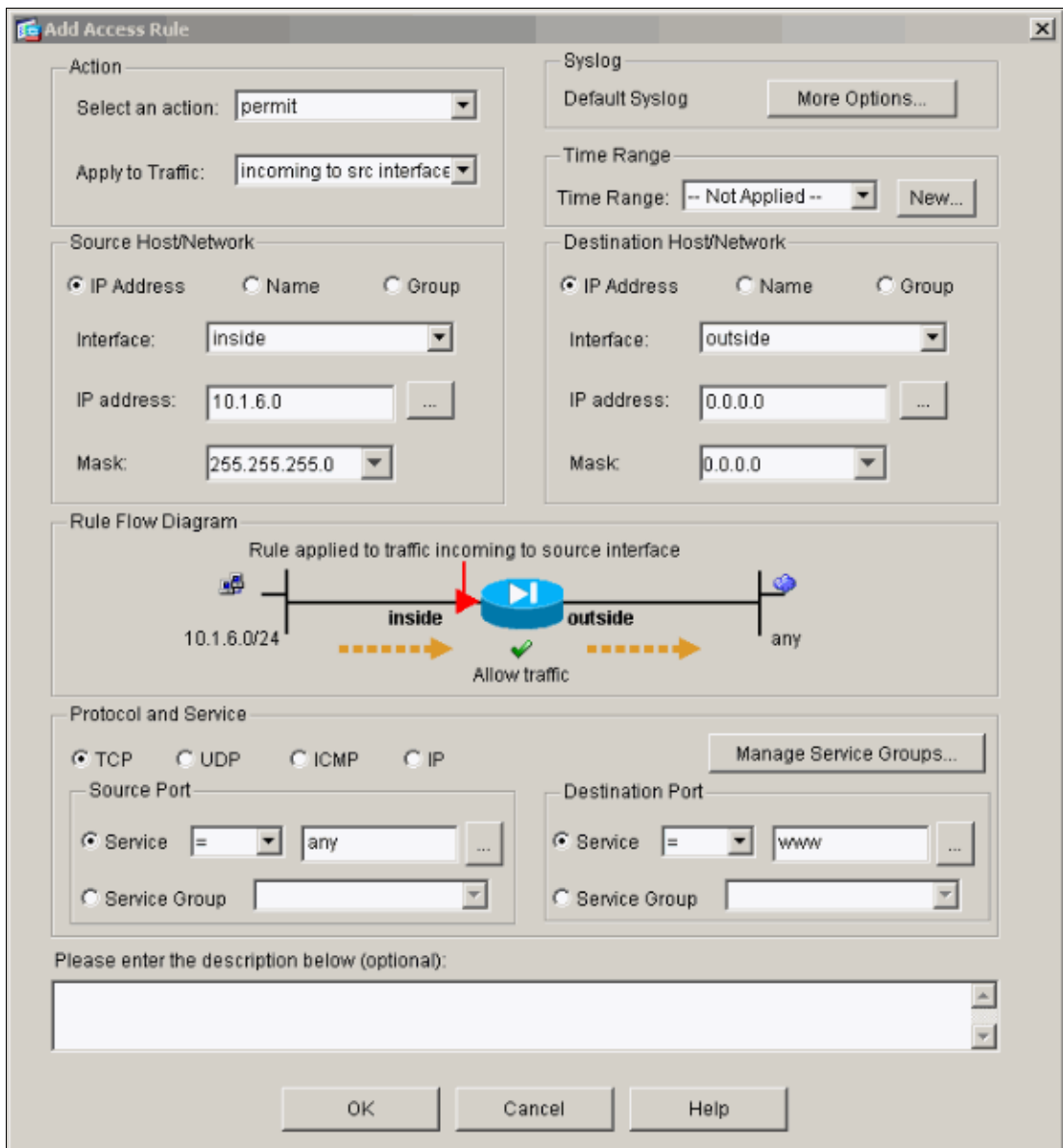
5. Once you enter the three access–list entries, choose **Configuration > Feature > Security Policy > Access Rules** in order to display these rules.
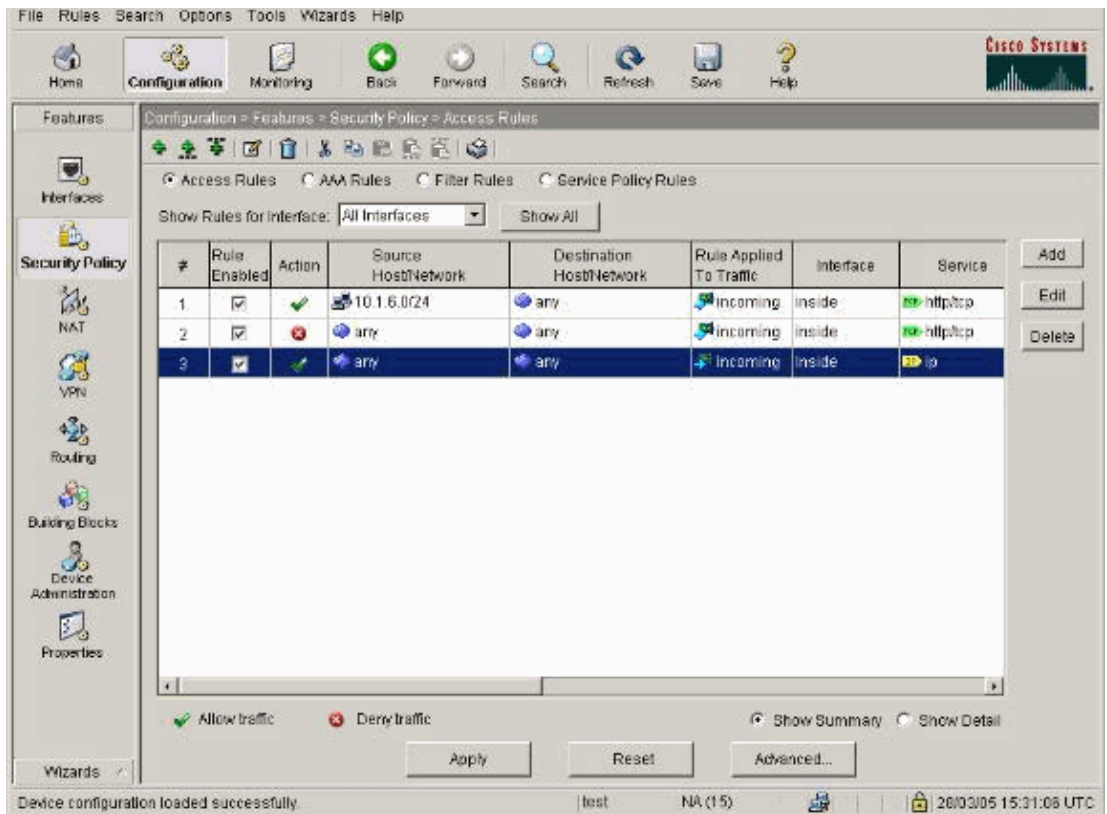
Allow Untrusted Hosts Access to Hosts on Your Trusted Network

Most organizations need to allow untrusted hosts access to resources in their trusted network. A common example is an internal web server. By default, the PIX denies connections from outside hosts to inside hosts. In order to allow this connection in NAT control mode, use the **static** command, with **access−list** and **access−group** commands. If NAT control is disabled, only the **access−list** and **access−group** commands are required, if no translation is performed.

Apply ACLs to interfaces with an **access−group** command. This command associates the ACL with the interface to examine traffic that flows in a particular direction.

In contrast to the **nat** and **global** commands which allow inside hosts out, the **static** command creates a two−way translation that allows inside hosts out and outside hosts in if you add the proper ACLs/groups.

In the PAT configuration examples shown in this document, if an outside host tries to connect to the global address, it can be used by thousands of inside hosts. The **static** command creates a one−to−one mapping. The **access−list** command defines what type of connection is allowed to an inside host and is always required when a lower security host connects to a higher security host. The **access−list** command is based on both port and protocol and can be very permissive or very restrictive, based on what the system administrator wants to achieve.

The network diagram in this document illustrates the use of these commands in order to configure the PIX to allow any untrusted hosts to connect to the inside web server, and allow untrusted host 192.168.1.1 access to an FTP service on the same machine.

Use ACLs on PIX Versions 7.0 and Later

Complete these steps for PIX software versions 7.0 and later with the use of ACLs.

1. If NAT control is enabled, define a static address translation for the inside web server to an outside/global address.

   ```
   static (inside, outside)  172.16.1.16 10.16.1.16
   ```

2. Define which hosts can connect on which ports to your web/FTP server.

   ```
   access-list 101 permit tcp any host  172.16.1.16 eq www
   access-list 101 permit tcp host  192.168.1.1 host  172.16.1.16 eq ftp
   ```

3. Apply the ACL to the outside interface.

   ```
   access-group 101 in interface outside
   ```

4. Choose **Configuration > Features > NAT** and click **Add** in order to create this static translation with the use of ASDM.
5. Select **inside** as the source interface, and enter the internal address for which you want to create a static translation.
6. Choose **Static** and enter the outside address you want to translate to in the IP address field. Click **OK**.

7. The translation appears in the Translation Rules when you choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
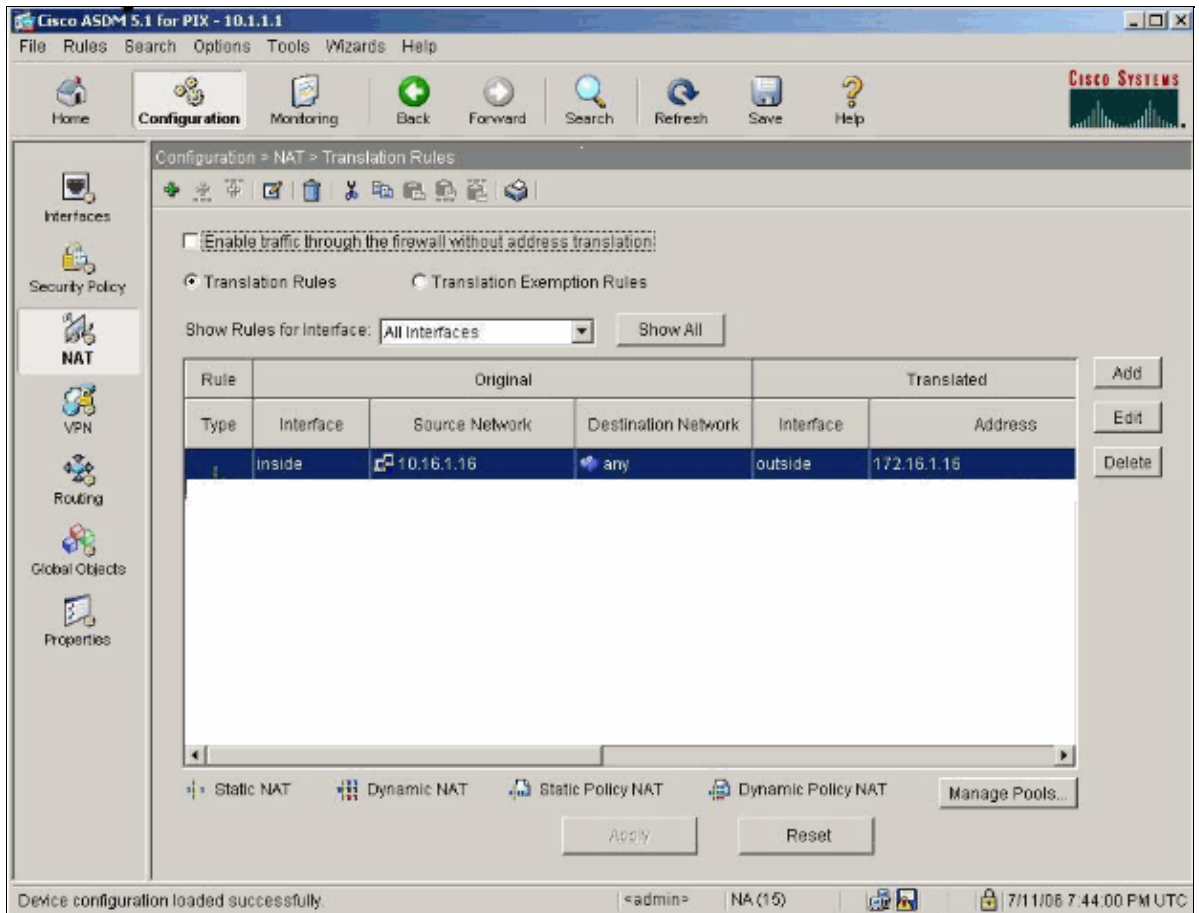
8. Use the Restrict Inside Hosts Access to Outside Networks procedure in order to enter the **access–list** entries.

   Note: Be careful when you implement these commands. If you implement the **access–list 101 permit ip any any** command, any host on the untrusted network can access any host on the trusted network with the use of IP as long as there is an active translation.

Disable NAT for Specific Hosts/Networks

If you use NAT control and have some public addresses on the inside network, and you want those specific inside hosts to go out to the outside without translation, you can disable NAT for those hosts, with **nat 0** or **static** commands.

This is an example of the **nat** command:

```
nat (inside) 0 10.1.6.0 255.255.255.0
```

Complete these steps in order to disable NAT for specific hosts/networks with the use of ASDM.

   1. Choose **Configuration > Features > NAT** and click **Add**.
   2. Choose **inside** as the source interface, and enter the internal address/network for which you want to create a static translation.
   3. Choose **Dynamic** and select the same address for Address Pool. Click **OK**.
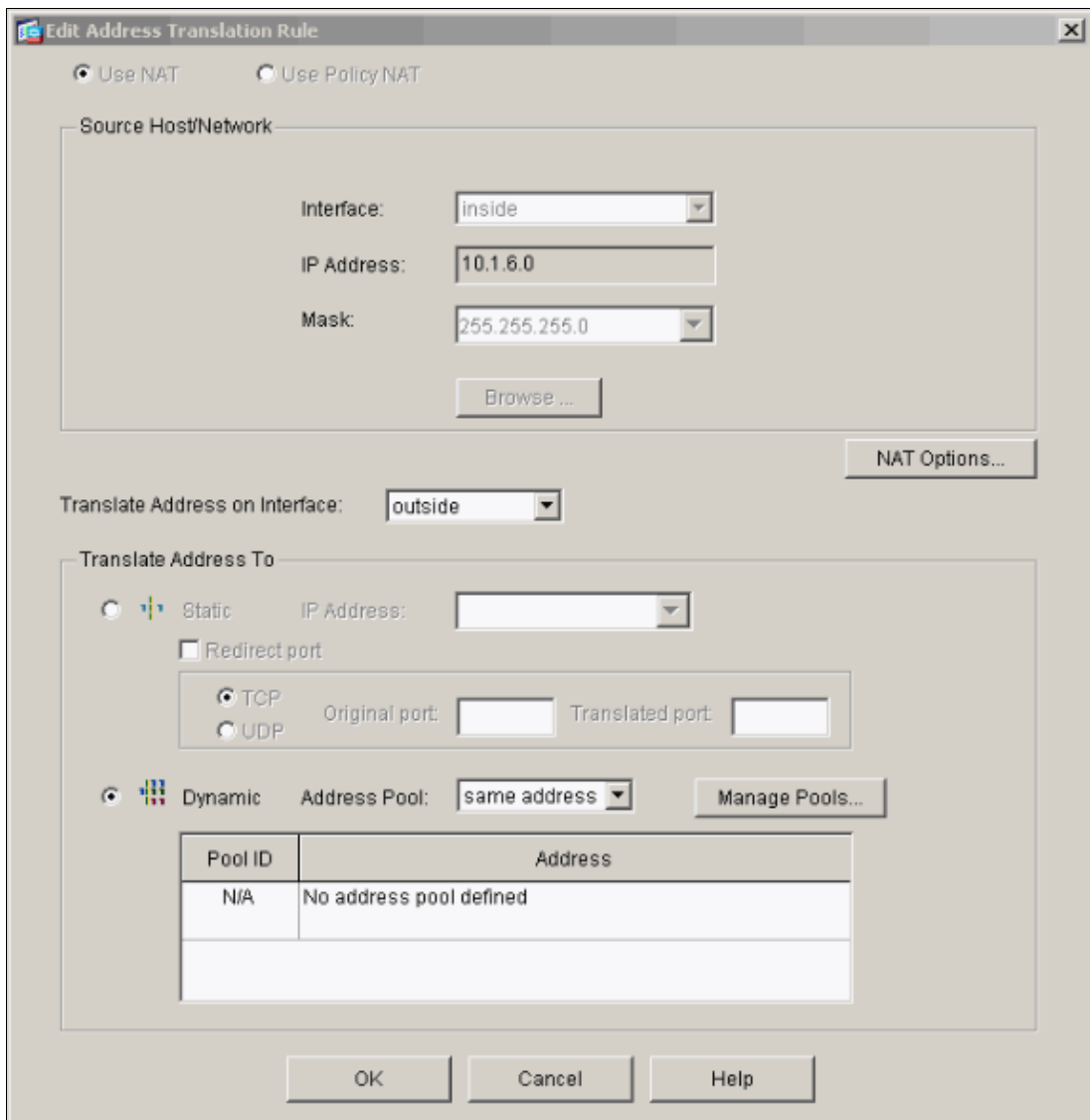
4. The new rule appears in the Translation Rules when you choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
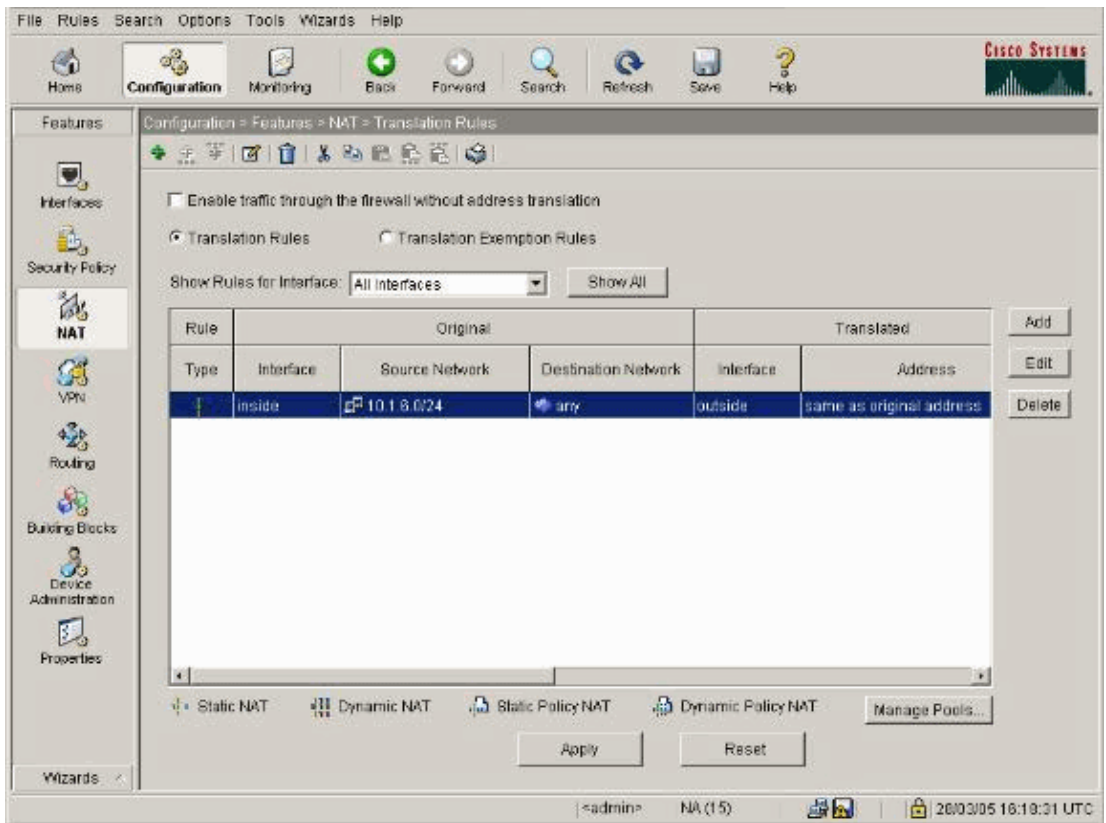
5. If you use ACLs, which allow more precise control of traffic that you should not translate (based on source/destination), use these commands.

```
access-list 103 permit ip 10.1.6.0 255.255.255.0 any
nat (inside) 0 access-list 103
```

6. Use ASDM and choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
7. Choose **Translation Exemption Rules** and click **Add**.

This example shows how to exempt traffic from the 10.1.6.0/24 network to anywhere from being translated.
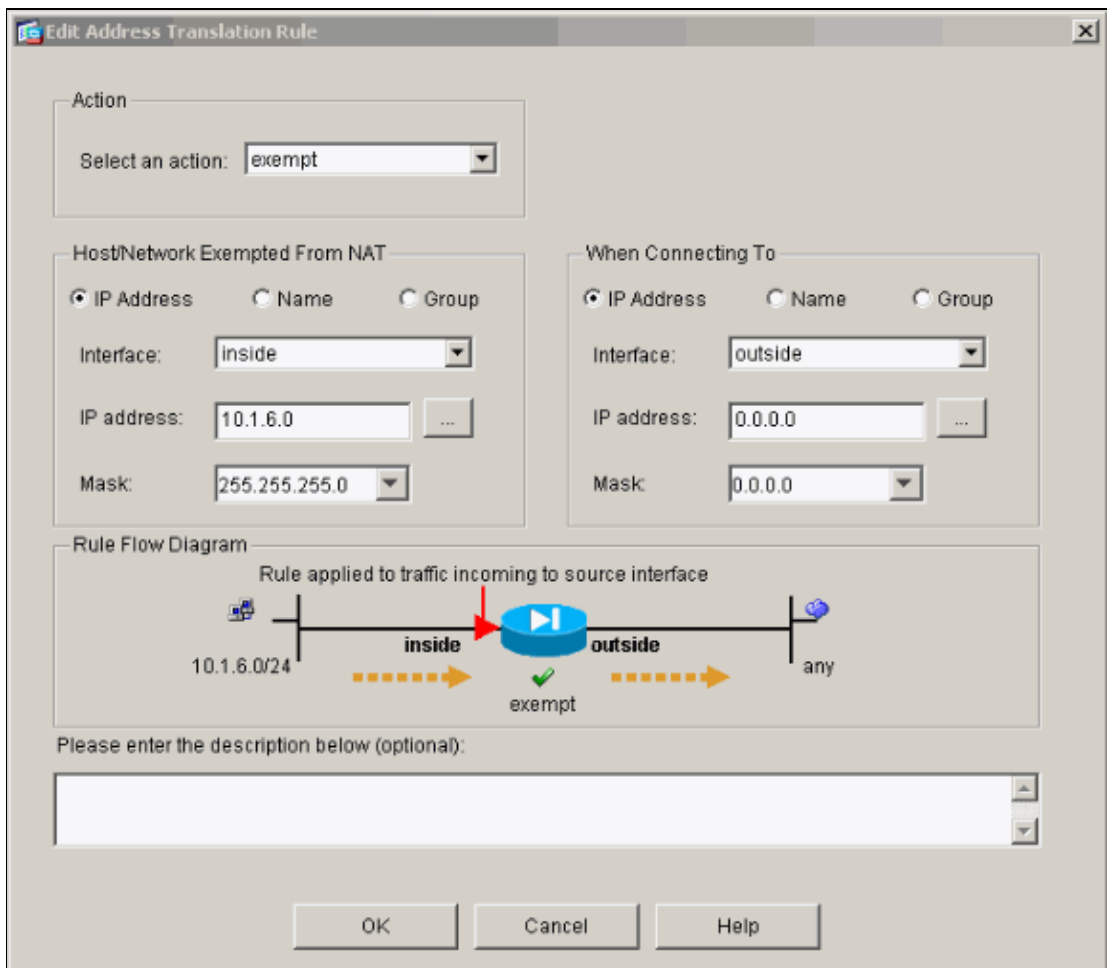
8. Choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Exemption Rules** in order to display the new rules.
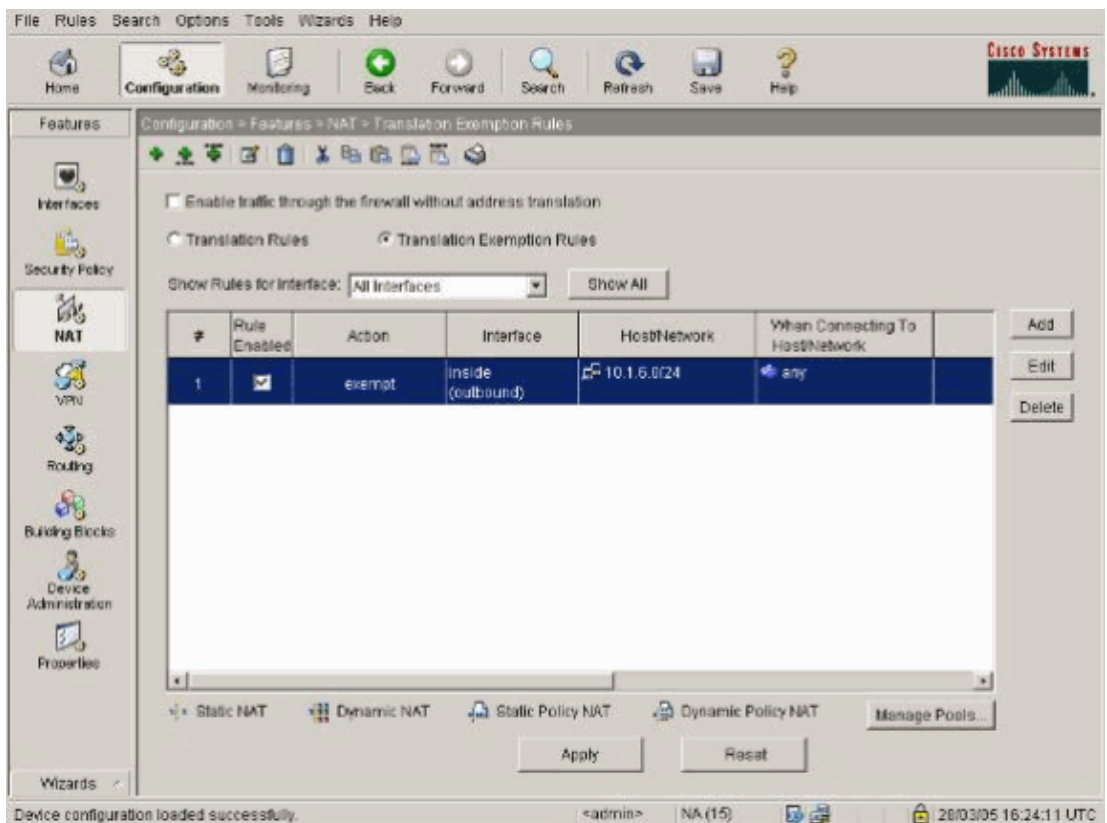
9. The **static** command for the web server changes as this example shows.

```
static (inside, outside) 10.16.1.16 10.16.1.16
```

10. From ASDM, choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
11. Select **Translation Rules** and click **Add**. Enter the source address information, and select **Static**. Enter the same address in the IP Address field.

12. The translation appears in the Translation Rules when you choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
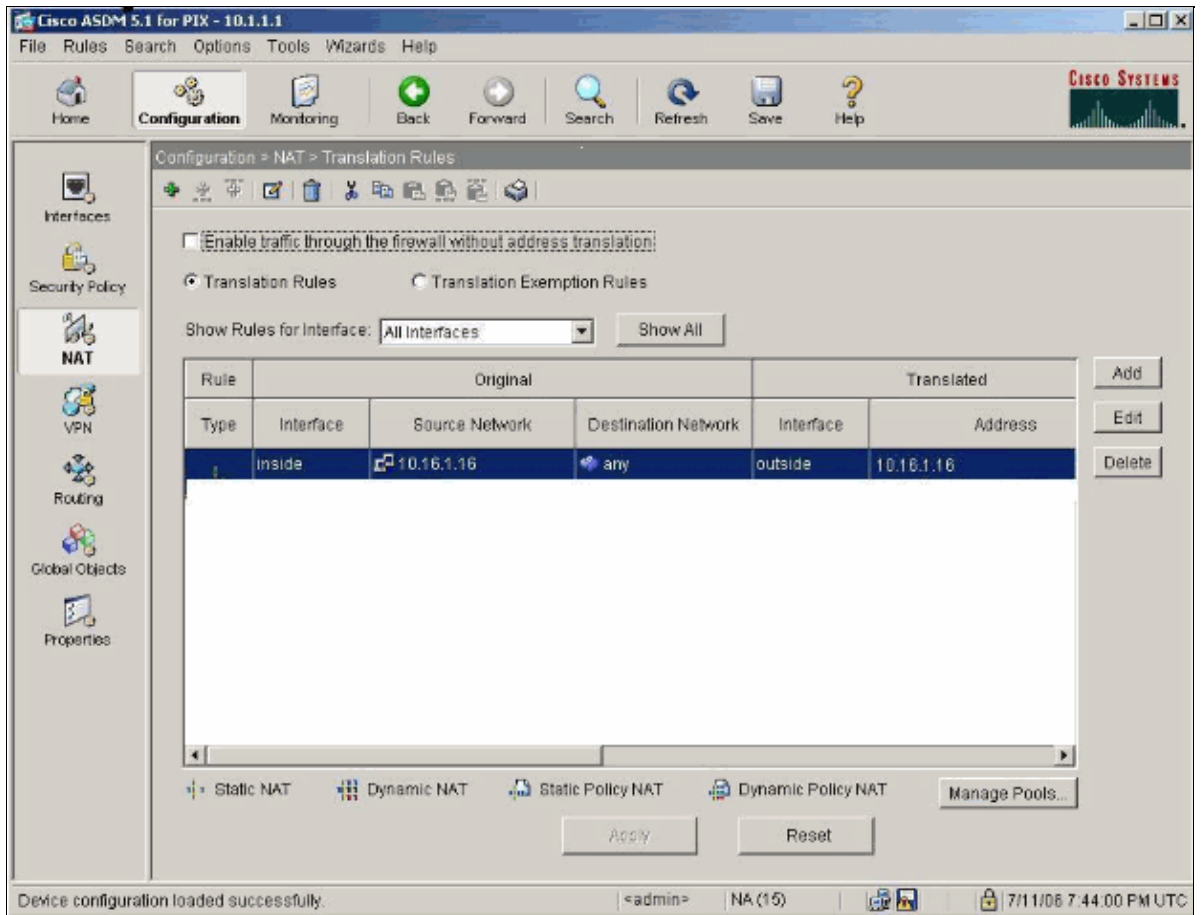
13. If you use ACLs, use these commands.

```
access-list 102 permit tcp any host 10.16.1.16 eq www
access-group 102 in interface outside
```

See the Restrict Inside Hosts Access to Outside Networks section of this document for additional information on the configuration of ACLs in ASDM.

Note the difference between when you use **nat 0** when you specify network/mask as opposed to when you use an ACL that uses a network/mask that permits the initiation of connections from inside only. The use of ACLs with **nat 0** permits the initiation of connections by inbound or outbound traffic. The PIX interfaces need to be in different subnets in order to avoid reachability issues.

Port Redirection(Forwarding) with Statics

In PIX 6.0, the Port Redirection(Forwarding) feature was added in order to allow outside users to connect to a particular IP address/port and have the PIX redirect the traffic to the appropriate inside server/port. The **static** command was modified. The shared address can be a unique address, a shared outbound PAT address, or shared with the external interface. This feature is available in PIX 7.0.

Note: Due to space limitations, commands are shown on two lines.

```
static [(internal_if_name, external_if_name)]
{global_ip|interface}local_ip [netmask mask] [max_conns
[emb_limit [norandomseq]]]


static [(internal_if_name, external_if_name)] {tcp|udp}
{global_ip|interface} global_port local_ip local_port
[netmask mask] [max_conns [emb_limit [norandomseq]]]
```

Note: If the static NAT uses the outside IP (global_IP) address to translate, then this might cause a translation. Therefore, use the keyword **interface** instead of the IP address in the static translation.

These Port Redirections(Forwardings) are in this network example:

- External users direct Telnet requests to unique IP address 172.18.124.99, which the PIX redirects to 10.1.1.6.
- External users direct FTP requests to unique IP address 172.18.124.99, which the PIX redirects to 10.1.1.3.
- External users direct Telnet requests to PAT address 172.18.124.208, which the PIX redirects to 10.1.1.4.
- External users direct Telnet request to PIX outside IP address 172.18.124.216, which the PIX redirects to 10.1.1.5.
- External users direct HTTP request to PIX outside IP address 172.18.124.216, which the PIX redirects to 10.1.1.5.
- External users direct HTTP port 8080 requests to PAT address 172.18.124.208, which the PIX redirects to 10.1.1.7 port 80.

This example also blocks the access of some users from inside to outside with ACL 100. This step is optional. All traffic is permitted outbound without the ACL in place.

Network Diagram – Port Redirection(Forwarding)
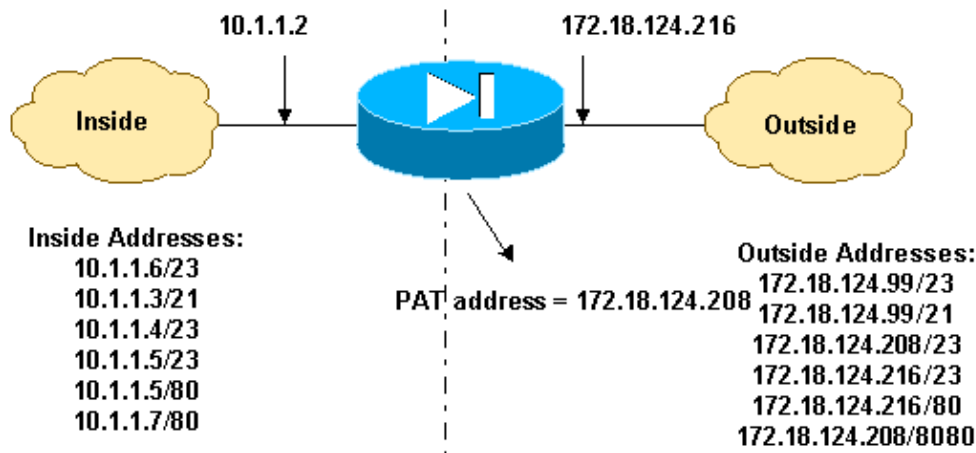
Partial PIX Configuration – Port Redirection

This partial configuration illustrates the use of Static Port Redirection(Forwarding). See the Port Redirection(Forwarding) network diagram.

Partial PIX 7.x Configuration – Port Redirection(Forwarding)

```
fixup protocol ftp 21

!--- Use of an outbound ACL is optional.

access-list 100 permit tcp 10.1.1.0 255.255.255.128 any eq www
access-list 100 deny tcp any any eq www
access-list 100 permit tcp 10.0.0.0 255.0.0.0 any
access-list 100 permit udp 10.0.0.0 255.0.0.0 host 172.18.124.100 eq domain

access-list 101 permit tcp any host 172.18.124.99 eq telnet
```

```
access-list 101 permit tcp any host 172.18.124.99 eq ftp
access-list 101 permit tcp any host 172.18.124.208 eq telnet
access-list 101 permit tcp any host 172.18.124.216 eq telnet
access-list 101 permit tcp any host 172.18.124.216 eq www
access-list 101 permit tcp any host 172.18.124.208 eq 8080


interface Ethernet0
 nameif outside
 security-level 0
 ip address 172.18.124.216 255.255.255.0
!
interface Ethernet1
 nameif inside
 security-level 100
 ip address 10.1.1.2 255.255.255.0
!

global (outside) 1 172.18.124.208
nat (inside) 1 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 0 0

static (inside,outside) tcp 172.18.124.99 telnet 10.1.1.6
   telnet netmask 255.255.255.255 0 0
static (inside,outside) tcp 172.18.124.99 ftp 10.1.1.3
   ftp netmask 255.255.255.255 0 0
static (inside,outside) tcp 172.18.124.208 telnet 10.1.1.4
   telnet netmask 255.255.255.255 0 0
static (inside,outside) tcp interface telnet 10.1.1.5
   telnet netmask 255.255.255.255 0 0
static (inside,outside) tcp interface www 10.1.1.5
   www netmask 255.255.255.255 0 0
static (inside,outside) tcp 172.18.124.208 8080 10.1.1.7
   www netmask 255.255.255.255 0 0

!--- Use of an outbound ACL is optional.

access-group 100 in interface inside
access-group 101 in interface outside
```

Note: If PIX/ASA is configured with the **sysopt noproxyarp outside** command, then it does not allow the firewall to do the proxyarp and static NAT translations in PIX/ASA. In order to resolve this, remove the **sysopt noproxyarp outside** command in the PIX/ASA configuration and then update the ARP entries by using gratuitous ARP. This allows static NAT entries to work fine.

This procedure is an example of how to configure the Port Redirection(Forwarding) which allows external users direct Telnet requests to unique IP address 172.18.124.99, which the PIX redirects to 10.1.1.6.

1. Use ASDM and choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
2. Select **Translation Rules** and click **Add**.
3. For Source Host/Network, enter the information for the inside IP address.
4. For Translate Address To, select **Static**, enter the outside IP address and check **Redirect port**.
5. Enter the pre–translation and post–translation port information (this example maintains port 23). Click **OK**.

The translation appears in the Translation Rules when you choose **Configuration > Features > NAT > Translation Rules**.
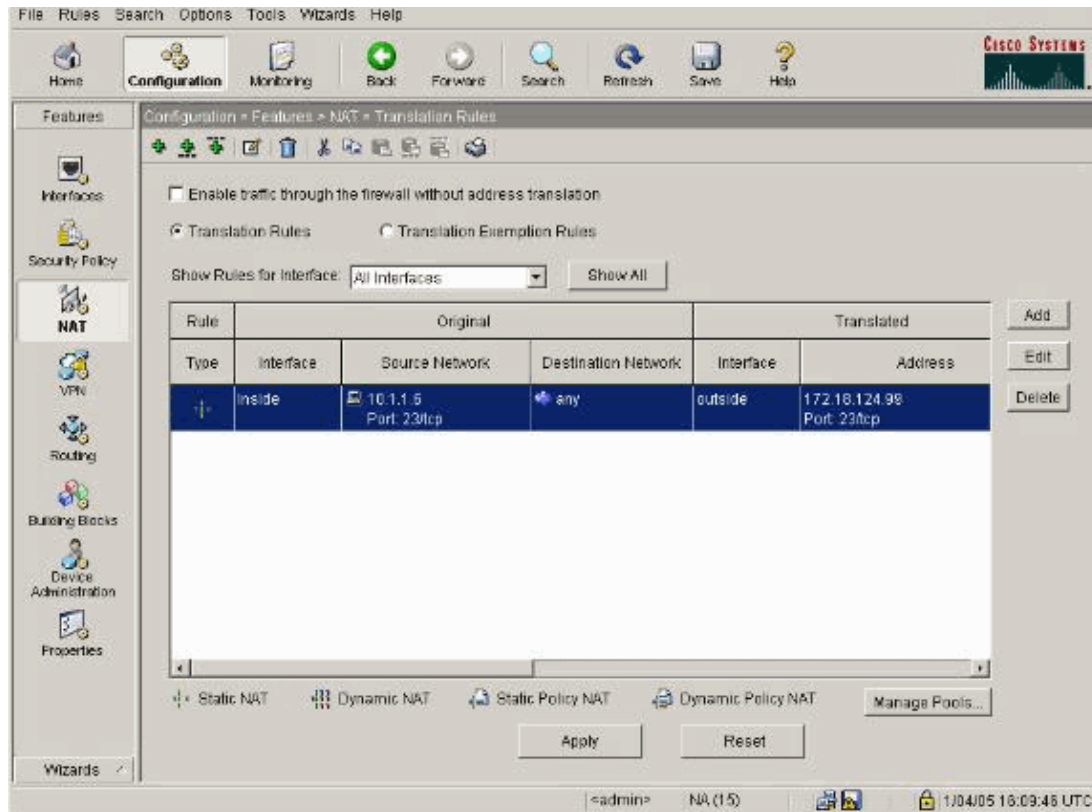
Limit TCP/UDP Session using Static

If you want to limit the TCP or UDP sessions to the internal server placed in PIX/ASA, then use the **static** command.

Specifies the maximum number of simultaneous TCP and UDP connections for the entire subnet. The default is 0, which means unlimited connections (Idle connections are closed after the idle timeout specified by the **timeout conn** command.). This option does not apply to outside NAT. The security appliance only tracks connections from a higher security interface to a lower security interface.

Limiting the number of embryonic connections protects you from a DoS attack. The security appliance uses the embryonic limit to trigger TCP Intercept, which protects inside systems from a DoS attack perpetrated by flooding an interface with TCP SYN packets. An embryonic connection is a connection request that has not finished the necessary handshake between source and destination. This option does not apply to outside NAT. The TCP intercept feature applies only to hosts or servers on a higher security level. If you set the embryonic limit for outside NAT, the embryonic limit is ignored.

For example:

```
ASA(config)#static (inside,outside) tcp 10.1.1.1 www 10.2.2.2 www tcp 500 100

!--- The maximum number of simultaneous tcp connections the local IP
!--- hosts are to allow is 500, default is 0 which means unlimited
!--- connections. Idle connections are closed after the time specified
!--- by the timeout conn command
!--- The maximum number of embryonic connections per host is 100.
```

%PIX−3−201002: Too many connections on {static|xlate} global_address! econns nconns

This is a connection−related message. This message is logged when the maximum number of connections to the specified static address was exceeded. The econns variable is the maximum number of embryonic connections and nconns is the maximum number of connections permitted for the static or xlate.

The recommended action is to use the **show static** command in order to check the limit imposed on connections to a static address. The limit is configurable.

%ASA−3−201011: Connection limit exceeded 1000/1000 for inbound packet from 10.1.26.51/2393 to 10.0.86.155/135 on interface Outside

This error message is due to Cisco bug ID CSCsg52106 (registered customers only) . Refer to this bug for more information.

Time Based Access List

The creation of a time range does not restrict access to the device. The **time−range** command defines the time range only. After a time range is defined, you can attach it to traffic rules or an action.

In order to implement a time−based ACL, use the **time−range** command to define specific times of the day and week. Then use the **with the access−list extended time−range** command to bind the time range to an ACL.

The time range relies on the system clock of the security appliance. However, the feature works best with NTP synchronization.

After you have created a time range and entered time−range configuration mode, you can define time range parameters with the **absolute** and **periodic** commands. In order to restore default settings for the **time−range** command absolute and periodic keywords, use the **default** command in time−range configuration mode.

In order to implement a time−based ACL, use the **time−range** command to define specific times of the day and week. Then use the **with the access−list extended** command to bind the time range to an ACL. The next example binds an ACL named "Sales" to a time range named "New York Minute":

This example creates a time range named "New York Minute" and enters time−range configuration mode:

```
hostname(config)#time-range New_York_Minute
hostname(config-time-range)#periodic weekdays 07:00 to 19:00
hostname(config)#access-list Sales line 1 extended deny ip any any time-range New_York_Min
hostname(config)#access-group Sales in interface inside
```

Information to Collect if You Open a Technical Support Case

If you still need assistance and want to open a case with Cisco Technical Support, be sure to include this information for troubleshooting your PIX Security Appliance.
- Problem description and relevant topology details.   - The steps you used to troubleshoot before you opened the case.   - Output from the **show tech−support** command.   - Output from the **show log** command after the **logging**

buffered debugging command ran, or console captures that demonstrate the problem (if available).

Attach the collected data to your case in non−zipped, plain text format (.txt). You can attach information to your case in the TAC Service Request Tool (registered customers only) . If you cannot access the TAC Service Request Tool (registered customers only) , you can send the information in an E−mail attachment to attach@cisco.com with your case number in the subject line of your message.

Related Information

- **PIX Security Appliance Support Page**
- **PIX Command References**
- **Cisco Adaptive Security Device Manager (ASDM) Troubleshoot and Alerts**
- **Requests for Comments (RFCs)** ⬀
- **Technical Support & Documentation − Cisco Systems**

Updated: May 14, 2007   Document ID: 63872