Policy 2004 Panel
Policy-Based Management: the Holy Grail?
Panellists

Chair: Morris Sloman, Imperial College London, UK
1 - John Strassner, Intelliden, USA
2 - William Winsborough, George Mason University, USA
3 - Naranker Dulay, Imperial College London, UK
4 - Jeff Kephart, IBM TJ Watson Labs., USA
5 - The audience
What is Policy

Rule governing choices in behaviour of the system

- Change system behaviour without modifying implementation ➔ permit adaptable systems
- Rules are derived from goals
- Are goals just high level policies?
- Policy rules come in many different forms:
  - IF condition THEN action rules
  - Event - condition - action rules (obligation policies)
  - Access control policies eg access control lists, firewall rules
  - Logic specifications
  - Downloadable scripts
Vendors claim policy support for QoS Management, VPN provisioning, security management, storage management etc.

Could range from parameter setting to component ‘programming’

Integrating policy management across heterogeneous routers, firewalls, databases and operating systems, without conflicts and inconsistencies is a long way off.

Very little real industrial deployment of PBM
Panel Questions

🌟 Are (event-)condition-action rules sufficient for the specification of management policies?
🌟 Why do we need specific policy schemas and languages – can it all be done with a scripting language or XML?
🌟 Are authorization policies of the form permit/deny action when condition sufficient?
🌟 If goals are policies can we distinguish between policies and requirements?
🌟 Is a universal policy language/representation a waste of time?
🌟 Do different representations require different analysis techniques.
🌟 The AI community have been talking about goals and planning for many years - do they have all the answers?
🌟 Will future policy agents be intelligent enough to derive a set of actions so that only high level goals need be specified?
John – NetMan Viewpoint
William - Security issues

No one is above suspicion.
Naranker - Pondering on Language Issues!
Jeff - AI approach: going for Goal!
Audience - waiting to pounce