Understanding Subnets and Subnet Sets

Subnets

Let us say that you have two networks with different IP address ranges (10.10.0.0 and 172.16.0.0), each with separate data and voice segments. All these segments are separate Subnets. The Traffic Pattern and Subnets view will give you total traffic, traffic on each network and traffic on each segment. However, Traffic Patterns and Subnets cannot give total voice or total data traffic (made by both networks combined). For that purpose, it is necessarily to create two Subnet Sets, one with both voice Subnets and the other with both data Subnets. Subnet Set option will show these traffics.



Subnet Sets

In the other example, IT department might consist of employees working on computers in different Subnets because they are in different buildings, towns or even countries. This usually means you cannot cover all of them by a single IP address range. With Subnets Sets, you simply group all individual IT subnets into IT Subnet Set and traffic for the IT department will be available.



Differences between Subnets and Subnet Sets

	Subnets	Subnet Sets
Defined as	IP address range	✓ group of Subnets or other Subnet Sets
Monitors	Subnet traffic	✓ organisational unit or logical group traffic
Used for	hierarchical network division based on IP address	Combining smaller subnets into logical groups independent to IP address hierarchy
Examples	✓ 10.10.5.0/24, 10.10.6.0/24, 172.16.5.0/24 etc.	US offices, IT department, datacenters etc.

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