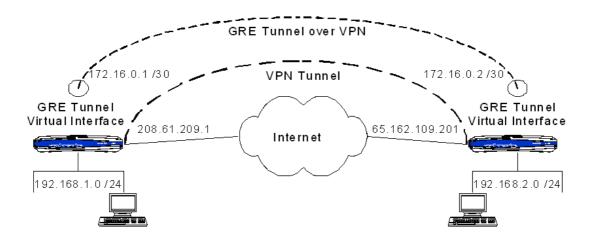


# **Quick Configuration Guide Configuring a GRE over IPSEC VPN Tunnel in AOS**

# Configuring a GRE over IPSEC VPN Tunnel in AOS



### Introduction

To reduce the cost of point-to-point connections, the industry is moving away from dedicated circuits and towards IPSEC Virtual Private Network (VPN) tunnels. The problems with a standard VPN tunnel are that (1) all traffic that needs to traverse it must be specified in the configuration, (2) discontinuous subnets require separate tunnels, (3) it does not count as a routable interface, and (4) routing protocols cannot operate across it.

The best solution to simulate a dedicated point-to-point connection is a Generic Routing Encapsulation (GRE) tunnel. This kind of tunnel (1) by default has no limitations on the traffic that traverses it, (2) can route multiple subnets without multiple tunnels, (3) counts as a routable interface, and (4) can have routing protocols operate across it. However, the problem with GRE tunnels is that they are not secure.

The ultimate solution is to merge the two processes by protecting the GRE tunnel with a VPN tunnel. This solution would allow the GRE tunnel traffic to traverse the VPN tunnel, and all traffic limitations would take place in the GRE tunnel instead of the VPN tunnel. It also has the added benefit of creating a single IPSEC association regardless of how the GRE tunnel is utilized.

# Hardware/Software Requirements

- Unit must be running at least AOS 9.1.
- Unit must be running the Enhanced Firmware Package (EFP).

### Overview

To create a GRE over IPSEC VPN tunnel in AOS, the following will need to be configured:

- 1) VPN tunnel must be configured using the GRE tunnel endpoints as the selectors.
- 2) GRE tunnel must be configured.
- 3) Firewall must be setup on the GRE tunnel, if the firewall is running on the unit.
- 4) Routing settings must be configured to direct the desired traffic across the tunnel.

# **VPN Tunnel Configuration**

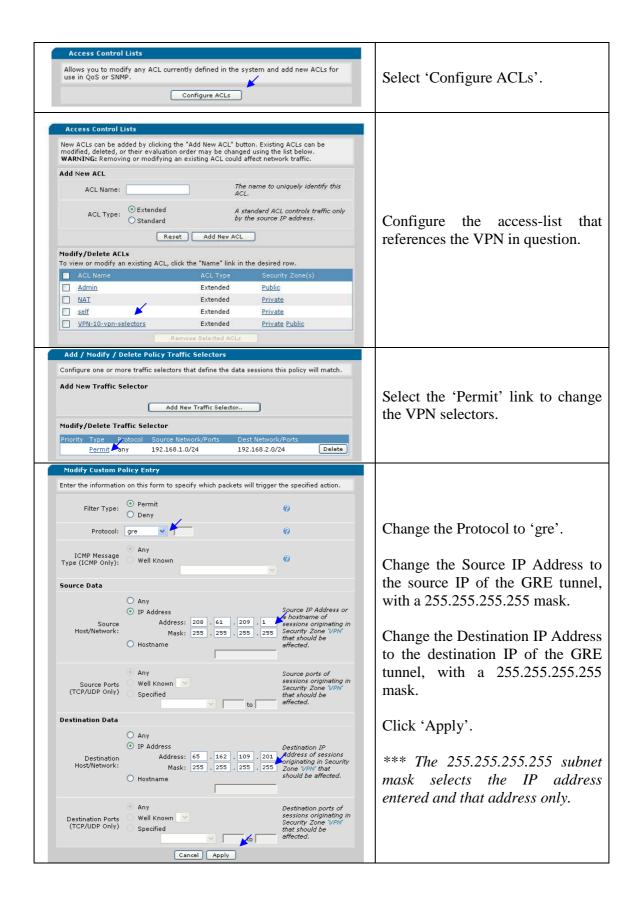
The first layer that must be configured is the VPN tunnel the GRE tunnel will ride above. This tunnel is configured identically to any other VPN tunnel in AOS except for the selector statement. This guide will not go into the overall configuration steps of a VPN tunnel since they are covered extensively in KB article #1973. This guide will instead center on the selector statement, which is the only difference from a traditional VPN.

The VPN tunnel selectors will consist of the endpoints of the GRE tunnel. Whatever kind of traffic traverses the GRE tunnel, after the GRE encapsulation it all looks like a GRE packet with a source address of the router and a destination address of the GRE peer. The selectors would have to reflect this GRE tunnel traffic. In the command line, it would look similar to the following:

```
ip access-list extended VPN-Selectors
  permit gre host <GRE Source IP Address> host <GRE Dest IP Address>
```

In the web interface, the selectors from an already built tunnel can be changed in the following manner:







After applying, the VPN selectors will reflect the source and destination IP address of the GRE tunnel, and will only be selecting the GRE traffic type.

## **GRE Tunnel Configuration**

The next step is to configure the GRE tunnel that will simulate the point-to-point connectivity. To configure a GRE tunnel:

- 1) Create the tunnel interface.
- 2) Specify the IP address & subnet mask of the tunnel endpoint.
  - a) Since this is a routable interface, it requires an IP address. This IP address makes no difference to the subnet(s) behind the router, as they will usually be entirely unaware of its existence. These IP addresses should be determined by the network administrator, preferably in an organized and logical manner.
  - b) If the GRE over IPSEC tunnel is replacing a dedicated circuit, the same or similar IP addressing scheme should be used.
- 3) Specify the source & destination IP addresses.
  - a) These addresses are the public IP addresses of the routers at each end.
- 4) Specify the Maximum Transmission Unit (MTU).
  - a) Both the GRE tunnel & the VPN encapsulation require additional overhead in the packet. This requires that the MTU of the GRE tunnel be small enough to account for the additional overhead so that the final packet that is created is not fragmented.
  - b) In most typical scenarios, an MTU of 100 bytes less than the Internet connection is more than sufficient. 100 bytes is an easy-to-remember number, and given a typical Internet MTU of 1500, the GRE MTU would be 1400.
  - c) If you are doing any type of special scenario where you are using additional GRE features, special-case VPNs, or need to maximize your GRE MTU for any reason, please look through the table below, and calculate the required MTU subtraction value you will need.

IPSec Transform Set Combination	Maximum IPSec Overhead (Bytes)
esp-(3des or des) esp-(sha or md5)-hmac	57
esp-(3des or des)	45
esp-aes-(128, 192, or 256) esp-(sha or md5)-hmac	73
esp-aes-(128, 192, or 256)	61
ah-(sha or md5)-hmac esp-(3des or des)	69
ah-(sha or md5)-hmac esp-aes-(128, 192, or 256)	85
ah-(sha or md5)-hmac	44

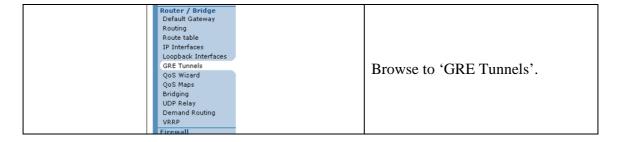
GRE Tunnel Feature	Addtional Overhead (Bytes)
Standard GRE Overhead	24
Tunnel Checksumming	4
Tunnel Sequencing	4
Tunnel Keying	4
All GRE Features (Worst-Case)	36

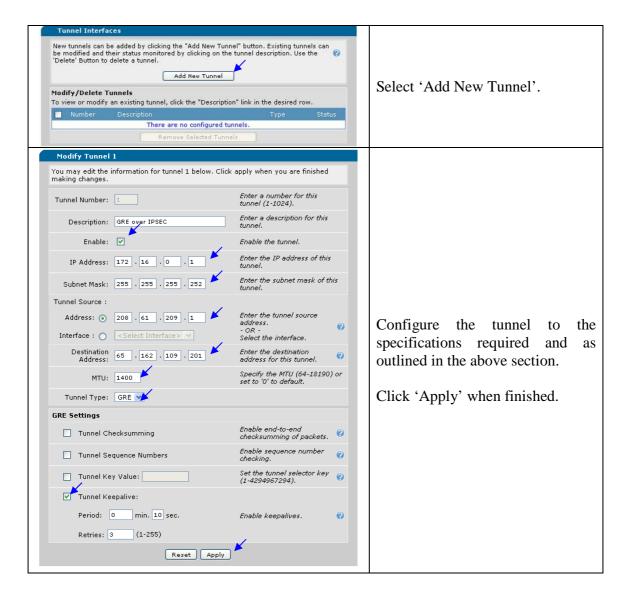
- 5) Specify the tunnel type as GRE.
  - a) Currently in AOS, the only type selectable is GRE, although this may change in future firmware revisions.
- 6) Turn on Keepalives.
  - a) GRE tunnels have a built-in keepalive mechanism (default 10 seconds) that serves two purposes:
    - i) Allows the tunnel to determine whether end-to-end communication is established. Without this feature the tunnel would always appear as UP, regardless of whether it was actually UP or DOWN.
    - ii) Keeps a constant stream of traffic going across the tunnel to keep the GRE tunnel UP, and by extension the VPN tunnel UP.

In the command line, the GRE tunnel can be configured in the following manner:

```
interface tunnel 1
  ip address 172.16.0.1 255.255.255.252
  tunnel mode gre
  tunnel source 208.61.209.1
  tunnel destination 65.162.109.201
  keepalive
  mtu 1400
  no shutdown
```

In the web GUI, the GRE tunnel can be configured in the following manner:





# **GRE Tunnel Firewall Setup (Optional)**

The GRE tunnel counts as a routable interface, and thus must have a firewall policy constructed for it. A uniquely-named policy-class (Security Zone) is recommended so that the firewall is able to distinguish the difference between interfaces in the same manner that the routing engine can, and it also makes it easier for the firewall administrator to understand in most cases.

This recommendation results in three policy-classes in the typical configuration:

#### Private

 Will be constructed to allow administrative access, allow all traffic through the GRE tunnel, and optionally NAT traffic to the public interface.

- Public
  - Will be constructed to allow the VPN tunnel traffic inbound, and allow administrative access.
- Tunnel
  - o Will be constructed in most cases to allow all traffic.

The firewall construction, as outlined in this document, will take advantage of a firewall function to specify the destination policy-class. This is designed to ease the administrative burden when traffic does not need to be filtered on the edge routers, only routed to another site where policing can be centrally enforced. This allows for the access-lists referenced by the firewall to be 'match all's, but be limited to what they will match based upon where the packet is routed.

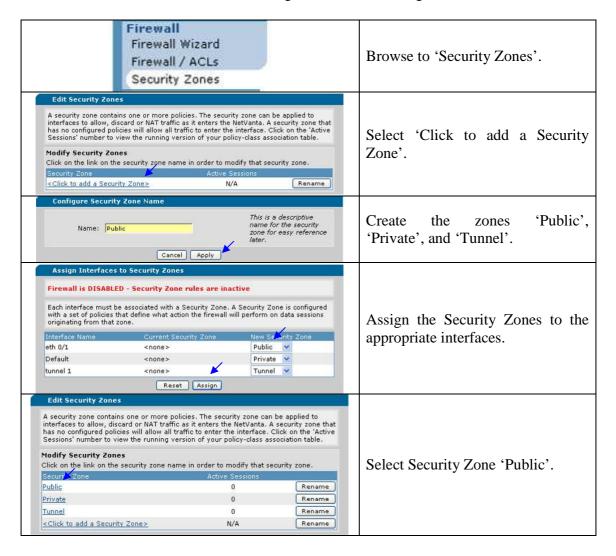
For further firewall configuration and understanding, refer to KB articles #1968 and #1543.

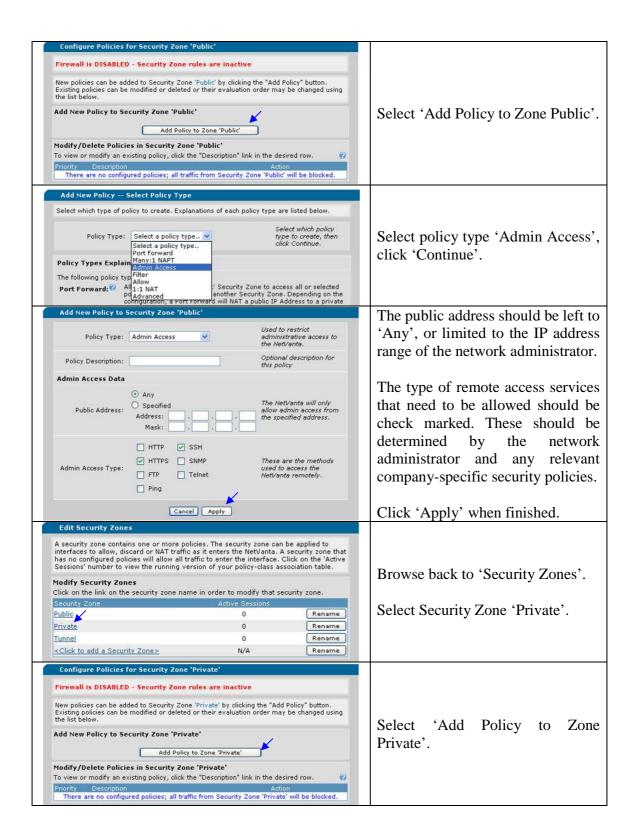
In the CLI, the firewall can be configured in the following manner:

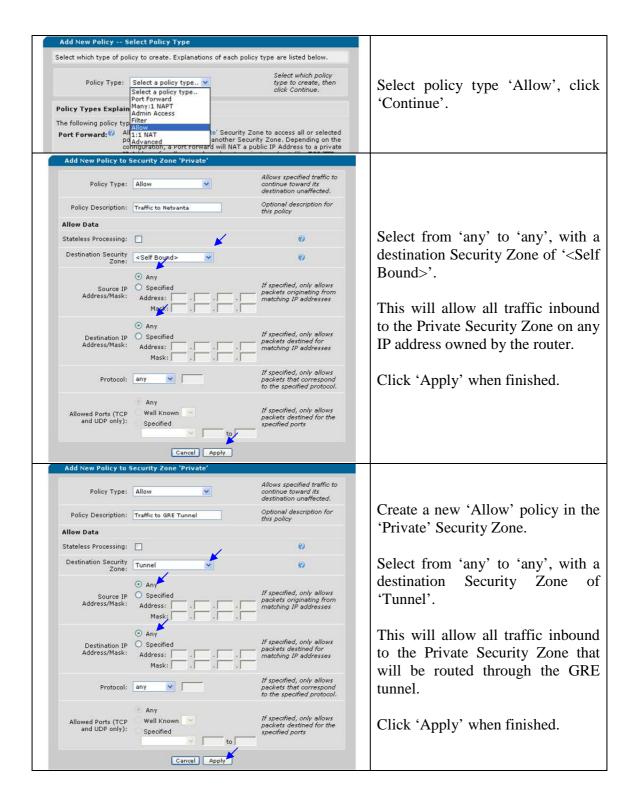
```
ip firewall
interface <WAN Interface>
 access-policy Public
interface < LAN Interface>
 access-policy Private
interface tunnel 1
 access-policy Tunnel
ip access-list extended self
 remark Traffic to Netvanta
 permit ip any any
ip access-list extended tunnel
 remark Traffic to GRE Tunnel
 permit ip any any
ip access-list extended NAT
 remark NAT to the Internet
 permit ip any any
ip access-list extended AdminAccess
 remark Public Admin Access
 <Desired Admin Access>
ip access-list extended VPN-Selectors
 remark GRE Tunnel Selectors
 permit gre host 208.61.209.1 host 65.162.109.201
ip policy-class Private
  allow list self self
 allow list tunnel policy Tunnel
```

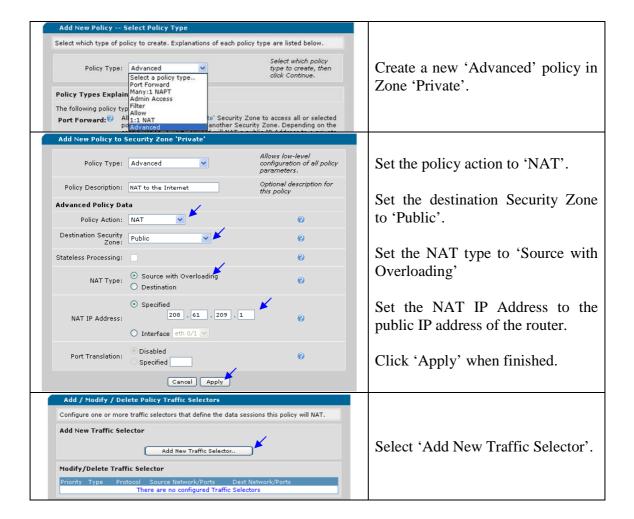
```
nat source list NAT interface <WAN Interface> overload policy Public
!
ip policy-class Tunnel
  allow list self self
  allow list tunnel policy Private
!
ip policy-class Public
  allow reverse list VPN-Selectors stateless
  allow list AdminAccess self
```

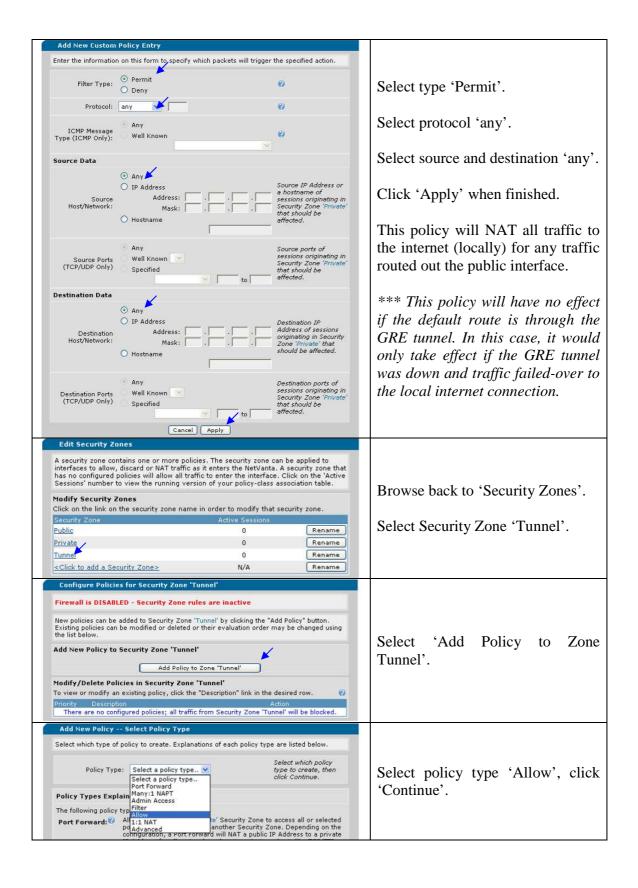
In the web GUI, the firewall can be configured in the following manner:

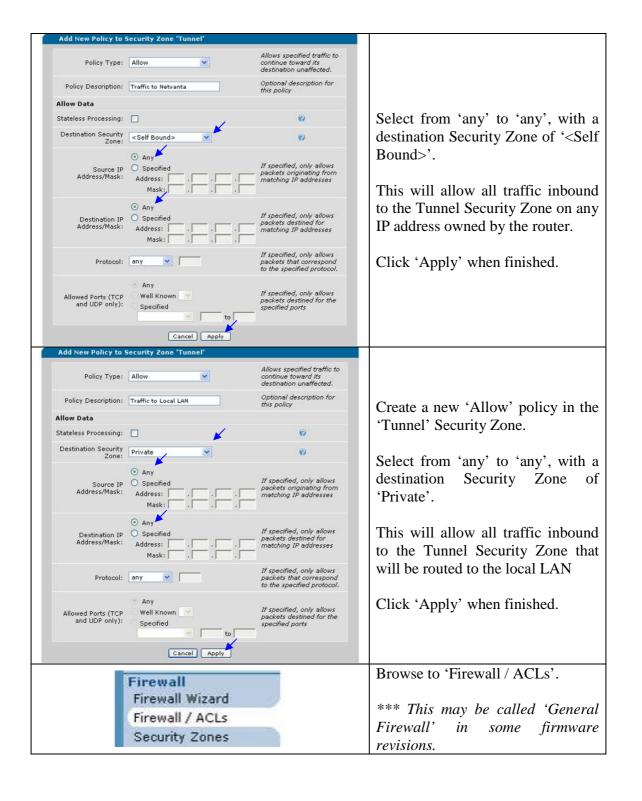


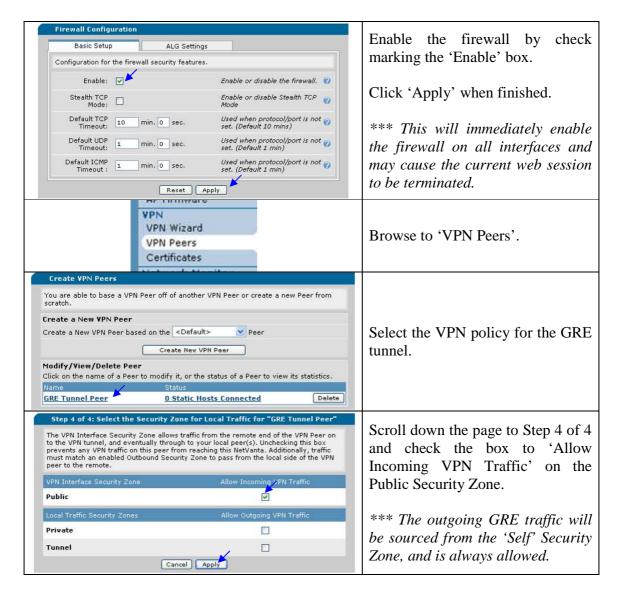












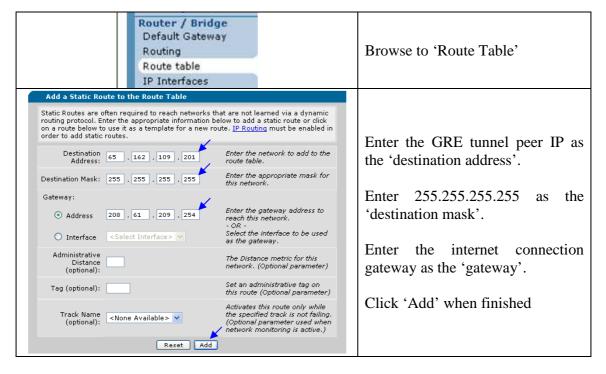
# **Routing Settings**

The firewall has been setup to take its cue from the routing engine, so a properly functioning routing table is critical. If the routing table is not setup correctly, especially in the case of funneling all Internet traffic through the GRE to a central location, recursive routing errors may occur.

The first step to avoid routing errors is to create a static route to the GRE tunnel peer. This will force the router to always use this path when accessing the GRE tunnel peer. If this route was not entered, and the default route was pointing through the GRE tunnel, the only way the router could get to the GRE tunnel peer would be to traverse the GRE tunnel, which results in a recursive routing error. Using the example configuration, the route would be configured in this manner in the command line:

```
ip route <GRE Tunnel Peer IP> 255.255.255.255 <Internet Gateway>
ip route 65.162.109.201 255.255.255.255 208.61.209.254
```

The route would be configured in this manner in the web GUI:



The next step will be to configure a routing protocol to use across the GRE tunnel, or add in static routes as needed. Routing protocols are covered in the following KB articles:

- RIP
  - o KB article #1969
- OSPF
  - o KB article #1625
- BGP
  - o KB article #1618

A static route to the subnet across the GRE tunnel can be added in the following manner:

```
ip route <Peer Subnet> <Peer Subnet Mask> tunnel 1
ip route 192.168.2.0 255.255.255.0 tunnel 1
```

## **Route All Internet Traffic through the GRE Tunnel (Optional)**

If the GRE tunnel is to be used to funnel all Internet traffic, it is probably a good idea to have the routing automatically fail-over to the local Internet connection in the event of a GRE tunnel failure. This way the users will lose connectivity to all the remote private subnets, but not Internet access. However, the downside is that the user's traffic will be unrestricted by corporate firewalls and other security policies in place.

To setup the router to fail-over to the local Internet connection, a 'floating' static route (a route with a higher administrative distance) must be added. When the primary link goes down, the normal route that is statically set or learned by a dynamic routing protocol will be pulled out of the routing table due to the directly connected network associated with that interface no longer being available. At that point, the floating static route will be inserted in the routing table to direct traffic over the backup link.

The proper routing setup for funneling all traffic through the GRE tunnel, and failing back to the local Internet connection can be configured in the following manner:

```
ip route 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 tunnel 1
ip route 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 <Internet Gateway> <Administrative Distance>
ip route <GRE Tunnel Peer IP> 255.255.255.255 <Internet Gateway>
```

# **Application Overview**

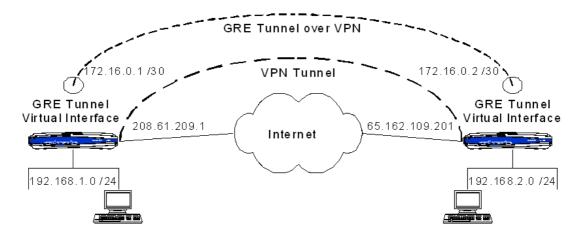
- 1) A packet destined for the remote VPN subnet arrives on the Private policy-class and is allowed through the firewall via an 'Allow' policy.
- 2) The destination IP address for this packet is checked with the routing table to determine the interface to send it out. The routing table lookup determines the tunnel 1 interface should be used from the static route specified in the configuration.
- 3) The tunnel interface configuration specifies the peer IP to use and sets the destination IP in the new IP header accordingly; this new IP header is inserted as part of the GRE encapsulation process.
- 4) The routing table is used again to determine where the GRE packet should be sent, which in this case is the Public interface.
- 5) The crypto map applied to the Public interface is activated because the VPN selector matches the traffic, in this case GRE traffic between the two hosts.
- 6) The crypto map also specifies the VPN peer IP address that should be used to direct the encrypted traffic to. Another new IP header is created with the destination IP

address set as the VPN peer IP from the crypto map peer statement; this new IP header is inserted as part of the VPN encapsulation process.

- 7) This final packet which has 3 IP headers [VPN | GRE | original] is routed out the Public interface and on to the Internet to reach the VPN peer.
- 8) The peer first terminates the VPN tunnel and peels that header off, then the GRE tunnel will be terminated with that header peeled off as well. Finally the original packet will be exposed and processed accordingly on the peer router.

# **Example Configuration**

In the following example, a remote office for a company needs to route all traffic through the GRE over IPSEC tunnel to a central office for tracking and policing purposes. In the event that the main site or the GRE would ever go down, Internet access should still be allowed via the local Internet connection.



```
ip firewall
ip firewall fast-nat-failover
!
ip crypto
!
crypto ike policy 100
   initiate main
   respond main
   local-id address 208.61.209.1
   peer 65.162.109.201
   attribute 1
    encryption 3des
    hash md5
   authentication pre-share
!
crypto ike remote-id address 65.162.109.201 preshared-key adtran ike-policy 100 crypto map VPN 10 no-mode-config no-xauth
!
```

```
crypto ipsec transform-set esp-3des-esp-md5-hmac esp-3des esp-md5-hmac
 mode tunnel
crypto map VPN 10 ipsec-ike
 description GRE Tunnel Peer
 match address VPN-Selectors
 set peer 65.162.109.201
 set transform-set esp-3des-esp-md5-hmac
 ike-policy 100
interface tl 1/1
 tdm-group 1 timeslots 1-24 speed 64
 no shutdown
interface ppp 1
 ip address 208.61.209.1 255.255.255.0
 access-policy Public
 crypto map VPN
 no shutdown
 cross-connect 1 t1 1/1 1 ppp 1
interface eth 0/1
 ip address 192.168.1.1 255.255.255.0
 access-policy Private
 no shutdown
interface tunnel 1
 ip address 172.16.0.1 255.255.255.252
 access-policy Tunnel
 tunnel mode gre
 tunnel source 208.61.209.1
 tunnel destination 65.162.109.201
 keepalive
 mtu 1400
 no shutdown
ip access-list extended self
 remark Traffic to Netvanta
 permit ip any any
ip access-list extended tunnel
 remark Traffic to GRE Tunnel
 permit ip any any
ip access-list extended NAT
 remark NAT to the Internet
 permit ip any any
ip access-list extended AdminAccess
 remark Public Admin Access
 permit tcp any any eq ssh
 permit tcp any any eq https
ip access-list extended VPN-Selectors
 remark GRE Tunnel Selectors
 permit gre host 208.61.209.1 host 65.162.109.201
```

```
ip policy-class Private
  allow list self self
  allow list tunnel policy Tunnel
  nat source list NAT interface ppp 1 overload policy Public
!
ip policy-class Tunnel
  allow list self self
  allow list tunnel policy Private
!
ip policy-class Public
  allow reverse list VPN-Selectors stateless
  allow list AdminAccess self

ip route 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 208.61.209.254
ip route 192.168.2.0 255.255.255.0 tunnel 1
ip route 65.162.109.201 255.255.255.255 208.61.209.254
```