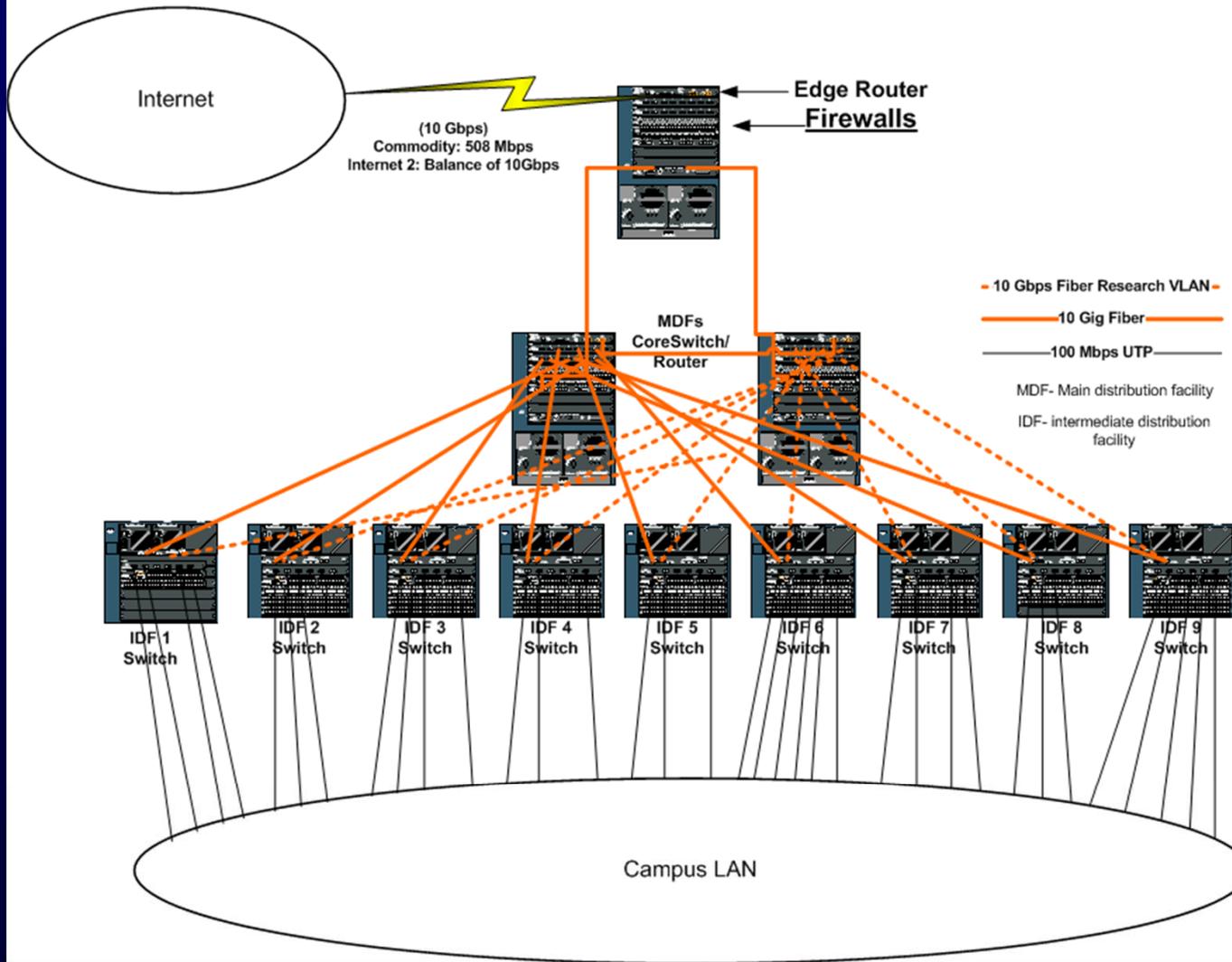# Overview

- The firewall is the device that sits on the boundary of our network providing filtering and management capabilities.

- We propose to use these capabilities to enhance security, help preserve bandwidth for business traffic, and support additional services.
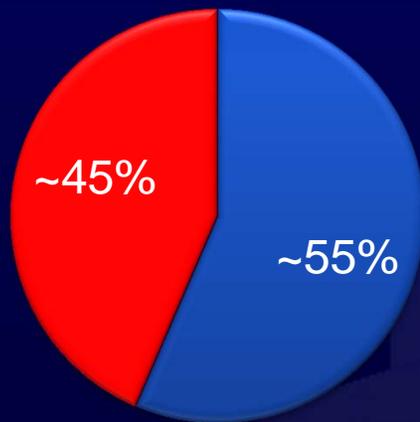
Firewall Topology

Typical Traffic Patterns

Inbound Traffic

~45%

~55%

- Legitimate Business Traffic
- Unsolicited or Nefarious Traffic

Over 215,000 unsolicited connection attempts blocked per day. Thousands more pass through to our internal network.

Currently, over 2150 Access Control rules are manually managed.

Proposal

- Block unsolicited inbound traffic by default
  - 87% of Higher-Ed networks already doing so – 2006 Educause survey

- Accommodate Necessary Services
  - Access Request Form: www.montana.edu/MSUFirewall
  - Communication: Endorsed by IT Governance Council, Service Providers, Security Operations Team, Secure Web Applications Group, ATAC

How Does This Affect Me?

- Will significantly reduce inbound malicious attacks and probes

- *Will Not* affect normal business traffic (email, Web) from your MSU desktop

- Will allow support for additional services such as Skype (free voice and video conferencing)