About the NSS Labs Security Value Map
Empirical data from our individual Product Analysis Reports (PAR) and Comparative Analysis Reports (CAR) is used to create the unique Security Value Map (SVM).
This graph provides a quick, clear overview of the relative value of security investment options by mapping security effectiveness and value (cost per protected Mbps) of tested product configurations.

How To Use The SVM
Mapping the data points against the Average Protection and Average Value results in four quadrants on the SVM.
Further up and to the right is the best. Quadrant 1 contains those products that are Recommended for both security effectiveness/management and value. These devices provide a very high level of protection, manageability and value for money.

Further down and left is poor, and Quadrant 3 would comprise the NSS Labs Caution category – these products offer poor value for money given the 3 year TCO and measured security effectiveness/management rating.

The remaining two quadrants comprise the NSS Labs Neutral category. These products may still be worthy of a place on your short list based on your specific requirements.