

Spot the fakes: what to look for in a secure SD-WAN solution

SD-WAN is a low-cost and flexible way to boost branch office connectivity by supplementing expensive and slow MPLS-based internal networks with additional options like broadband.

But, allowing branch offices to connect directly to cloud services and the internet creates new risks and not all SD-WANs are created equal when it comes to security. When choosing your provider, look for the following four features that will ensure you get a secure SD-WAN solution.

1

Integrated security architecture

SD-WAN providers typically specialise in networking and expect customers to integrate their own security architecture. Doing this is often [the most challenging aspect of SD-WAN implementation](#).

Secure SD-WAN provides integrated security features like Next Generation Firewalls (NGFW) and unified threat management as part of its network enhancing benefits.

2

Real-time access control and network scanning

Direct-to-cloud connectivity means that each branch office needs the same level of security as the primary internet gateway.

Secure SD-WAN provides access control and intrusion prevention at each site, along with real-time scanning to protect against advanced threats.

3

Protection of cloud service data

Direct-to-cloud connectivity is the [second most common factor](#) in data breaches, as SD-WAN services often lack enough control over how data is stored and shared in cloud services.

Forcepoint safeguards access to cloud apps and data protection policies.

4

Unauthorised cloud service monitoring

[56% of employees](#) use cloud services not distributed by their IT team, which means the business has no control over data stored and shared on these platforms.

Secure SD-WAN provides visibility into all network activity, allowing NetOps to track all unauthorised use of cloud services to protect the business and drive more value from existing investments.



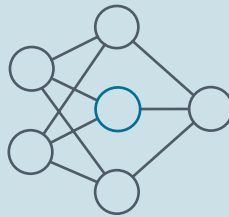
Increase network capacity



Enhance performance of cloud services



Improve productivity of branch offices



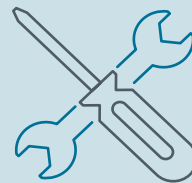
Protect and control cloud-based data



Manage cloud and device access easily



Cut MPLS-related costs



Reduce time spent on network maintenance

One-third of businesses say that security concerns are a roadblock

Despite the many benefits of SD-WAN, more than one-third of businesses say that security concerns are a roadblock to implementation.

Discover how Forcepoint will help your business to upgrade its branch network connectivity and drive digital transformation in our new eBook (no download form).

[Drive Branch Digital Transformation with Secure SD-WAN](#)