

Branch Modernization with Forcepoint SD-WAN

Improve agility and security with direct-to-cloud connectivity and network optimization

Challenge

Branch offices face slow, unreliable access to cloud-based applications, leading to reduced productivity and rising WAN costs with legacy multiprotocol labeling switching (MPLS) systems.

Solution

Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN enables direct-to-cloud connectivity and real-time network optimization, reducing dependency on costly MPLS connections and enhancing cloud application performance with intelligent traffic routing.

Outcome

Branches experience faster cloud access, reduced latency and lower WAN costs, resulting in improved user productivity and a more agile, cost-effective network infrastructure.

As organizations continue to embrace cloud strategies, the traditional branch network architecture, often dependent on expensive MPLS links and rigid routing methods, has become a bottleneck to agility and performance. To meet the demands of remote work, SaaS applications and cloud infrastructure, businesses need a modern, scalable network architecture.

Forcepoint's Secure SD-WAN offers a comprehensive approach to branch modernization by delivering direct-to-cloud connectivity and robust security, allowing organizations to improve performance, reduce costs and enhance the user experience.

The Challenges of Traditional WAN Architectures

Traditional WAN architectures, particularly those based on MPLS and backhauling traffic to centralized data centers, are not suited to meet the requirements in the cloud era. This approach results in:

- **Performance Bottlenecks:** Traffic must travel through centralized hubs, leading to latency and poor application performance, especially for cloud-based applications.
- **High Costs:** Maintaining private MPLS circuits is expensive, while scaling them to meet business needs is complex and can lead to unsustainable costs.
- **Limited Agility:** Adding new branches or adjusting network configurations requires time-consuming and expensive changes to hardware and routing.
- **Security Risks:** Legacy WAN solutions often lack the integrated security needed for cloud-first environments, exposing organizations to potential risks.

To address these challenges, businesses require a solution that not only optimizes their network but also provide enterprise-grade security capabilities, enabling them to scale rapidly and securely.

Modernize Branch Networks with Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN

Direct-to-Cloud Connectivity

Modern organizations require direct-to-cloud connectivity at branch locations. Forcepoint eliminates the need to backhaul branch traffic through centralized data centers by enabling direct-to-cloud access. This approach reduces latency by routing traffic directly from branch locations to cloud applications and services, enhancing the user experience for cloud-based applications such as Office 365, Salesforce and cloud-hosted services. Additionally, Forcepoint's application-aware routing capabilities optimize cloud application performance by prioritizing mission-critical applications, ensuring that your videoconferencing applications receive the necessary network resources to maintain peak performance, even during periods of network congestion.

Network Optimization

Increase network resiliency and efficiency with Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN. Dynamic traffic steering routes traffic across available links during disruptions, ensuring uninterrupted access to both cloud and on-premises applications. With intelligent path selection and patented Multi-Link technology, Forcepoint optimizes traffic flow to maintain peak performance with minimal latency. Real-time performance metrics and analytics provide administrators with deep visibility into network health, enabling proactive monitoring and rapid issue resolution for consistent, high-performance connectivity across the organization.

Robust Security

Enhance network security and protect branch offices from advanced cyber threats, ensuring reliable and secure access throughout the organization. Forcepoint offers a multi-layered approach to network security, including access control, application identification, deep inspection and file filtering. Organizations can also leverage Forcepoint's endpoint agent for granular insights, enabling administrators to efficiently monitor and control users, devices and applications. For example, it ensures that only users with web browsers that have the latest updates can access the network, leading to

more effective threat detection and policy enforcement. Integrations with services like Remote Browser Isolation and Advanced Malware Detection and Protection ensure secure web application access and shield against a broad spectrum of cyber risks, including zero-day exploits. Forcepoint's comprehensive approach improves network security while enhancing overall productivity.

Scalability and Simplicity

Scale your network efficiently to meet your growing needs. Forcepoint enables seamless expansion across new branches or regions. The solution's centralized management console offers full visibility and control over all branch locations. Configuration and updates are streamlined and can be pushed across thousands of branches with minimal manual intervention, ensuring consistent policy enforcement and reducing operational complexity. Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN grows with your business, ensuring that as your network expands, the solution adapts to meet evolving demands.

Cost Savings

Reduce networking costs by replacing expensive private circuits with more affordable broadband internet. Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN reduces reliance on costly MPLS links for cloud traffic, allowing businesses to adopt a hybrid architecture that utilizes low-cost broadband for most traffic. Organizations can also consolidate vendors and multiple stand-alone products. Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN provides native, full NGFW security capabilities, including an Intrusion Prevention System (IPS), along with SD-WAN connectivity functionality in a single solution.



Key Benefits of Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN for Branch Modernization

- **Improved Application Performance:** Direct-to-cloud access and network optimization ensure that cloud applications are faster and more reliable.
- **Enhanced Security:** Built-in security features, including Zero Trust, secure web gateways and threat protection, safeguard the network and cloud applications.
- **Cost-Efficiency:** Reduced reliance on MPLS and optimized bandwidth usage lead to substantial savings in networking costs.
- **Operational Simplicity:** Centralized, cloud-managed orchestration simplifies deployment, management and monitoring of SD-WAN across branches.
- **Scalability:** Easily scale the network to support new locations, users and applications, with minimal impact on performance or complexity.

Don't let legacy networks keep your business from growing. Forcepoint can help!

In today's cloud-first business environment, organizations require a modern network that enables productivity and efficiency without being burdened by complexity and high costs. Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN helps organizations make office and hybrid workers more productive through enhanced application performance, simplified network management and increased security – ensuring users can safely access any application from anywhere. Take control of your network and start exploring how Forcepoint Secure SD-WAN can transform it.

Go to forcepoint.com to speak to an expert.