Citrix SD-WAN and Zscaler

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Together, Citrix SD-WAN and Zscaler help enterprises transform their WAN for cloud migration by enabling secure local breakouts for applications and resources hosted on the Internet. New WAN infrastructure technologies like software-defined WAN increase network agility and scale while lowering cost and complexity for an improved user experience in distributed organizations.

As enterprise cloud and SaaS adoption grows, this additional traffic adds congestion to MPLS links between branches and the data center. Backhauling this traffic to a centralized Internet gateway via a hub-and-spoke architecture not only strains existing bandwidth, it also adds unnecessary latency negatively impacting the user experience. Software defined WAN solutions simplify routing by allowing traffic destined for the cloud to breakout to the Internet locally while application steering provides flexibility for routing remaining business traffic to the data center. Local Internet breakout improves the user experience in the branch while reducing bandwidth costs but, exposing the network to the Internet poses significant security risks. Since security stacks in the branch are not economical or practical to deploy and manage in each branch, a new security approach is needed.
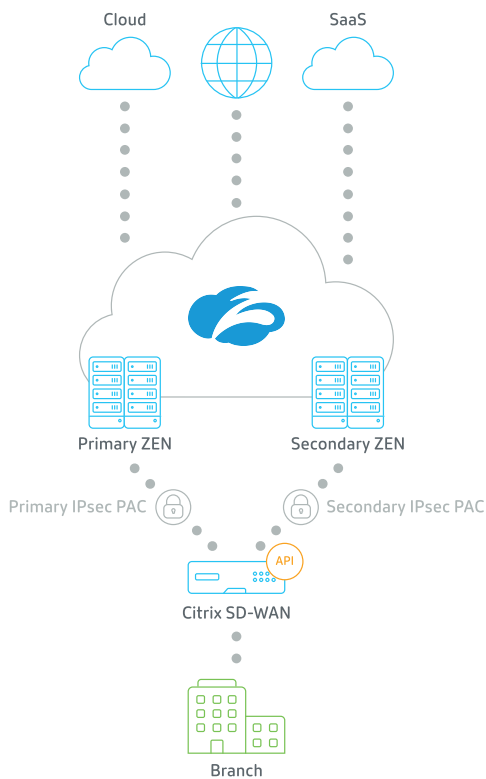
A centralized approach to securing local breakout via a cloud service eliminates the overhead of maintaining security infrastructure in the branches. With Citrix SD-WAN in your branches reliably and securely routing all Internet traffic to Zscaler, a cloud-based security platform, you can eliminate costly infrastructure and protect your network from threats and vulnerabilities.

Citrix SD-WAN

Citrix SD-WAN helps enterprises move to the cloud by securely enabling local branch-to-Internet breakouts with a built-in stateful firewall for creating policies that can allow or deny Internet access directly from the branch. Citrix SD-WAN identifies applications through a combination of an integrated database of over 4,500 applications, including individual SaaS applications, and uses deep packet inspection technology for real-time discovery and classification of applications. It uses this application knowledge to intelligently steer traffic from the branch to the Internet, cloud or SaaS.

Zscaler

Zscaler is redefining security by moving it out of the data center and into the cloud. The Zscaler Cloud Security Platform uses software-defined business policies, not appliances, to securely connect the right user to the right application, regardless of device, location, or network. By simply redirecting internet and SaaS traffic to Zscaler, enterprises can instantly secure stores, branches, and remote locations. With more than 100 data centers around the world, Zscaler sits between users and the Internet, inspecting every byte of traffic—even if it's SSL encrypted or compressed—so that users are secure and all hidden threats can be caught before they impact your organization.

Cloud   SaaS

Primary ZEN   Secondary ZEN

Primary IPsec PAC   Secondary IPsec PAC

API

Citrix SD-WAN

Branch

Joint Solution

Citrix has teamed up with Zscaler, an industry leader in cloud security, to provide a better approach to branch networking. Citrix SD-WAN allows for the creation of policies that enable direct Internet breakout from the branch and Zscaler's Cloud Security Platform delivers comprehensive IT security by inspecting all internet-bound traffic in a cloud service close to where your users connect.

The API integration between Citrix SD-WAN and Zscaler enables zero touch provisioning of branches with security seamlessly instrumented via resilient links to Zscaler cloud.

Citrix SD-WAN with Zscaler APIs provide automation for fast configuration of IPsec tunnels to Zscaler Enforcement Nodes (ZENs) in Zscaler's cloud network. ZENs are full-featured, inline Internet security gateways that inspect all web and cloud traffic bi-directionally for malware, and enforce security and compliance policies. A more dynamic, secure and fast connection over the last mile is delivered by Citrix SD-WAN.

The Zscaler API also provides the two closest ZEN data center locations to each branch, allowing SD-WAN to steer traffic optimally. If one link goes down, the secondary active link provides seamless high availability, ensuring no disruption or security breach. Organizations can default to automatically picking the closest ZEN to the branch based on geolocation lookup of IP addresses of WAN links configured on Citrix SD-WAN, or can manually select the ZENs.

Together, Citrix SD-WAN and Zscaler enable faster adoption of SaaS and cloud applications in distributed enterprises. The joint solution enables:
- Simplified IT operations and management
    - Leverages software-defined policies route traffic efficiently
    - Automates configuration of resilient tunnels to Zscaler via API support
    - Security delivered as a 100% cloud-based service
- Improved user experience
    - Reducing latency for web and SaaS traffic by transitioning from hub-and-spoke to a direct-to-cloud architecture
    - Delivers fast and secure access to the internet and cloud apps for branch users
- Reduced cost and complexity
    - Enables local Internet breakouts securely at the branches, eliminating the need to backhaul Internet-destined traffic to the hub for security purposes
    - Centralizes security as a cloud service and eliminates the need to deploy and manage costly stacks of security appliances in each branch
- Assurance that internet-bound traffic is always secure
    - Security policies don't tie users to a physical location; policies follow the user and provides identical protection, wherever users connect
    - Provides access control, cloud firewall, content and URL filtering, sandboxing and other advanced threat protection, data protection with inline CASB and DLP, and more to deliver comprehensive security across all ports and protocols, even SSL encrypted traffic.

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