Your SD-WAN Solution: Insist On 5 Key Attributes

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Managing new complexities in a changing world

As growing companies become more dispersed, mobile, and globalized, their IT infrastructures inevitably become more complex. In an extended organization with hundreds or even thousands of remote and branch locations, this complexity can cause IT to lose visibility and control.

What can help cut through this complexity is a better approach to unified WAN management that delivers visibility, consistency, and resiliency.

Remote and branch offices face new challenges

Remote locations and branch offices are vulnerable to service interruptions and performance challenges because they are often overlooked in new IT initiatives.

Applications are moving from the branch to the cloud: public, private, hybrid, SaaS

The network edge requires more control, and real-time decisions: IoT devices, self-driving cars

Rich application content resides at the VMware SD-WAN Edge: latency-sensitive video, voice at the VMware SD-WAN Edge

Mobile devices are everywhere: need consistent delivery of content over diverse devices

Legacy networks aren't built for today's needs

Traditional WAN architectures are not designed for modern edge-powered requirements.

Existing networks are often based on multiple single-function devices and appliances managed individually. Infrastructure sprawl is time-consuming and complex to manage.

Traditional environments offer limited visibility. Reactive troubleshooting wastes scarce resource cycles and budget.

Deployment options and interoperability are limited. Smoothly integrating diverse solutions requires multiple tools and skill sets.
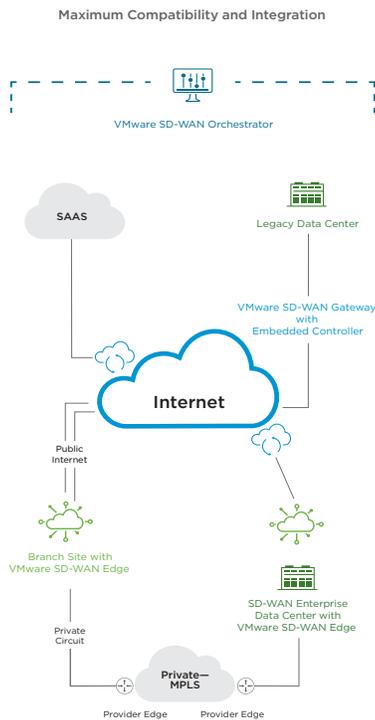
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Maximum Compatibility and Integration

FIGURE 1: VMware SD-WAN by VeloCloud can be integrated smoothly with your existingenvironment.
It can be deployed in an over-the-top configuration that provides a site-to-site SD-WAN solution, and delivers the benefits of cloud gateways for SaaS.
It offers a hub-less design that works seamlessly with legacy data centers anddoes not require you to "rip and replace".

Why re-evaluate your approach?

To gain visibility, flexibility, and control, IT organizations like yours need to take a fresh approach to architecting and using their networks and infrastructures. It's time to shift toward a cloud-delivered, software-defined model for WAN and branch locations that extends from the data center and the cloud, across the WAN, and to the edge.

The right cloud-delivered SD-WAN solution provides reliable, highly secure ways of accessing SaaS and IaaS applications, to help companies realize the maximum potential of the cloud. It also provides greater flexibility and cost advantages by supporting applications in the data center without hardware lock-in.

These are the 5 attributes of an effective WAN architecture:

1. **Deployment flexibility:** Every organization has unique needs; an effective cloud-delivered SD-WAN solution provides complete flexibility and a choice of deployment options. Its logical overlay network will encompass any WAN transport, whether private, public, or even LTE wireless broadband environments—while providing simplified configuration and ongoing management.

2. **Support for highly secure access:** Strong security is essential for diverse cloud environments. A cloud-delivered SD-WAN solution helps safeguard sensitive data with pervasive, embedded security controls that align with applications, both in the cloud and on-premises.

3. **Automation and abstraction:** Choose a WAN architecture that will drive automation and abstraction, with a focus on business outcomes and performance. This lets you improve operations and enable business policies implemented across the logical overlay, to support abstraction of application flows from the underlying physical transport.

4. **Robust analytics:** A successful cloud-delivered SD-WAN solution provides rich visibility across every environment, spanning the WAN to the public and private cloud. The architecture should also include analytics capabilities to help you gain insight into the network and tune performance where needed.

5. **Simplified operations:** To help offset the complexity of diverse multi-cloud WAN environments, the new architecture can enable low-touch IT to keep OpEx in check and enable CIOs to better justify their investments. Simplified operations also free your team up to focus on more strategic priorities, such as driving business growth and innovation.

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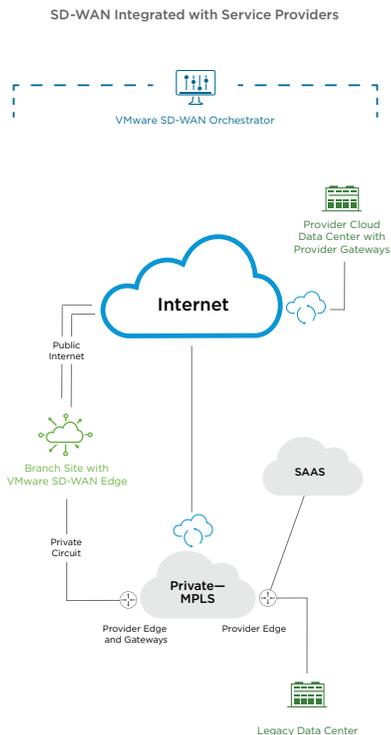**SD-WAN Integrated with Service Providers**

FIGURE 2: Unlike other solutions on the market, VMware SD-WAN offers the unique ability for you to keep your existing WAN. The solution is compatible with your existing WAN architecture, while giving you the ability to add more reliable capacity via other links such as one or more internet, cellular, MPLS, or other links.

Infrastructures and processes shift to the cloud

Companies have been moving to the cloud for some time, but the pace of the migration is accelerating. Data center operations are migrating to the cloud, as solutions like Microsoft Azure and Amazon Web Services (AWS) continue to soar in popularity. Cloud apps like Salesforce.com remain hugely popular, as do storage solutions.

For many organizations, the cloud has become the network, with RightScale reporting an average of 4.8 clouds used per organization. It's all leading to a new, simplified way of managing infrastructure—through cloud-delivered SD-WANs.

According to RightScale, overall Azure adoption grew from 34 to 45 percent of respondents, while AWS adoption grew from 57 to 64 percent of respondents over the past year.[1]

Toward a more resilient, unified organization

To truly realize the full potential of a multi-cloud world to help your organization scale and grow, you need a highly resilient, flexible solution that will simplify IT operations, ensure secure access, and deliver the end-to-end visibility you need to make better decisions. VMware SD-WAN™ by VeloCloud® provides a versatile, software-defined approach to the WAN. The solution works with any cloud service, infrastructure-as-a-service (IaaS), and network transport system. It is vendor agnostic, and offers flexible deployment options. SD-WAN dramatically simplifies management with zero-touch deployment, one-click business policy and services insertion, and cloud-based network as a service.

Unify and empower your branch locations with SD-WAN

Unlike other solutions on the market, SD-WAN offers the unique ability for you to keep your existing WAN. The solution is compatible with your existing WAN architecture, while giving you the ability to add more reliable capacity via other links such as one or more internet, cellular, MPLS, etc. SD-WAN also provides a smooth migration strategy compared to competitive offerings. With it, you can begin with a small number of users, then scale up to support hundreds of thousands of users at your own pace.

For more information see, *www.velocloud.com*.

1. RightScale, 2018 State of the Cloud Report, 2018