

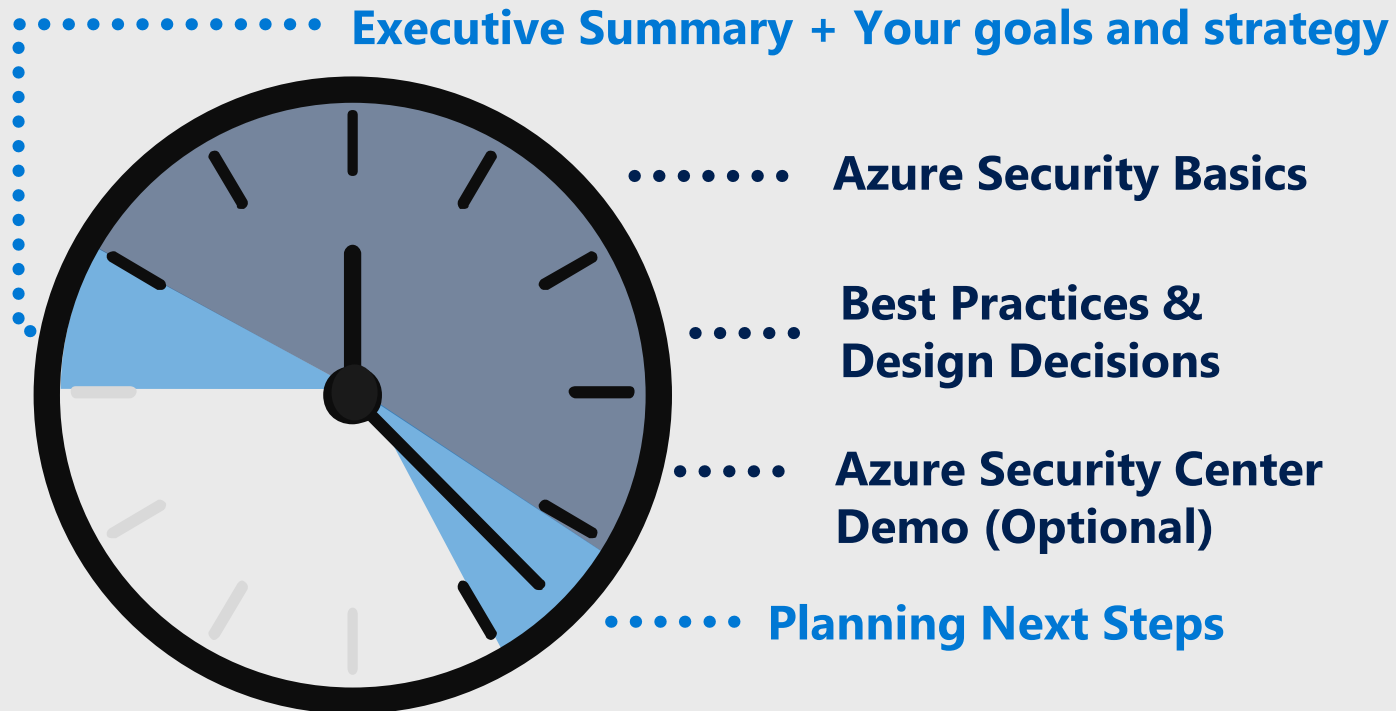
Azure Security Compass

Cybersecurity Solutions Group



Microsoft Azure Security Compass Workshop

TYPICAL SCHEDULE



TYPICAL STAKEHOLDERS



WORKSHOP OBJECTIVE:

Learn how to securely operate your workloads on Azure



Azure Security Compass - Purpose

Designed to rapidly increase your Azure security posture



Make the right security decisions with best practices, choices and context/recommendations



Increase familiarity with Azure Platform Security and Azure Security Center

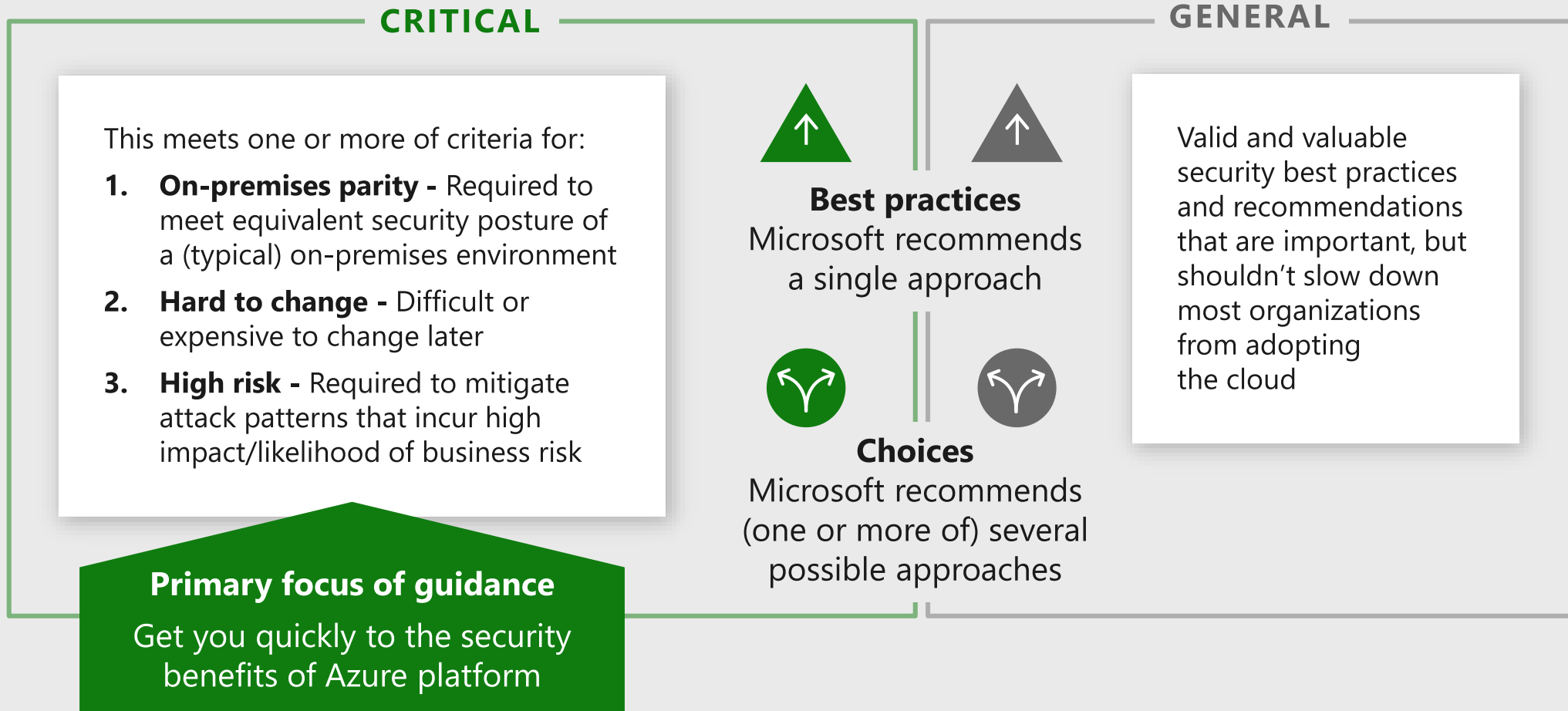


Tips

- **Mix of old & new** - Bring your experience and knowledge, but expect changes
- **You can't learn everything** - Cloud capabilities evolve too fast to master them all, prioritization is critical

Guidance Structure

Actionable and Prioritized



Note: These represent Microsoft's default opinion based on our experience and knowledge. Your organization may prioritize risk and mitigations differently based on your unique business needs, business risks, or other factors.






Executive Summary

OVERALL GUIDANCE



| | Critical | General |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Governance, Risk, and Compliance | 16 | 10 |
| Administration | 12 | 2 |
| Network Security & Containment | 12 | 6 |
| Information Protection & Storage | 3 | 0 |
| Identity & Access Management | 5 | 4 |
| Security Operations | 4 | 4 |
| Total | 42 | 26 |

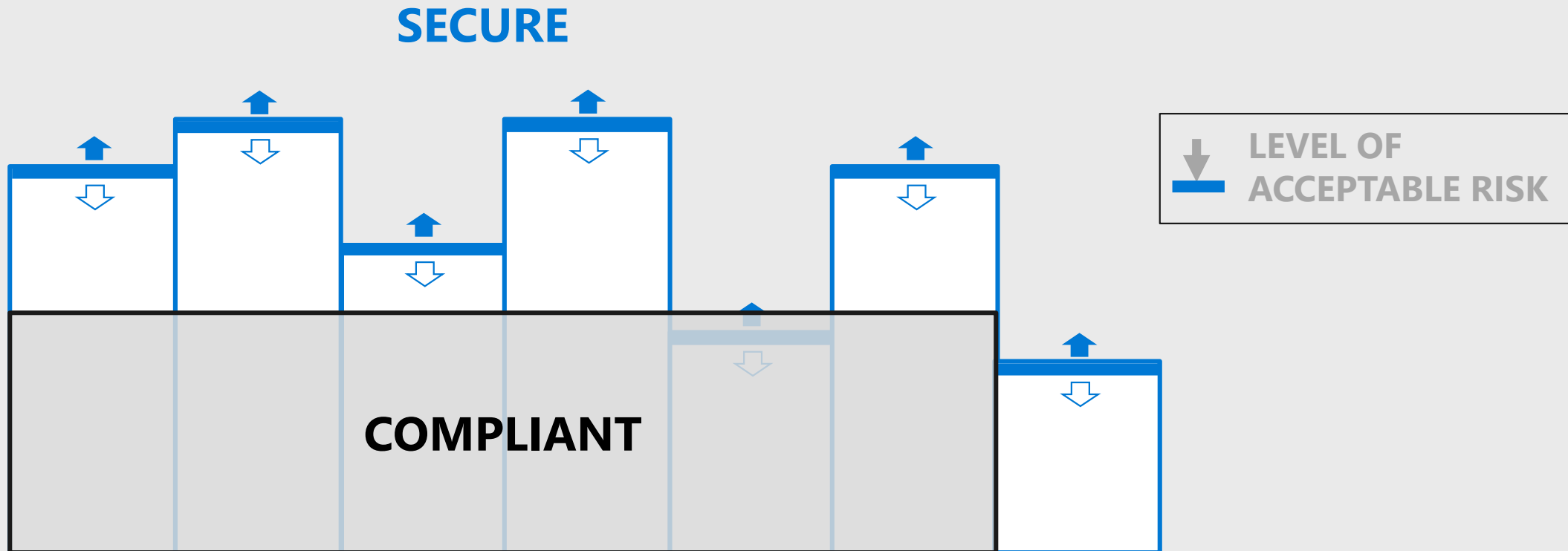
TRACKING SPREADSHEET

| | A | B | C | D |
|----|---|---|---|--|
| 1 |  Azure Security Compass Status Summary | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | |
| 5 | Critical Decisions/Implementation | | 74% | 73% |
| 6 | General Decisions/Implementation | | 82% | 45% |
| 7 | | | | |
| 8 | Critical Decisions | |  Decisions |  Implementation |
| 9 | Governance, Risk, & Compliance | | 74% | 68% |
| 10 | Administration | | 31% | 92% |
| 11 | Network Security & Containment | | 84% | 72% |
| 12 | Storage, Data, & Encryption | | 75% | 37% |
| 13 | Identity & Access Management | | 100% | 100% |
| 14 | Security Operations | | 81% | 67% |
| 15 | Summary | | 74% | 73% |
| 16 | | | | |
| 17 | General (non-critical) Decisions | |  Decisions |  Implementation |
| 18 | Governance, Risk, & Compliance | | 50% | 25% |
| 19 | Administration | | 100% | 50% |
| 20 | Network Security & Containment | | 100% | 67% |
| 21 | Storage, Data, & Encryption | | 100% | 100% |
| 22 | Identity & Access Management | | 63% | 25% |

COMPLIANT ≠ SECURE

COMPLIANT = Meets a specific standard at point in time (e.g. not negligent)

SECURE = Lowers business risk to acceptable level by disrupting attacker return on investment (ROI)



Whiteboard – Your Journey and Goals

Current Cloud & Azure Usage

- Which workloads / business purpose?
- SaaS? IaaS? PaaS?



Security Focus Areas –

What do you want to focus on?

Geographic Presence

where you operate



Compliance

& regulatory requirements



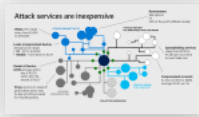
Goals and Plans

for Azure usage

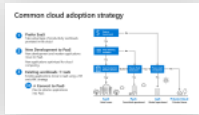


Azure Security Compass

BASICS



TRANSFORMING TOOLS,
SKILLS, & PRACTICES



STRATEGIES &
THREATS EVOLVE

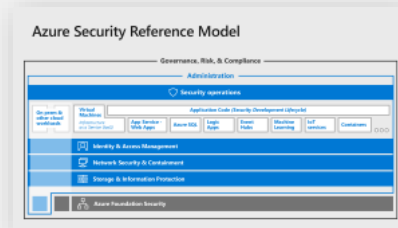


AZURE REGIONS
& SERVICES



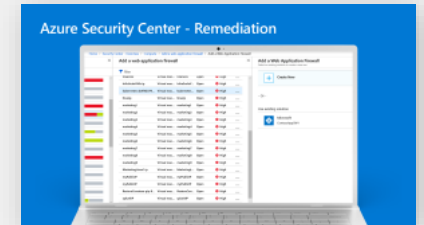
MICROSOFT SECURITY
PRACTICES

SECURITY GUIDANCE



COMPONENTS
& MODELS

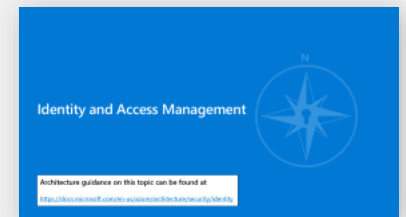
AZURE SECURITY
CENTER (ASC)



GOVERNANCE, RISK,
& COMPLIANCE



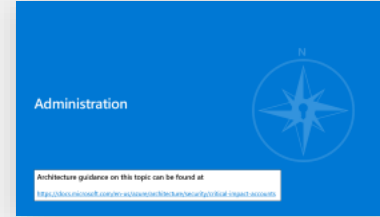
SECURITY
OPERATIONS



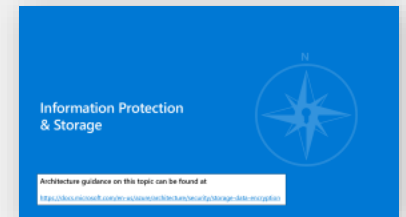
IDENTITY



NETWORK
CONTAINMENT



ADMINISTRATION



INFO PROTECTION
& STORAGE

Attack services are inexpensive

Ransomware:

\$66 upfront

Or

30% of the profit (affiliate model)

0days price range varies from \$5,000 to \$350,000

Loads (compromised device)

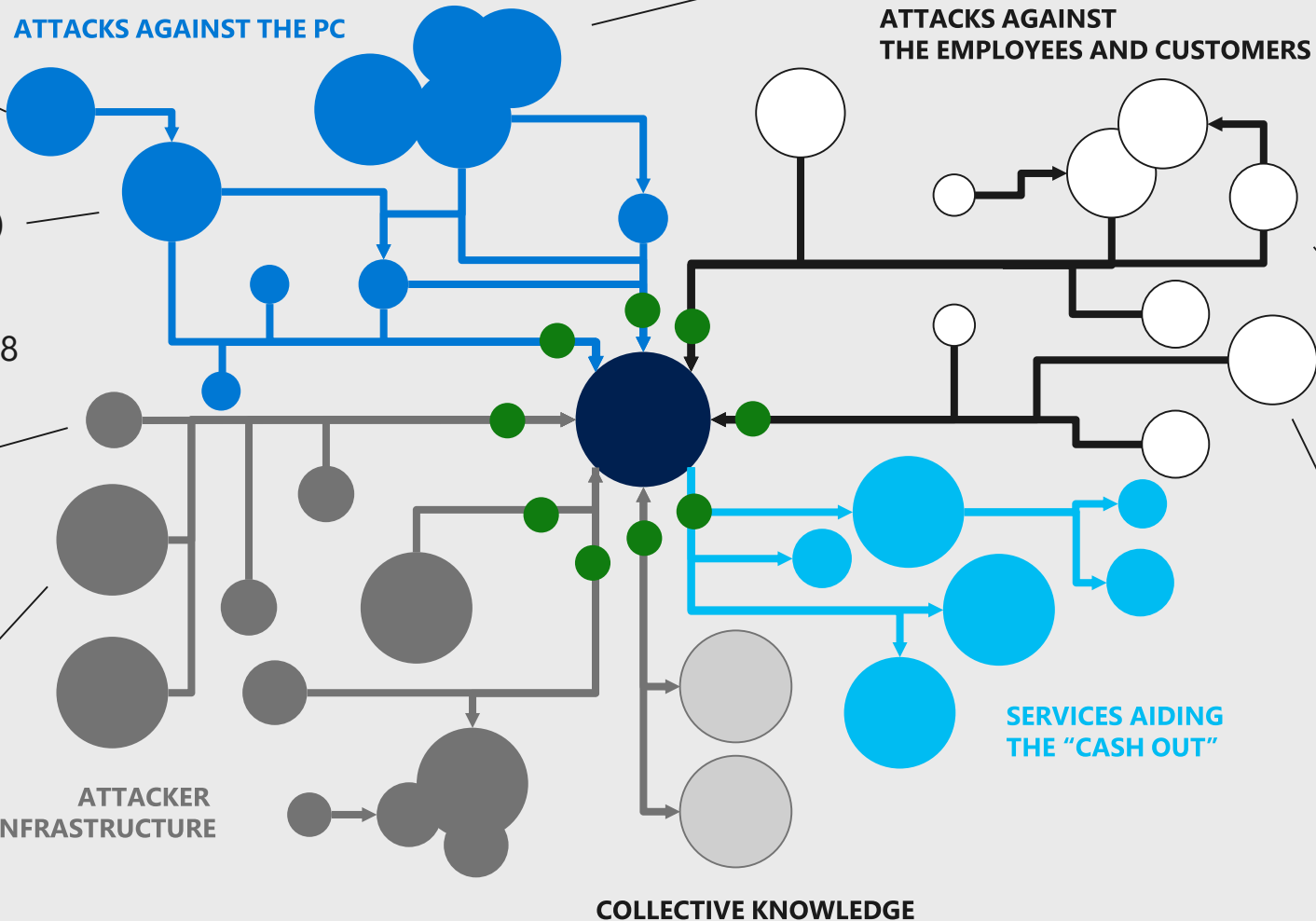
average price ranges

- **PC** - \$0.13 to \$0.89
- **Mobile** - from \$0.82 to \$2.78

Denial of Service (DOS)

average prices
day: \$102.05
week: \$327.00
month: \$766.67

Proxy services to evade IP geolocation prices vary
As low as \$100 per week for 100,000 proxies.



Spearphishing services

range from \$100 to \$1,000 per successful account take over

Compromised accounts

As low as \$150 for 400M.
Averages \$0.97 per 1k.

Transforming from Legacy to Cloud

Evolving architecture, tools, skills, & practices



Architectures change, but principles & outcomes remain the same



Roles, responsibilities, and skillsets will evolve



Same



Changed



New



Controls, tools, and processes will evolve

Note: Legacy 'technical debt' persists with legacy workloads/applications in IaaS



Your enterprise in transformation

Requires a modern identity and access security perimeter

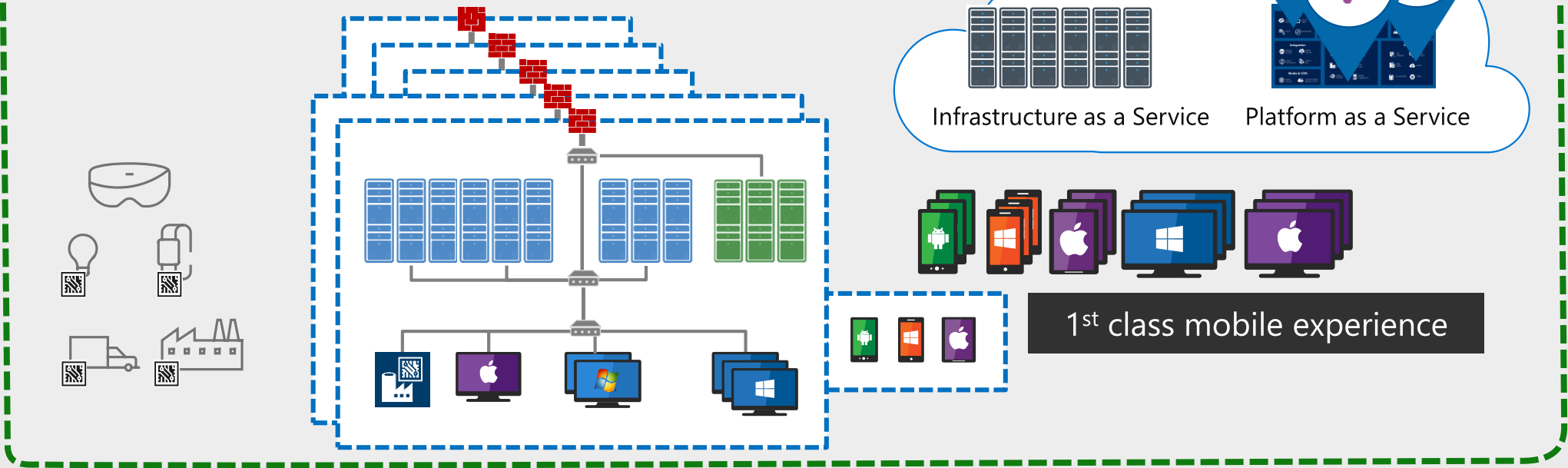
Cloud Technology

SaaS adoption

Office 365



Modern Enterprise Perimeter



Infrastructure as a Service Platform as a Service

1st class mobile experience

Internet of Things

ENGAGE YOUR CUSTOMERS



EMPOWER YOUR EMPLOYEES



OPTIMIZE YOUR OPERATIONS



TRANSFORM YOUR PRODUCTS



Running Dual Perimeters

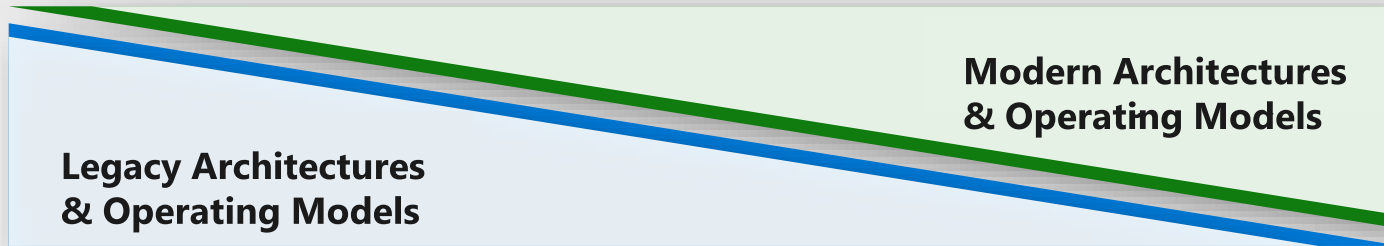
ATTACKERS USING IDENTITY TACTICS

SECURING MODERN SCENARIOS (CLOUD, MOBILE, IOT)

**MODERN PERIMETER
(Identity Controls)**

**CLASSIC PERIMETER
(Network Controls)**

Evolution of Roles and Responsibilities



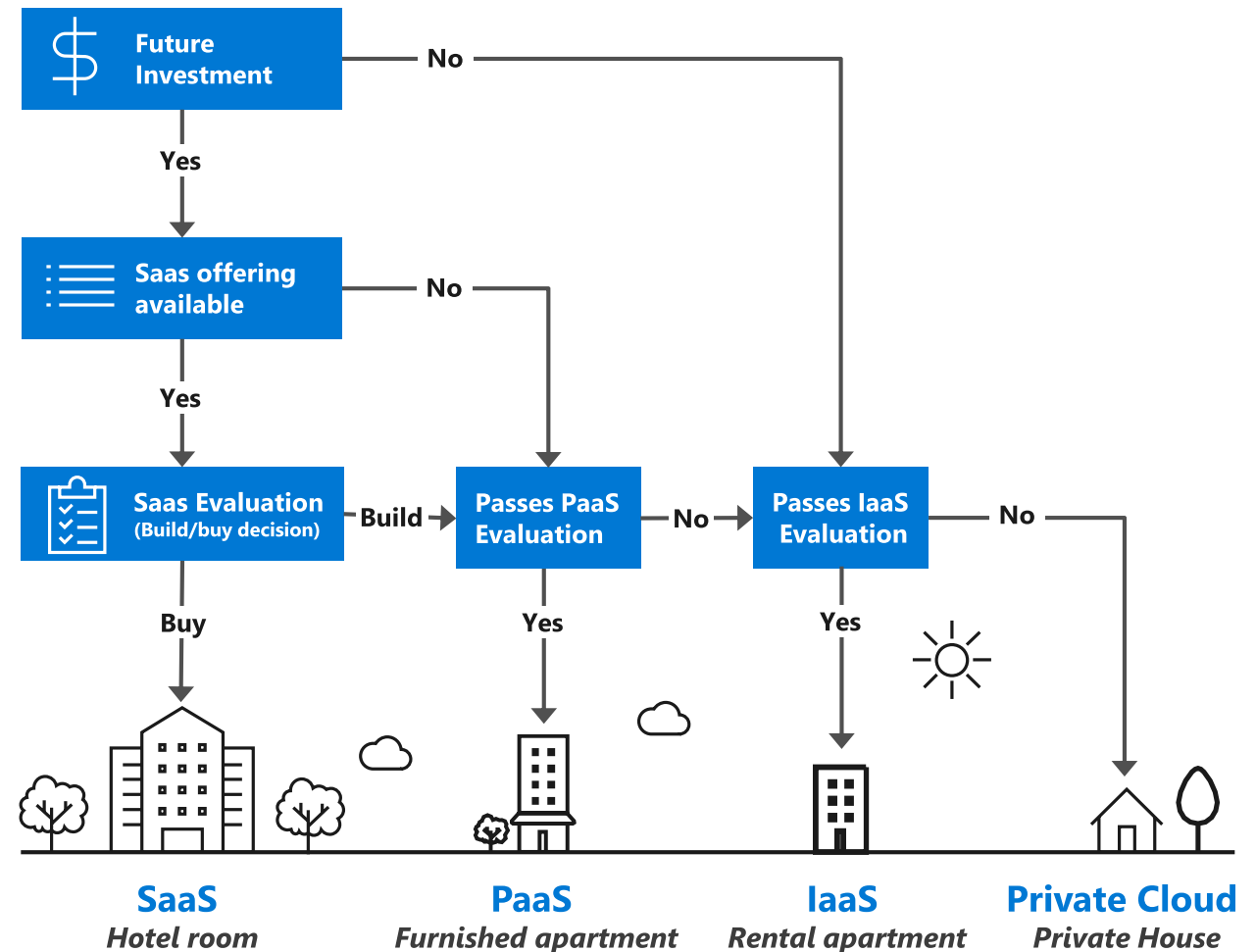
🚫 "STOP THE PRESSES!" → CONTINUOUS VALIDATION 🔄

Security roles will change with architectural/operational models

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Manual Resource Administration | Administration | Author & Govern Automation |
| Containment with Network | Network → Containment | Containment at all layers (Net, App, Identity, Data, etc.) |
| Quality Check Before Release | Development | Security SME in DevOps process |
| Project based Engagement | Architecture | Continuous Engagement & Improvement |

Common cloud adoption strategy

- 1 Prefer SaaS**
Take advantage of productivity workloads provided in the cloud
- 2 New Development to PaaS**
New development and modern applications move to PaaS.
New applications optimized for cloud computing.
- 3 Existing workloads → IaaS**
Existing applications move to IaaS using a 'lift and shift' strategy
 - 3a → Convert to PaaS**
Plan to refactor applications into PaaS



Shared Responsibility and Key Strategies

MAIN
MENU

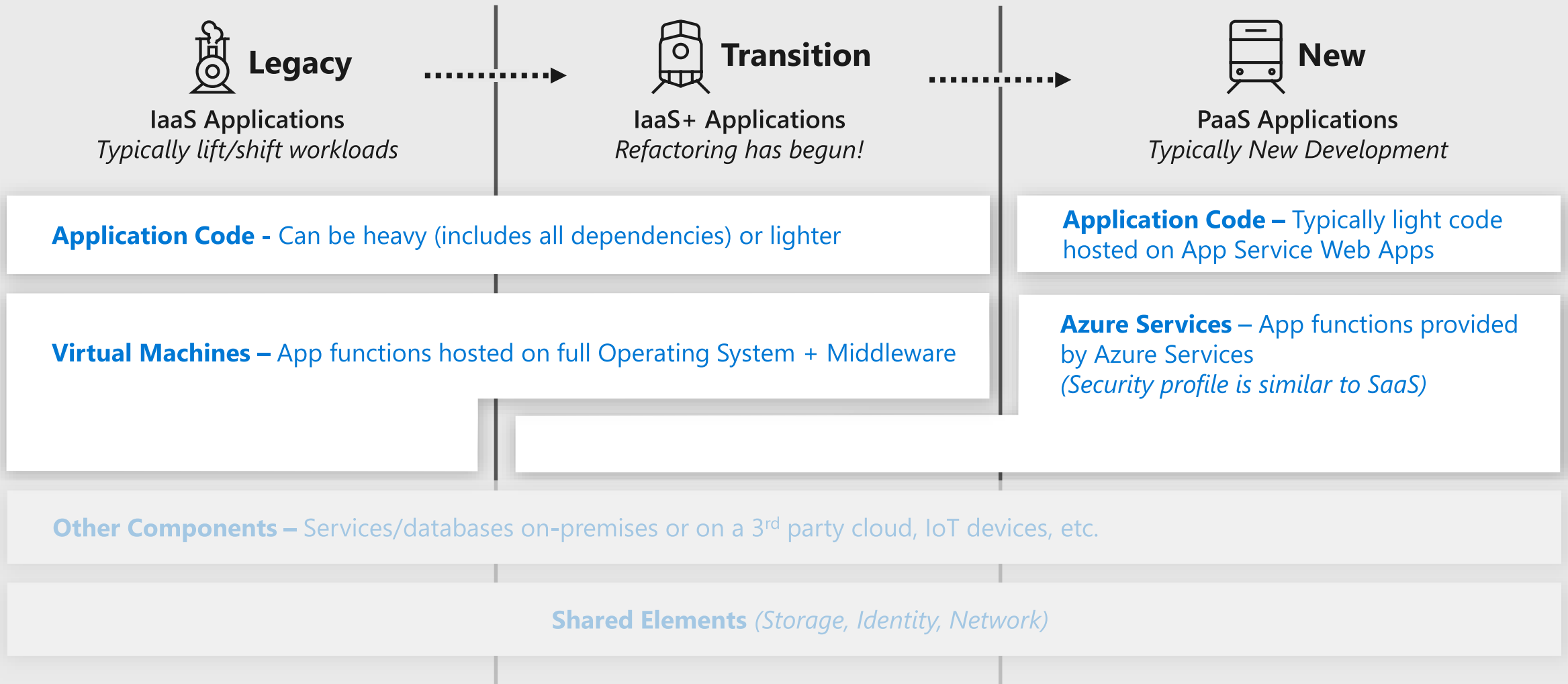


| Responsibility | SaaS | PaaS | IaaS | On-prem | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|---|
| Information and Data | Customer | Customer | Customer | Customer | | ESTABLISH A MODERN PERIMETER |
| Devices (Mobile and PCs) | Customer | Customer | Customer | Customer | | |
| Accounts and Identities | Customer | Customer | Customer | Customer | | |
| Identity and directory infrastructure | Customer | Customer | Customer | Customer | | MODERNIZE INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY |
| Applications | Microsoft | Customer | Customer | Customer | | |
| Network Controls | Microsoft | Customer | Customer | Customer | | |
| Operating system | Microsoft | Microsoft | Customer | Customer | | |
| Physical hosts | Microsoft | Microsoft | Microsoft | Customer | | "TRUST BUT VERIFY" EACH CLOUD PROVIDER |
| Physical network | Microsoft | Microsoft | Microsoft | Customer | | |
| Physical datacenter | Microsoft | Microsoft | Microsoft | Customer | | |

Microsoft
 Customer

IaaS and PaaS Application Models

Standalone Applications or Components of Larger Solutions



Legacy

IaaS Applications

Typically lift/shift workloads



Transition

IaaS+ Applications

Refactoring has begun!



New

PaaS Applications

Typically New Development

Application Code - Can be heavy (includes all dependencies) or lighter

Application Code – Typically light code hosted on App Service Web Apps

Virtual Machines – App functions hosted on full Operating System + Middleware

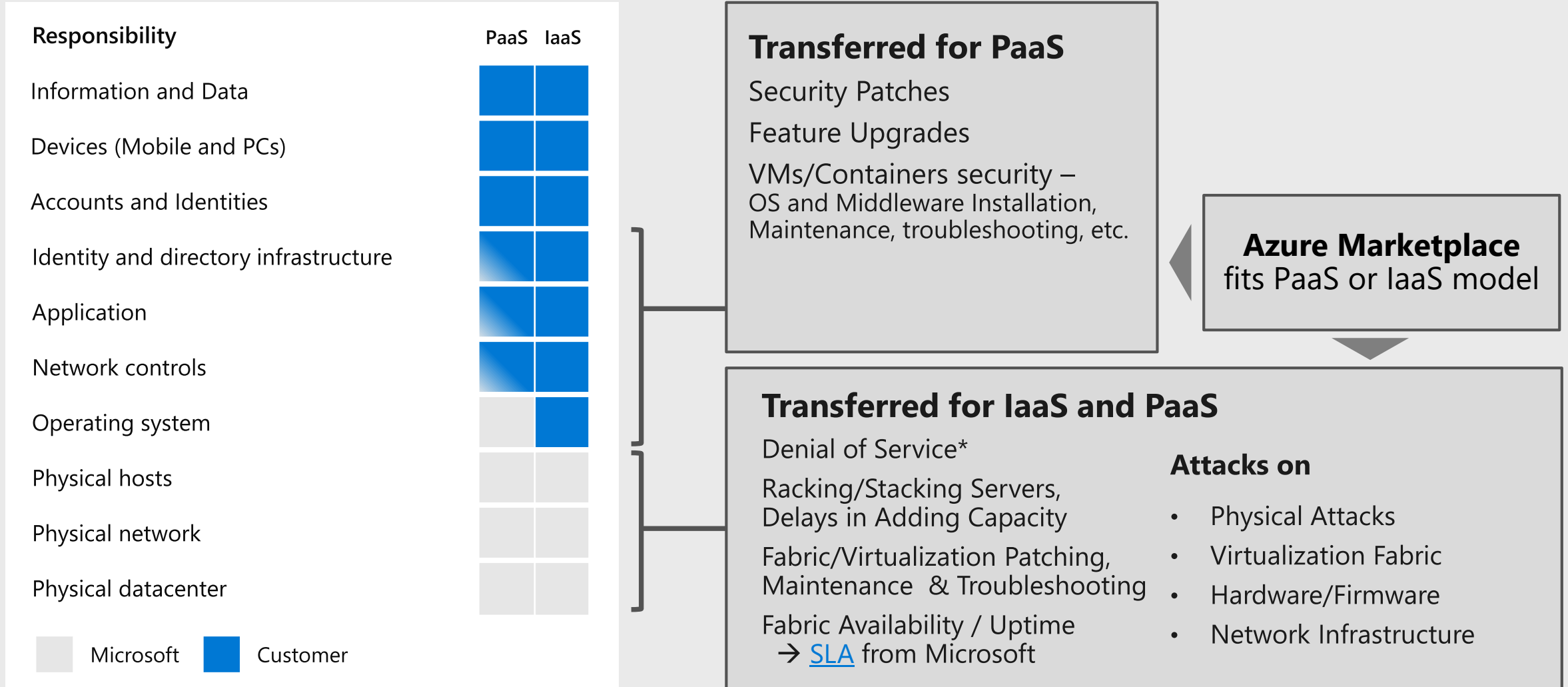
Azure Services – App functions provided by Azure Services
(Security profile is similar to SaaS)

Other Components – Services/databases on-premises or on a 3rd party cloud, IoT devices, etc.

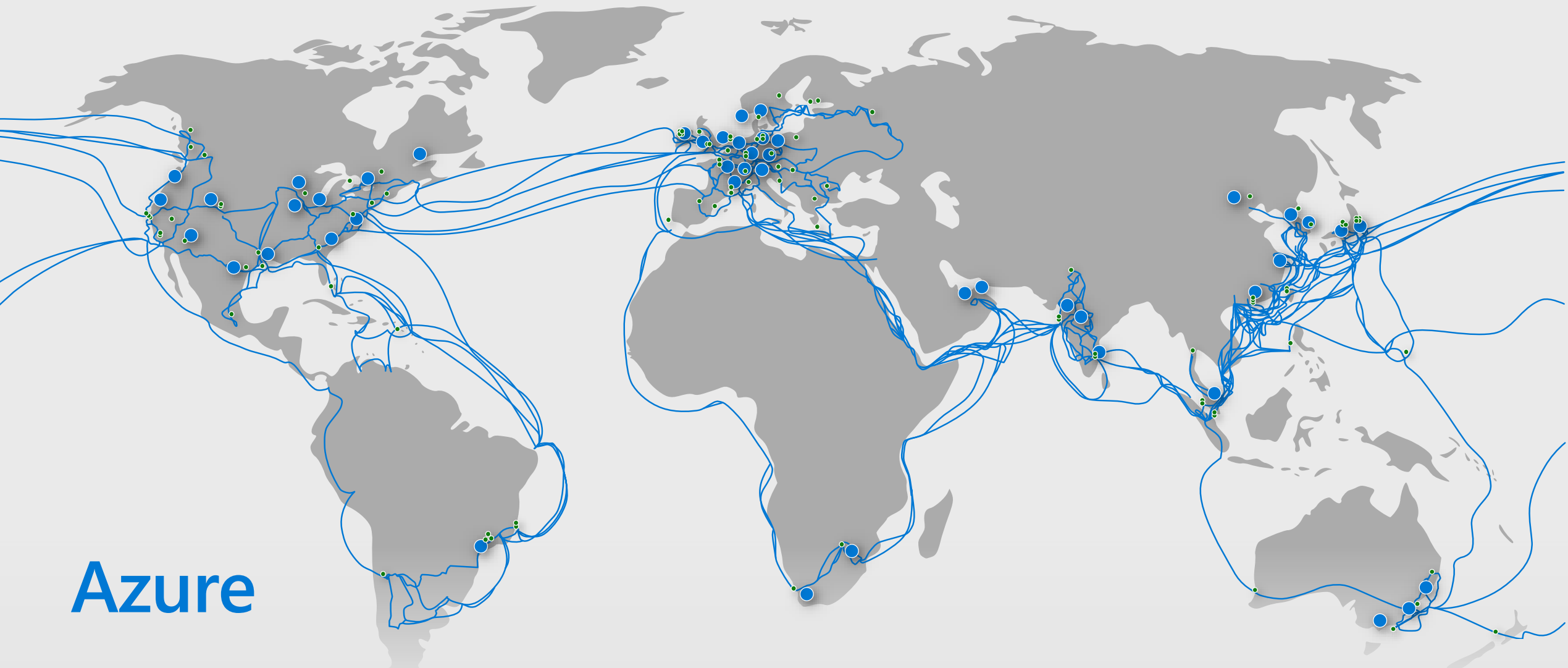
Shared Elements *(Storage, Identity, Network)*

Security Responsibilities Transfer to Cloud

MAIN
MENU



Microsoft
 Customer



Azure

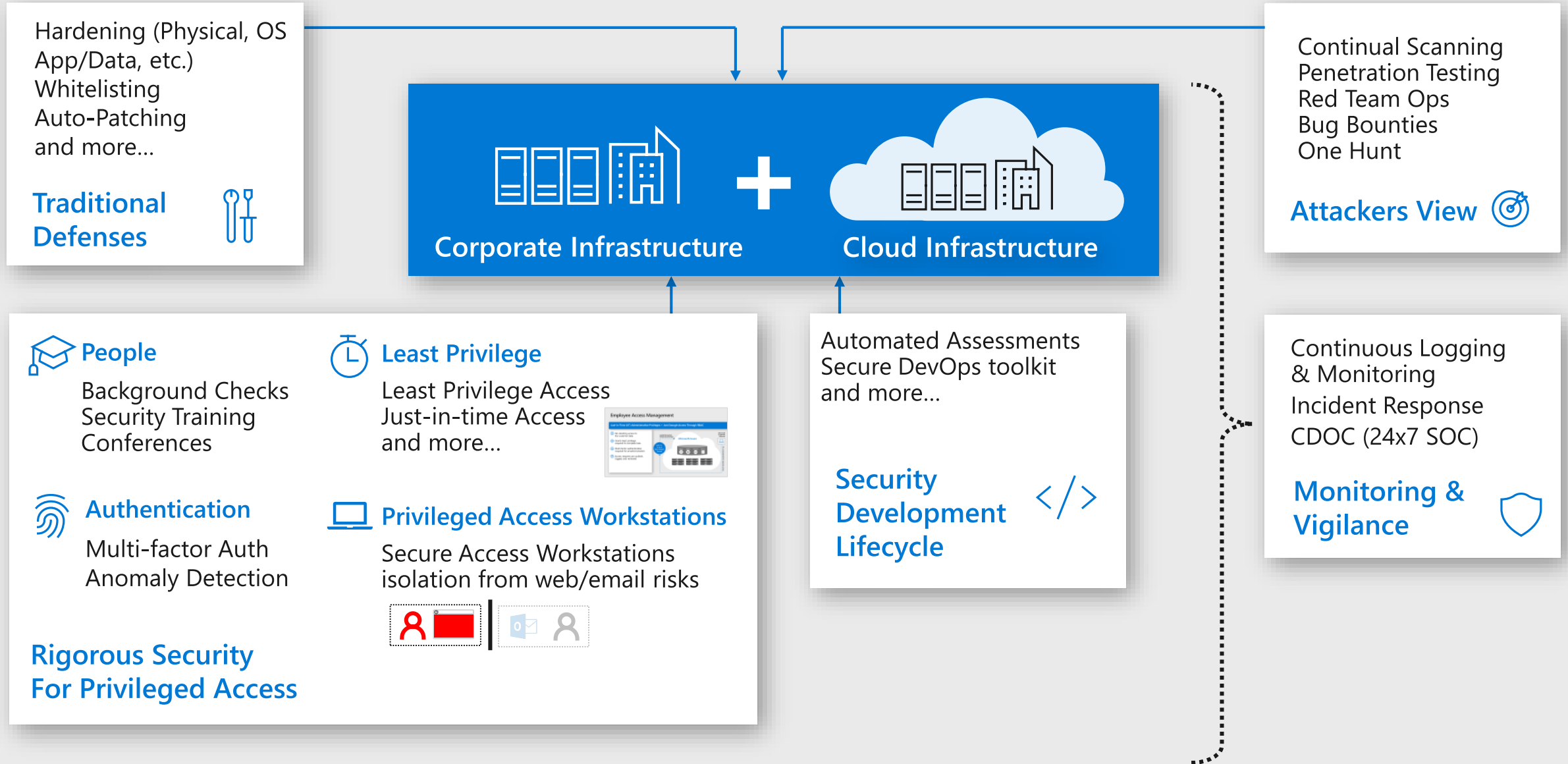
54 Azure regions

100K+ Miles of fiber & subsea cable

150+ Edge sites

200+ ExpressRoute partners

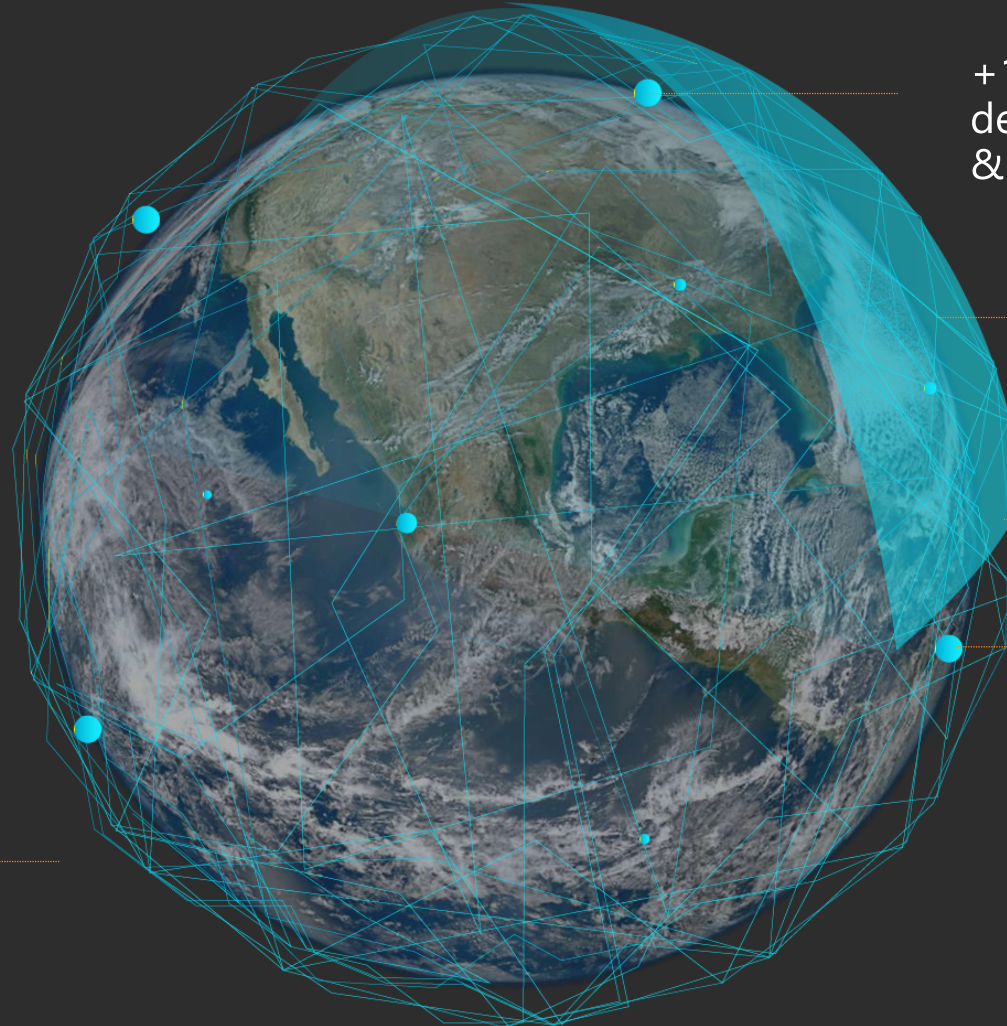
Microsoft protecting Microsoft



The Microsoft Intelligent Security Graph

Extensive machine learning to:

- Reduce manual effort
- Reduce wasted effort on false positives
- Speed up detection



+1B Windows devices updated & scanned

450B monthly authentications

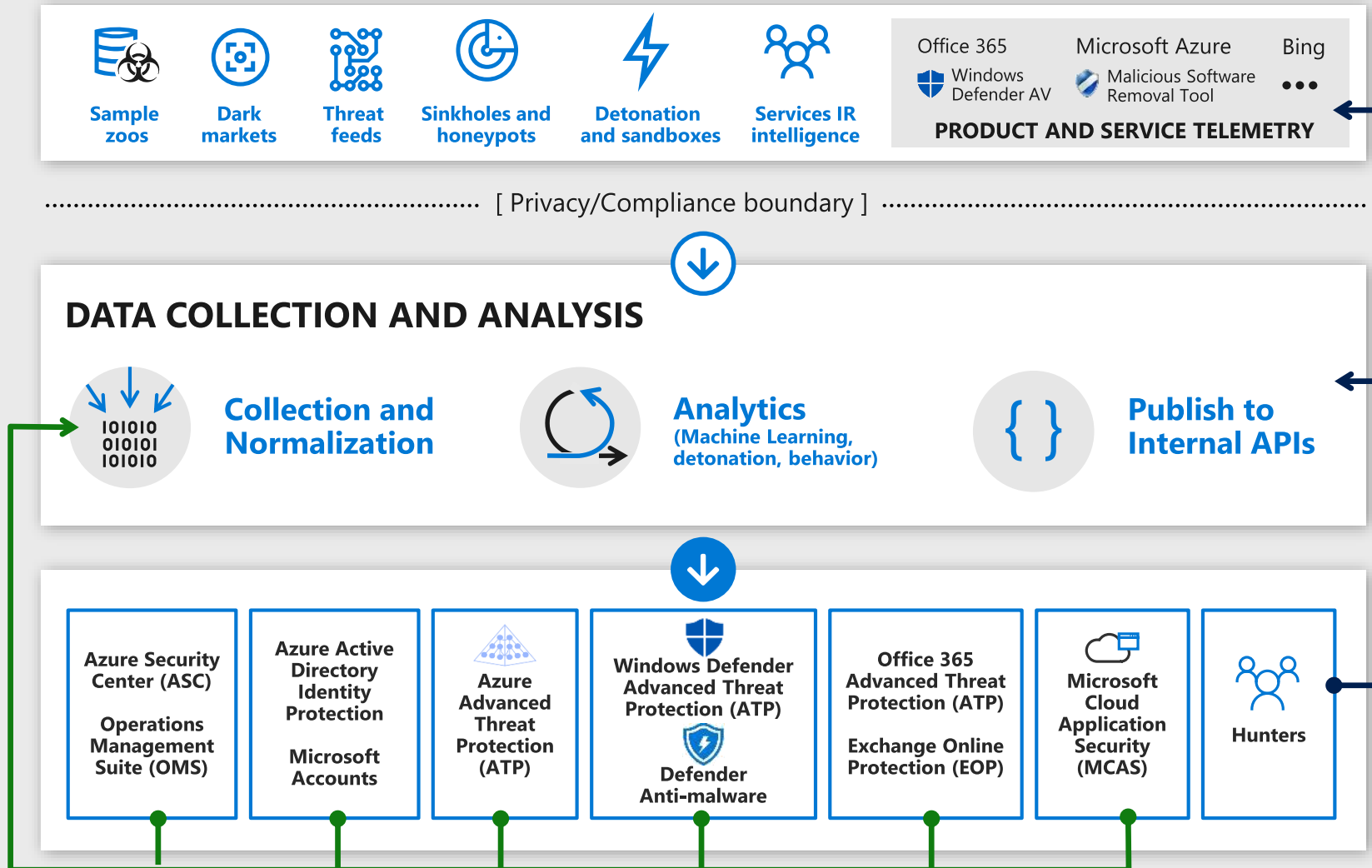
18+ billion web pages scanned

400B e-mails analyzed

930M threats detected on devices every month

Unparalleled cybersecurity visibility and insight

Inside The Intelligent Security Graph



- ➔ Products instrumented to strict privacy/compliance standards
See [Microsoft Trust Center](#)
- ➔ Analytics help fuel new discoveries
- ➔ Products send data to graph
- ➔ Products use Interflow APIs to access results
- ➔ Products generate data which feeds back into the graph
- ➔ Hunters identify attacks, improve analytics, feed back into product design

Technical Details on Azure internal architecture

Most current information in documentation

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security/azure-security-infrastructure>

3rd party validated information in Service Trust Portal (STP) -

<https://servicetrust.microsoft.com/> - *Requires NDA*

Most frequently requested information is:

- Azure & Azure Government SOC 2 Type 2 Report (in STP)
- Azure - FedRAMP Moderate System Security Plan (in STP)
- Cloud Security Alliance (CSA) STAR Self-Assessment
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/trustcenter/compliance/csa-self-assessment>
- CIS Benchmark - <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/resources/cis-microsoft-azure-foundations-security-benchmark/>

Azure for AWS Professionals

- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/aws-professional>



Azure compliance coverage extends across most industries and geographies

Global



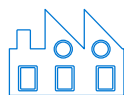
- ✓ CSA STAR Attestation
- ✓ CSA STAR Certification
- ✓ CSA STAR Self-Assessment
- ✓ ISO 22301
- ✓ ISO 27001
- ✓ ISO 27017
- ✓ ISO 27018
- ✓ SOC 1 Type 2
- ✓ SOC 2 Type 2

U.S. Government



- ✓ CJIS
- ✓ DoD DISA SRG Level 2
- ✓ DoD DISA SRG Level 4
- ✓ DoD DISA SRG Level 5
- ✓ FedRAMP
- ✓ FIPS 140-2
- ✓ High JAB P-ATO
- ✓ IRS 1075
- ✓ ITAR
- ✓ Moderate JAB P-ATO
- ✓ Section 508 VPAT
- ✓ SP 800-171

Industry



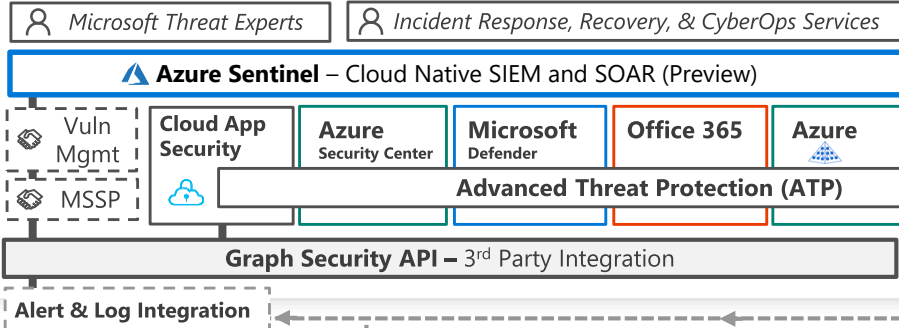
- ✓ CDSA
- ✓ FACT UK
- ✓ FERPA
- ✓ FFIEC
- ✓ FISC Japan
- ✓ GLBA
- ✓ GxP 21 CFR Part 11
- ✓ HIPAA / HITECH
- ✓ HITRUST
- ✓ IG Toolkit UK
- ✓ MARS-E
- ✓ MPAA
- ✓ PCI DSS Level 1
- ✓ Shared Assessments

Regional



- ✓ Argentina PDPA
- ✓ Australia IRAP/CCSL
- ✓ Canada Privacy Laws
- ✓ China DJCP
- ✓ China GB 18030
- ✓ China TRUCS
- ✓ ENISA IAF
- ✓ EU Model Clauses
- ✓ EU-US Privacy Shield
- ✓ Germany IT Grundschutz
- ✓ India MeitY
- ✓ Japan CS Mark Gold
- ✓ Japan My Number Act
- ✓ New Zealand GCIO
- ✓ Singapore MTCS
- ✓ Spain DPA
- ✓ Spain ENS
- ✓ UK G-Cloud

Security Operations Center (SOC)



Cybersecurity Reference Architecture

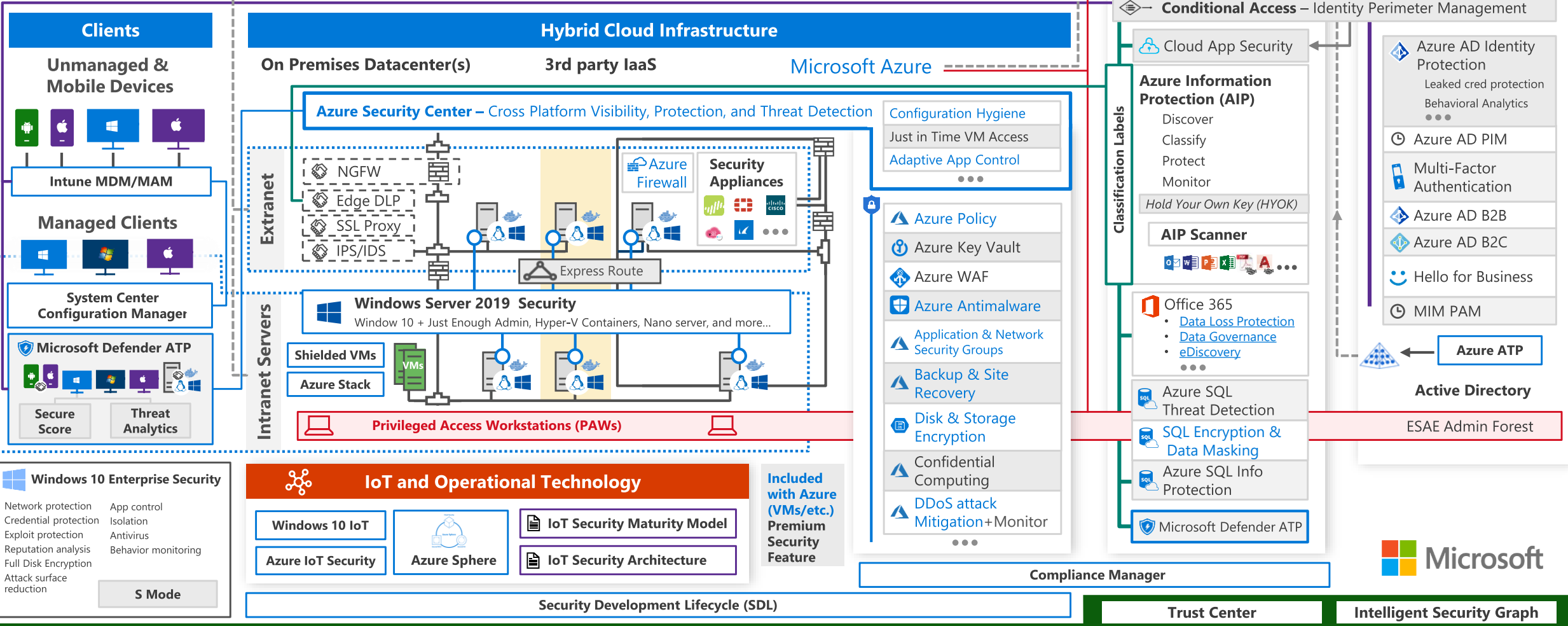
April 2019 – <https://aka.ms/MCRA> | [Video Recording](#) | [Strategies](#)

This is interactive!

1. Present Slide
2. Hover for Description
3. Click for more information

Roadmaps and Guidance

1. [Securing Privileged Access](#)
2. [Office 365 Security](#)
3. [Rapid Cyberattacks \(Wannacrypt/Petya\)](#)



Azure Security Reference Model

Governance, Risk, & Compliance

Administration

 Security operations

On prem &
other cloud
workloads

Virtual
Machines

Infrastructure
as a Service (IaaS)

Application Code (*Security Development Lifecycle*)

App Service -
Web Apps

Azure SQL

Logic
Apps

Event
Hubs

Machine
Learning

IoT
services

Containers



Identity & Access Management



Network Security & Containment



Storage & Information Protection



Azure Foundation Security

Example - Securing Privileged Access is a team sport

Mitigating some risks requires action across multiple disciplines



Administration

Day to day use of privileged access accounts



Security Operations

Monitor for anomalies to “normal” admin operations

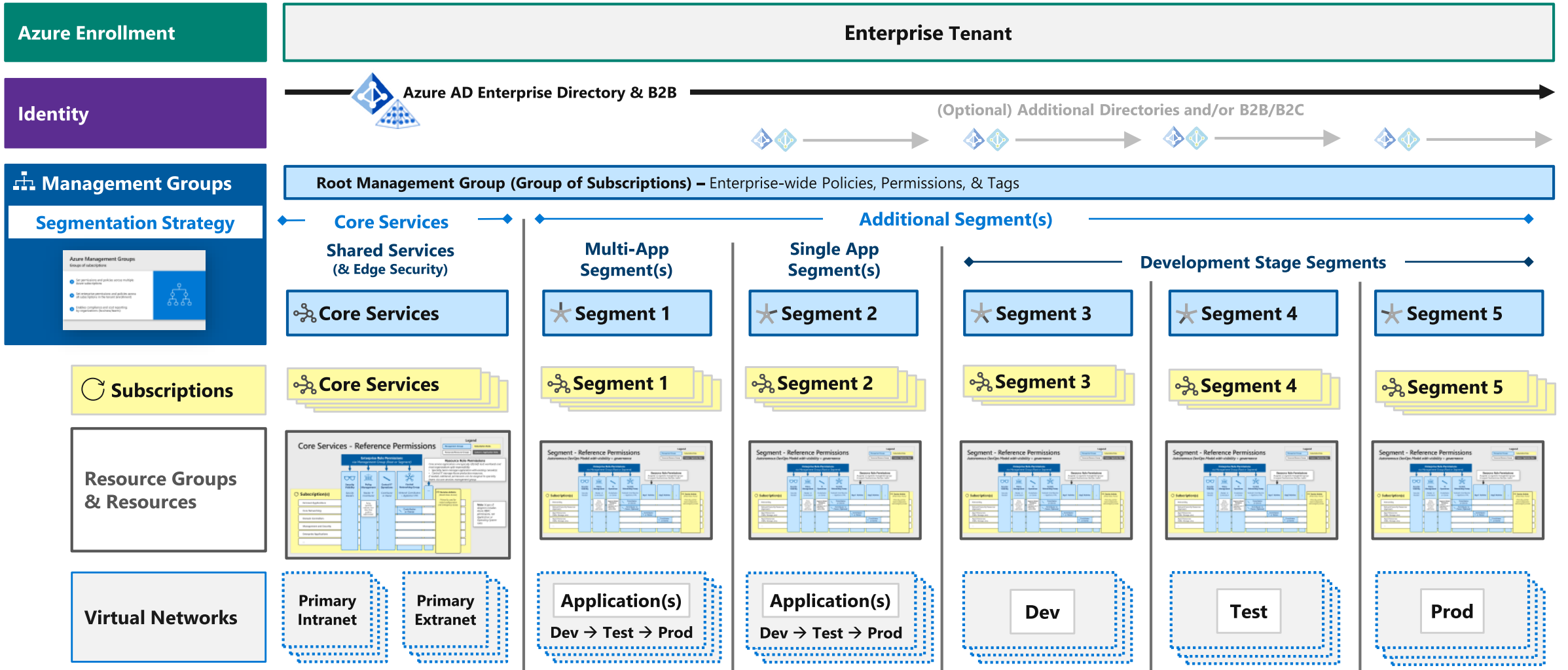


Governance (& Architecture)

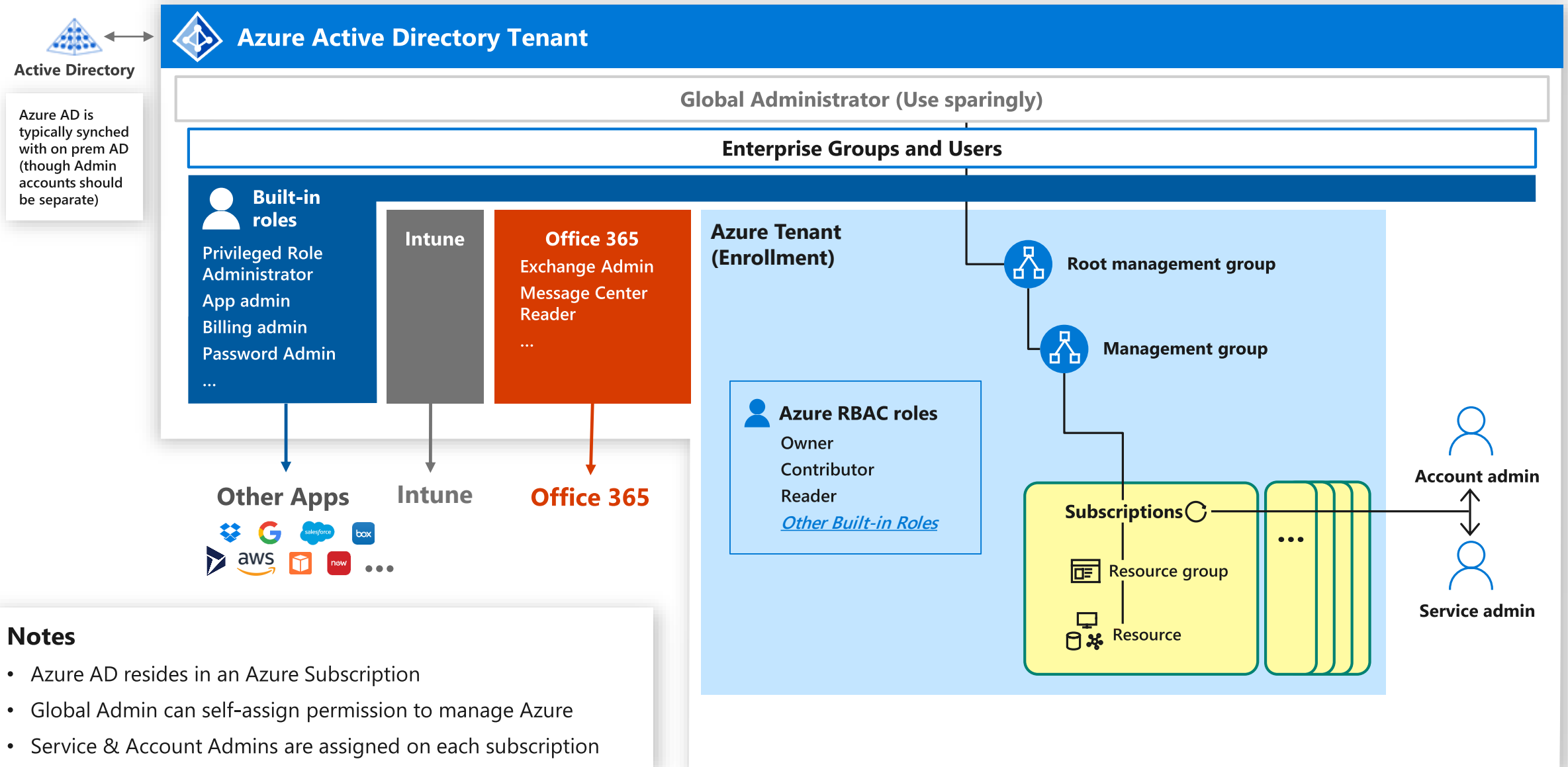
Standard Setting and Structure

Ongoing refinement and improvement to reduce potential risks

Reference Design - Azure Administration Model



Understanding Azure Roles and RBAC



Azure Security Documentation

<https://aka.ms/MyASIS>

The screenshot shows the Azure Security Documentation website. On the left is a navigation sidebar with a search box labeled "Filter by title" and a list of categories: "Azure Security Documentation" (highlighted), "Architecture and design", "Data security and encryption", "Platform and infrastructure", "Application", "Monitoring, auditing, and operations", "Governance and compliance", "White papers", "Azure security services", "Technical overviews", "Best practices", and "Resources". The main content area is divided into three columns: "White papers" (with a document icon), "Best practices" (with a checklist icon), and "Checklists" (with a clipboard icon). Below these is a "Compliance" section (with a lock icon) containing buttons for "FFIEC", "HIPAA/HITRUST", and "PCI DSS". At the bottom left, there is a "Download PDF" link.

Azure Security Documentation Site has extensive information on security topics

Governance, Risk, & Compliance



Architecture guidance on this topic can be found at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/security/governance>

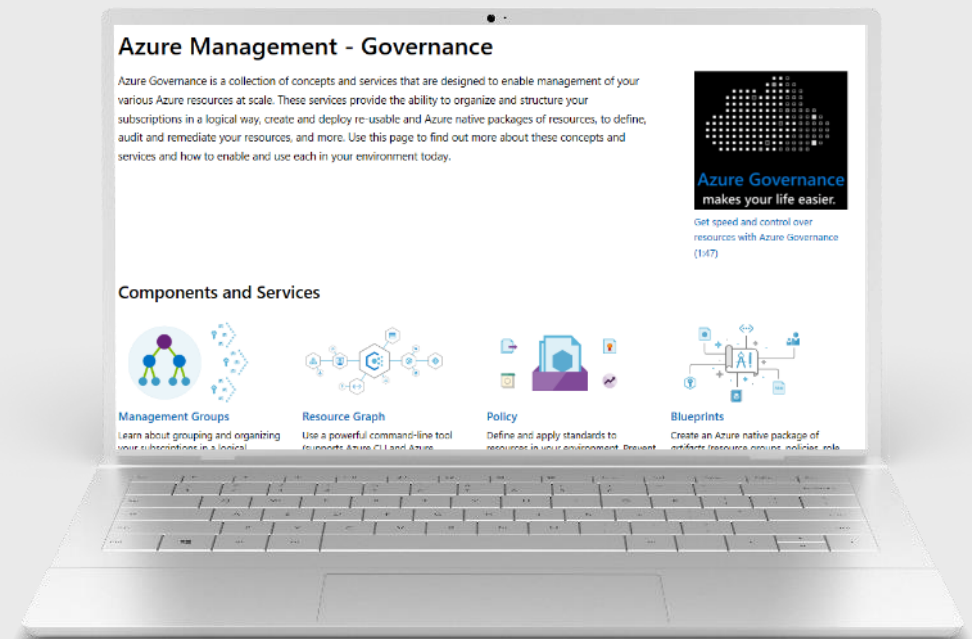
Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC)

Key Capabilities

- **Azure Security Center** – Identify & prioritize security hygiene issues (Secure Score), provide recommendations for meeting compliance with CIS, PCI, SOC and ISO
- **Management Groups** – Consistent management across subscriptions and resources.
- **Azure Policy** – Audits and enforce policy across all Azure Resources (or a subset).
- **Azure Blueprints** – Creates consistent, repeatable environments including resources, policies, role assignments, and more.

Azure Governance Site has extensive documentation to help with risk management

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/governance/>



GRC – Managed Tenants & Subscriptions

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



MANAGE CONNECTED TENANTS

- **What** – Ensure security organization(s) has visibility into all subscriptions connected to your enterprise environment (via ExpressRoute or Site-Site VPN)
- **Why** – Visibility is required to assess risk and to identify whether the policies of the organization and any regulatory requirements are being followed.
- **How** – Ensure all Azure environments that connect to your production environment/network apply governance controls.
See <http://aka.ms/magicbutton> on how to discover existing connected subscriptions



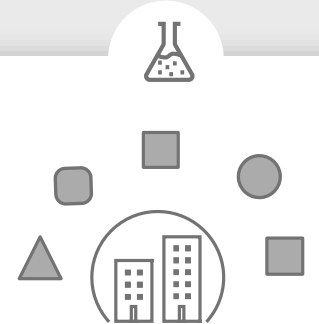
Managed & Connected

Ideal configuration is for subscriptions to be centrally controlled and managed



Unmanaged & Connected

This high-risk configuration has unmanaged Azure environments connected to corporate network/resources



Independent Un/Managed

This "lab" model can be useful for learning and testing, but ensure to appropriately protect any production data or code in it

GRC – Key Responsible Parties

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



CLEAR LINES OF RESPONSIBILITY

- **What** – Designate the parties responsible for specific functions in Azure
- **Why** – Consistency helps avoid confusion that can lead to human and automation errors that create security risk.
- **How** – Designate groups (or individual roles) that will be responsible for key centralized functions

Most organizations map these closely to current on premises models.



Tip Document and Socialize this widely with all teams working on Azure

| | |
|---|---|
| Network Security | <i>Typically existing network security team</i> Configuration and maintenance of Azure Firewall, Network Virtual Appliances (and associated routing), WAFs, NSGs, ASGs, etc. |
| Network Management | <i>Typically existing network operations team</i> Enterprise-wide virtual network and subnet allocation |
| Server Endpoint Security | <i>Typically IT operations, security, or jointly</i> Monitor and remediate server security (patching, configuration, endpoint security, etc.) |
| Incident Monitoring and Response | <i>Typically security operations team</i> Investigate and remediate security incidents in SIEM or source console: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Azure Security Center• Azure AD Identity Protection |
| Policy Management | <i>Typically GRC team + Architecture</i> Set direction for use of Roles Based Access Control (RBAC), Azure Security Center, Administrator protection strategy, and Azure Policy to govern Azure resources |
| Identity Security and Standards | <i>Typically Security Team + Identity Team Jointly</i> Set direction for Azure AD directories, PIM/PAM usage, MFA, password/synchronization configuration, Application Identity Standards |

GRC – Segmentation

CRITICAL CHOICE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



SEGMENTATION STRATEGY

- **What** – Identify security segments that are needed for your organization to contain risk
- **Why** – A clear and simple segmentation strategy enables stakeholders (IT, Security, Business Units) can understand and support it. This clarity reduces the risk of human errors and automation failures that can lead to security vulnerabilities, operational downtime, or both
- **How** – Select the segmentation approaches from the reference design and assign permissions and network controls as appropriate.



Tip

Minimize Complexity - Always consider whether a segment is needed or whether security monitoring provides enough risk mitigation (each segments adds friction and overhead)

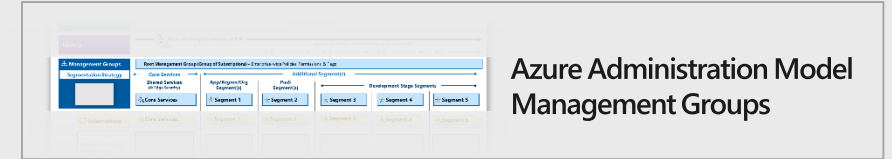


A GOOD SEGMENTATION STRATEGY:

1. **Enables Operations** – Minimizes operation friction by aligning to business practices and applications
2. **Contains Risk** - Adds cost and friction to attackers by
 - Isolating sensitive workloads from compromise of other assets
 - Isolating high exposure systems from being used as a pivot to other systems
3. **Is Monitored** – Security Operations should monitor for potential violations of the integrity of the segments (account usage, unexpected traffic, etc.)

GRC – Management Groups

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



ROOT MANAGEMENT GROUP

- **What** – Use the Root Management Group (MG) for enterprise consistency
- **Why** – This enables you to apply governance elements like policies and tags consistently across multiple subscriptions.
- **How** – Assign enterprise-wide elements that apply to all Azure assets such as:
 - Policy ([Azure Policy](#))
 - [Resource Tags](#)
 - Sovereignty Policy for Data/Services

See next slide for “Root MG Usage” guidance and [MG documentation](#)



TOP LEVEL MANAGEMENT GROUPS

- **What** – Align top level of management groups (MGs) with segmentation strategy
- **Why** – This provides a point for control and policy consistency within each segment as this management group will affect all subscriptions in it
- **How** – Create a single MG for each segment under the root MG and do not create any other MGs under the root. See reference administration model for more details.



MANAGEMENT GROUP DEPTH

- **What** – Limit management group depth
- **Why** – Too much complexity creates confusion that impedes both operations and security. This was illustrated by overly complex Organizational Unit (OU) and Group Policy Objects (GPO) designs for Active Directory
- **How** – Limit to 2 levels if possible and 3 only if needed. (e.g. finance department has a segment with both extremely sensitive applications and others that aren't)

Using all 4 levels of depth (including root) is not recommended unless absolutely required.



GRC – Root MG Usage

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



USE OF ROOT MANAGEMENT GROUP (MG)

- **What** – Carefully select what items to apply to the entire enterprise with the root management group.
- **How** – Ensure root MG elements have a clear requirement to be applied across every resource and/or low impact

Good candidates include

- **Regulatory requirements** with clear business risk/impact (e.g. restrictions related to data sovereignty)
- **Near-zero potential negative impact** on operations such as policy with audit effect, Tag assignment, RBAC permissions assignments that have been carefully reviewed.



PLAN & TEST ROOT MG CHANGES

- **What** – Carefully plan and test all enterprise-wide changes on the root management group before applying
- **How** – Test all changes to Root MG in a:
 - **Test Lab** - Representative lab tenant or lab segment in production tenant
 - **Production Pilot** - Segment MG or Designated subset in subscription(s) / MG

Testing should include manual changes, scripted changes, and implementation of Azure Blueprints

- **Why** – Changes in the root management group can affect *every resource on Azure*. While this is a powerful way to ensure consistency across the enterprise, errors or incorrect usage can negatively impact production operations.

GRC – Top Risk

CRITICAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



UNPATCHED VM



DIRECT INTERNET



COMMON INCIDENT



VIRTUAL MACHINE (VM) SECURITY UPDATES

- **What** – Rapidly apply security updates to virtual machines
- **How** – Enable Azure Security Center to identify missing security updates

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-apply-system-updates>

Apply updates using enterprise patch management or [Azure Update Management](#)



VM DIRECT INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

- **What** – Monitor and restrict direct internet connectivity
- **How** – Use one or more of the following methods
 - **Enterprise-wide prevention** - Prevent inadvertent exposure via network routing/security + RBAC Permissions (in this guidance)
 - **Identify and Remediate** exposed VMs with [Azure Security Center](#)
 - **Restrict management ports** (RDP, SSH) using [Just in Time access](#)

Why – Attackers constantly scan public cloud IP ranges for open management ports and attempt “easy” attacks that exploit common passwords and unpatched vulnerabilities

GRC – Security Incident Notification

CRITICAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



INCIDENT NOTIFICATION

- **What** – Ensure a security contact receives Azure incident notifications from Microsoft (typically a notification that your resource is compromised and/or attacking another customer)
- **Why** – Enables security operations to rapidly respond to potential security risks and remediate them.
- **How** – Ensure administrator contact information in the Azure enrollment portal includes contact information that will notify security operations (directly or rapidly via an internal process)

Azure Security Incident Management



See online service terms "Security Incident Notification" section for specific contractual commitments

GRC – Access Reviews

CRITICAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



REGULARLY REVIEW CRITICAL ACCESS

- **What** – Regularly review privileges with a business-critical impact
- **Why** – Access requirements change over time but technical privileges typically only grow (accruing significant risk).
- **How** – Set up a recurring review pattern
 - **Manual Process**
 - **Automated** - Using Azure AD access reviews for all groups with critical business impact

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/governance/create-access-review>

See administration section for guidance on identifying roles with a critical business impact

Microsoft Azure

Home > First Up Consultants > Identity Governance - Access reviews

Identity Governance - Access reviews

- Getting started
- Entitlement management (Preview)
- Access packages
- Catalogs
- User assignments reports
- Settings
- Access reviews
 - Overview
 - Access reviews**
 - Programs
 - Onboard
- Privileged Identity Management
 - Azure AD roles
 - Azure resources
- Terms of use
 - Terms of use
- Activity
 - Audit logs
- Troubleshooting - Support
 - Troubleshoot
 - New support request

Manage user's access with Azure AD Access Reviews

Recertify group memberships, access to enterprise applications, and privileged role assignments with Azure Active Directory (Azure AD) Access Reviews.

[Learn more about Azure AD Access Reviews](#)

Getting started is fast and easy. You can start your access review within minutes.

1. Onboard with one-click
2. Create your first access review

Use Azure AD Access Reviews to:

- ✓ Recertify employee and guest's group memberships, access to applications, and role assignments on a recurring basis
- ✓ Automate access removal with custom settings
- ✓ Make informed decisions with the help of smart recommendations
- ✓ Organize and track reviews for compliance and risk management initiatives

[Onboard now](#)

GRC – Security Posture Improvement

CRITICAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



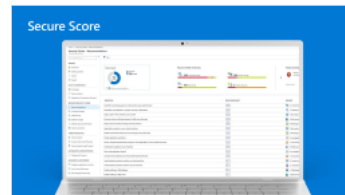
CHOICE



MONITOR AZURE SECURE SCORE

- **What** – Use Secure Score in Azure Security Center to identify key recommendations and monitor progress
- **How** – Review your Azure secure score to see the recommendations resulting from the Azure policies and initiatives built into Azure Security center. These include top risks such as security updates, endpoint protection, encryption, security configurations, missing WAF, internet connected VMs, and many more.

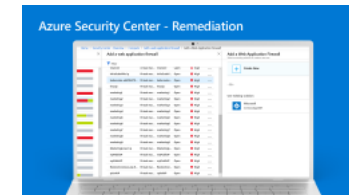
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-secure-score>



REMEDIATE IDENTIFIED RISKS

- **What** – Monitor the security posture of machines, networks, storage and data services, and applications to discover potential security issues.
- **How** – Follow the security recommendations in Azure Security Center starting with the highest priority items. The remediations can frequently be initiated from within the console.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-recommendations>



Why – Rapidly identifying and remediating common security hygiene risks can significantly reduce overall risk

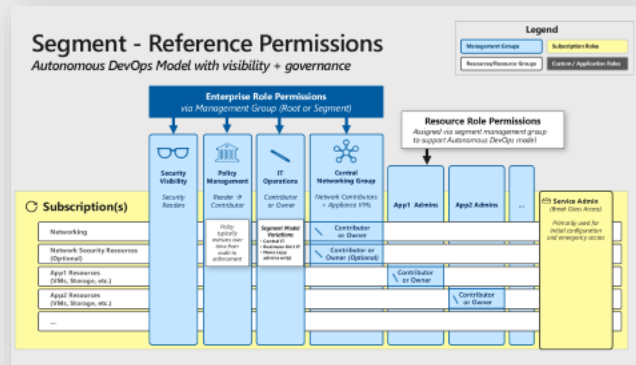
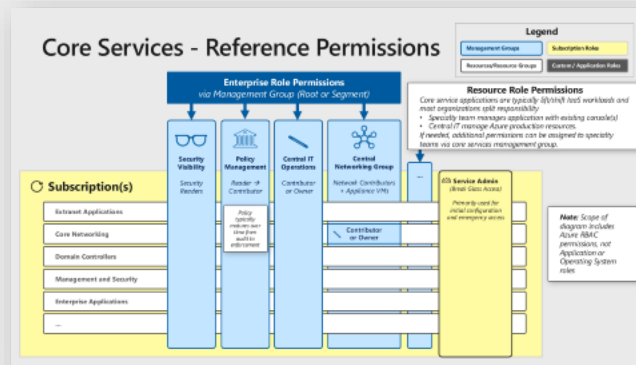
Governance – Access for Security Personnel

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



SECURITY TEAM VISIBILITY

- **What** – Provide security teams security visibility to all Azure resources
- **Why** – Security requires visibility in order to assess and report on risk
- **How** – Assign security teams *with Azure responsibilities* to the **Security Readers** role using either:
 - **Root management group (MG)** – for teams responsible for all Azure resources
 - **Segment MG** – for teams with limited scope (commonly because of regulatory or other organizational boundaries)



AZURE SECURITY CENTER ACCESS

- **What** – Provide access to Azure Security Center (ASC) for teams using this tool to remediate risk in Azure
- **Why** – Azure Security Center allows teams to quickly identify and remediate security risks
- **How** – Assign teams requiring access to ASC to the **security admins** role
 - **Set/enforce policies**
 - **Take actions** to [remediate recommendations](#)
- This can be assigned at the the root management group or segment management group(s) depending on the scope of responsibilities.

GRC – Insecure Legacy Protocols

BEST PRACTICE



DISABLE INSECURE PROTOCOLS

- **What** – Discover and disable the use of SMBv1, LM/NTLMv1, wDigest, Unsigned LDAP Binds, and Weak ciphers in Kerberos.
- **Why** – Authentication protocols are critical to nearly all security assurances. Attackers with access to your network can exploit weaknesses in older versions of these protocols.
- **How** –
 - **Discover** usage by reviewing logs with Azure Sentinel [Insecure Protocol Dashboard](#) or 3rd party tools
 - **Restrict or Disable** use of these protocols (recommend pilot/testing).
Guidance for [SMB](#), [NTLM](#), [WDigest](#)



Home > Azure Sentinel workspaces > Azure Sentinel - Dashboards

Azure Sentinel - Dashboards

Selected workspace: 'visualAuditing' - PREVIEW

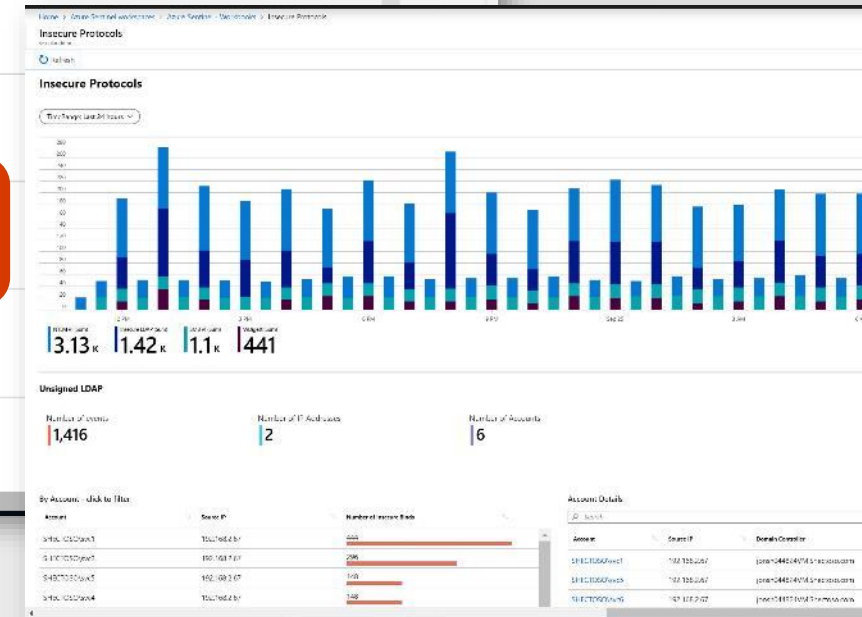
Search (Ctrl+/) Refresh

1 Installed 24 Not installed 0 Updates

Installed All

Search dashboards

- Exchange Online MICROSOFT
- FortiGate MICROSOFT
- Insecure Protocols MICROSOFT**
- Juniper MICROSOFT
- Linux machines MICROSOFT



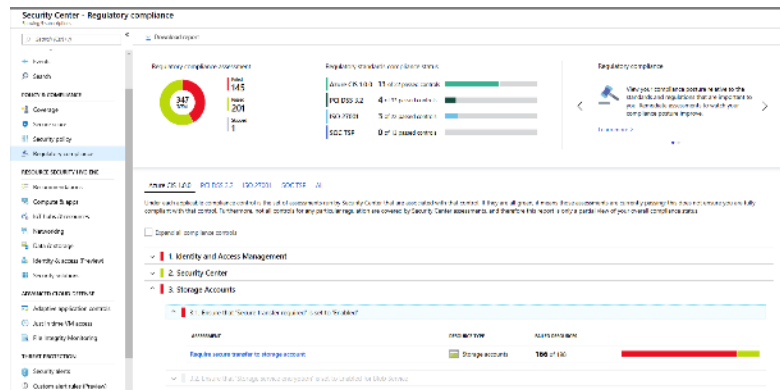
GRC – Compliance

GUIDANCE



REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

- **What** – Use Azure Security Center to report on compliance with regulatory standards



- **How** – <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-compliance-dashboard>



AZURE BLUEPRINTS

- **What** – Use Azure Blueprints to rapidly and consistently deploy compliant workloads
- **How** – [Azure Blueprint Service](#) automates deployment of environments including RBAC roles, policies, resources (VM/Net/Storage/etc.), and more. Several [Security and Compliance Blueprints](#) templates are available

Why – These capabilities help you stay compliant with regulatory standards

GRC – Benchmarks

GUIDANCE



EVALUATE USING BENCHMARKS

- **What** – Benchmark your organization's Azure security against external sources
- **Why** – External comparisons help validate and enrich your team's security strategy.
- **How** – Compare your configuration to guidance like Center for Internet Security (CIS) Benchmarks

Benchmark -

<https://www.cisecurity.org/benchmark/azure/>

ASC Compliance Check

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-compliance-dashboard>

Microsoft and CIS Partnership

Goal

Simplify and drive consistency in our customers' efforts to securely deploy workloads to Azure

Benefits

CIS brings independence and consensus driven approach

Benchmarks informed by Microsoft's experience & best practices



GRC – Azure Policy

GENERAL BEST PRACTICE

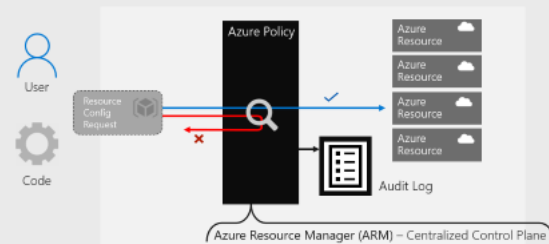


IMPLEMENT AZURE POLICY

- **What** – Use Azure policy to monitor and enforce your organization's security policy
- **Why** – Ensure compliance with your security strategy and/or regulatory security requirements across your Azure workloads.
- **How** – Follow the instructions in the Azure Policy documentation to plan and create policies

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/governance/policy/tutorials/create-and-manage>

How does Azure Policy work?



Policy lifecycle

| What drives your need for Policy? | Who owns policy definitions & implementation? | What is involved in defining a new Policy or refining an existing one? | What are the capabilities needed for this workflow? |
|--|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regulatory Compliance• Controlling cost• Maintain security and performance consistency• Enforce enterprise wide design principles | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Initiative" owners like Security Architect or Cloud Architect or Cloud Engineers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research or gather evidence on the impact of a particular configuration on a particular fundamental (like cost or security)• What-if analysis of enforcing configuration in a particular manner• Assess the current state of compliance to understand the impact of new policy and what exceptions are needed• Roll out new policy in phases• Understand the applications & teams who are non-compliant | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Checking on existing configurations for new policies• Compliance Reporting• Intuitive authoring experience• Ability to control more resource configurations in policy• Ability to test policy-on-demand to understand impact• Ability to remediate non-compliant configurations• Exception Handling |

Azure Policy Examples

From <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/governance/policy/samples/>

- **Require SQL Server 12.0:** This policy definition has conditions/rules to ensure that all SQL servers use version 12.0. Its effect is to deny all servers that do not meet these criteria.
- **Allowed Storage Account SKUs:** This policy definition has a set of conditions/rules that determine if a storage account that is being deployed is within a set of SKU sizes. Its effect is to deny all storage accounts that do not adhere to the set of defined SKU sizes.
- **Allowed Resource Type:** This policy definition has a set of conditions/rules to specify the resource types that your organization can deploy. Its effect is to deny all resources that are not part of this defined list.
- **Allowed Locations:** This policy enables you to restrict the locations that your organization can specify when deploying resources. Its effect is used to enforce your geo-compliance requirements.
- **Allowed Virtual Machine SKUs:** This policy enables you to specify a set of virtual machine SKUs that your organization can deploy.
- **Apply tag and its default value:** This policy applies a required tag and its default value, if it is not specified by the user.
- **Enforce tag and its value:** This policy enforces a required tag and its value to a resource.
- **Not allowed resource types:** This policy enables you to specify the resource types that your organization cannot deploy.

GRC – Elevated Security Capabilities

GENERAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE

Azure Customer Lockbox

Determine whether your personnel are required to review and approve or reject access requests from Microsoft support engineers where your data must be accessed to resolve a support issue.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security/fundamentals/customer-lockbox-overview>

A small number of regulatory bodies explicitly require specialized security measures.

While broadly available, these capabilities often increase overhead and cost.

Dedicated Hardware Security Modules (HSMs)

Identify whether you need to utilize dedicated Hardware Security Modules (HSMs) to meet regulatory or security requirements

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/dedicated-hsm/>

Confidential Computing

Identify whether you need to utilize Confidential Computing to meet regulatory or security requirements

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/azure-confidential-computing/>



Monitor Azure AD Risk Reports

Monitor your Azure AD Risk Reports for

- Risky sign-in
- Risky users

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/reports-monitoring/concept-risk-events>

Penetration Testing

Use Penetration Testing or Red Team activities to validate security defenses

<https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/mt784683>

Security Operations



Architecture guidance on this topic can be found at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/security/security-operations>

Microsoft's approach (from our SOC)

Enforce Quality + Apply Technology

Detect

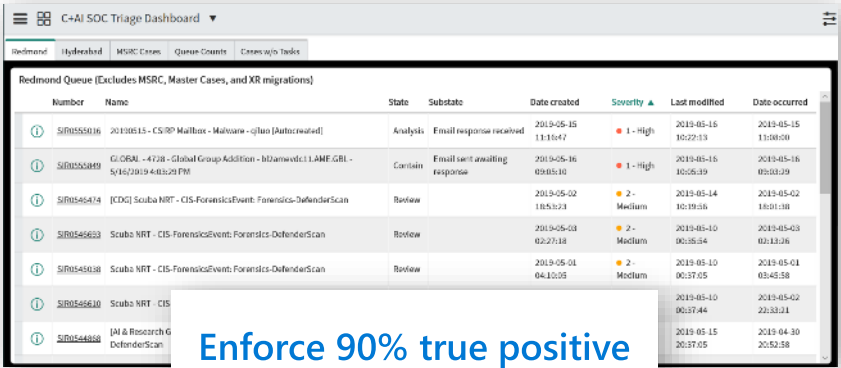
Respond

Billions of events per month



 Machine Learning
(Artificial Intelligence)

 Behavioral Analytics (UEBA)
(User and Entity)



| Number | Name | State | Substate | Date created | Severity | Last modified | Date occurred |
|------------|--|----------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| SIR055016 | 20190515 - CS-30 Mailbox - Malware - gluo [Auto-created] | Analysis | Email response received | 2019-05-15 11:16:47 | 1 - High | 2019-05-15 10:27:13 | 2019-05-15 11:08:00 |
| SIR055089 | CU:CEAL - 4728 - Global Group Addition - b2anwddc1.LAMF.GBL - 5/16/2019 4:43:29 PM | Contain | Email sent awaiting response | 2019-05-16 09:05:10 | 1 - High | 2019-05-16 10:05:39 | 2019-05-16 09:03:29 |
| SIR0546474 | [CDG] Scuba NRT - CIS-ForensicsEvent: Forensics-DefenderScan | Review | | 2019-05-02 18:51:23 | 2 - Medium | 2019-05-14 10:19:36 | 2019-05-02 18:01:08 |
| SIR0546633 | Scuba NRT - CIS-ForensicsEvent: Forensics-DefenderScan | Review | | 2019-05-03 02:27:18 | 2 - Medium | 2019-05-10 00:38:34 | 2019-05-03 02:13:26 |
| SIR0545638 | Scuba NRT - CIS-ForensicsEvent: Forensics-DefenderScan | Review | | 2019-05-01 04:12:05 | 2 - Medium | 2019-05-10 00:37:05 | 2019-05-01 02:45:58 |
| SIR0545610 | Scuba NRT - CIS | | | | | 2019-05-10 00:37:44 | 2019-05-02 22:33:21 |
| SIR0544658 | [AI & Research G DefenderScan | | | | | 2019-05-15 20:37:05 | 2019-04-30 20:52:58 |

Enforce 90% true positive on alert feeds



Focus on time to acknowledge and remediate

 Security Orchestration, Automation, and Remediation (SOAR)

Hundreds of investigations

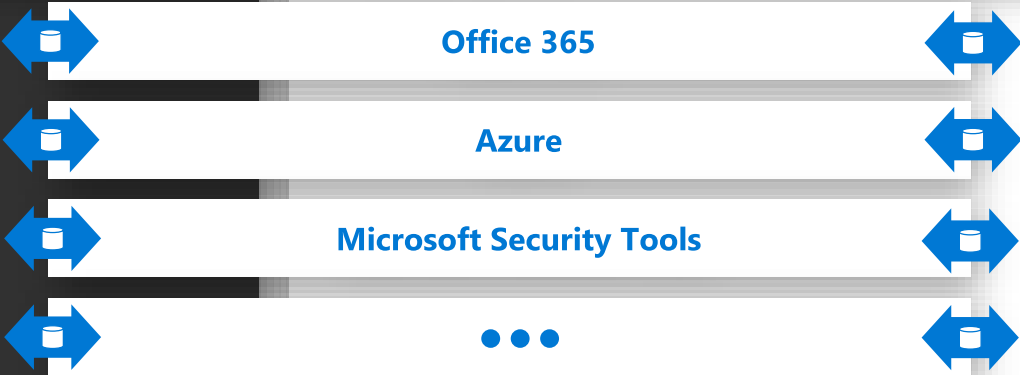
SIEM Integration

Existing SIEM
Microsoft provides APIs and connectors

AZURE SENTINEL
Built-in 1st & 3rd party connectors



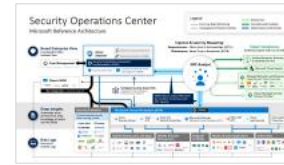
Log & Alert Integration
*Azure, Office 365,
Azure Advanced Threat
Protection (ATP),
Microsoft Defender ATP,
Microsoft Cloud App Security*



*Built in
connectors
varies depending
on SIEM vendor*



Integrated toolset for rapid threat remediation



SOC Reference Architecture

Microsoft Threat Protection

Cloud Native SIEM + SOAR - Azure Sentinel

Built on Azure Monitor, Logic Apps, and Microsoft's UEBA/ML Technology



ENDPOINT

Windows Defender ATP
Endpoint Detection & Response (EDR)



IDENTITY

Azure ATP + Azure AD
Identity Protection



SaaS

Office 365 Advanced
Threat Protection (ATP)
+ Cloud App Security



AZURE

Azure Security
Center



NETWORK



SERVERS



IAAS



OTHER

Event Log Data from Devices, Services, and Security Tools (3rd party and Microsoft)

Depth

- High quality alerts
- End to end investigation and remediation

Breadth

- Unified Alert Queue
- Customized Alerts

Centralized Visibility

Azure Security Center

Azure Sentinel



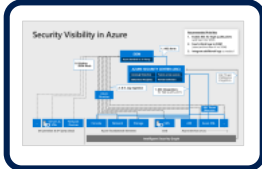
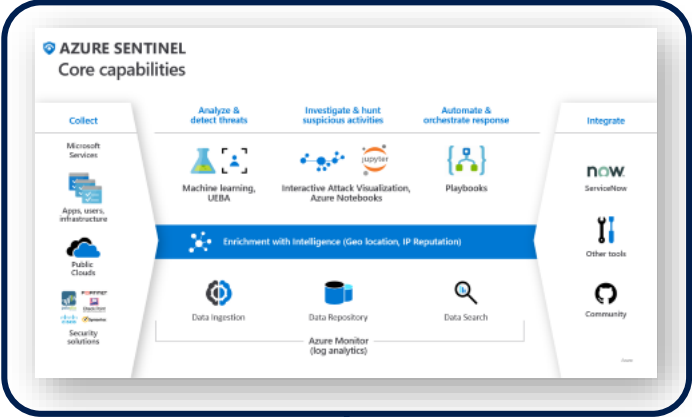
Assess Risk & Compliance



Implement Protections



Primary Console Alerts, Investigation



Log Flow

Generate Alerts



Identity



Endpoint



Cloud



Network



and more

Security Operations – Azure Alerts

CRITICAL GUIDANCE



ASC BUILT IN SECURITY ALERTS

- **What** – Enable Azure Security Center security Alerts
- **Why** – Azure Security Center provides actionable detections for common attack methods ([Alert List](#) depicted on this slide), which can save your team significant effort on query development.

These alerts are focused on high true positive rate by leveraging Microsoft's [extensive threat intelligence](#), advanced machine learning, industry leading Endpoint Detection & Response (EDR) ([MITRE report](#)), and other approaches.

- **How** – Enable Azure Security Center (Recommend Standard Tier) <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-get-started>



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE

Azure Security Center Alerts

Virtual Machine Behavioral Analysis (VMBA)

Event analysis

Security Center uses advanced analytics to identify compromised resources based on analysis of virtual machine event logs. For example, Process Creation Events and Login Events. In addition, there is correlation with other signals to check for supporting evidence of a widespread campaign.

- Suspicious process execution detected: Attackers often try to execute malicious code without detection by masquerading as benign processes. These alerts indicate that a process execution matched one of the following patterns:
 - A process known to be used for malicious purposes was executed based on an aggregation of these commands.
 - A process was executed from an anomalous location.
 - A process was executed from a location in common with known malware.
 - A process was executed from a suspicious path.
 - A process was executed in an abnormal context.
 - A process was executed by an unusual account.
 - A process with a suspicious extension was executed.
 - A process with a suspicious double extension was executed.
 - A process with a suspicious right-to-left (RTL) character in its name.
 - A process whose name is similar to but different from a common process.
 - A process whose name corresponds to a known attacker tool.
 - A process with a random name was executed.
 - A process with a suspicious extension was executed.
 - A hidden file was executed.
 - A process was executed as a child of another unrelated process.
 - An unusual process was created by a system process.
 - An anomalous process was launched by the Windows update service.
 - A process was executed with an unusual command line. This could indicate the execution of malicious content.
- An attempt to start an executable (.exe) in a directory was detected.
- A process was executed by PowerShell, which can be used to launch malicious commands.
- The Apache Tomcat® Server executable (Tomcat.exe) was used to launch malicious commands.
- The Microsoft Windows "Program Compatibility Assistant" (pca.exe) was executed.
- A suspicious process termination event was detected.
- The system process "svchost" was executed in an abnormal context.
- The system process "svchost" was executed in a rare service.
- A suspicious command line was executed.
- A PowerShell script file characteristics in common with known malware.
- A known malicious PowerShell command was executed.
- A built-in SQL user executed a process in a normally volatile context.
- A base-64 encoded executable was detected, which could indicate an executable on-the-fly through a sequence of commands.

Security incident details

| Alert Name | Severity | Time | Location | Category |
|---|----------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| PowerShell script file characteristics in common with known malware | High | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| Attempt to start an executable (.exe) in a directory | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| A process was executed by PowerShell, which can be used to launch malicious commands | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| The Apache Tomcat® Server executable (Tomcat.exe) was used to launch malicious commands | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| The Microsoft Windows "Program Compatibility Assistant" (pca.exe) was executed | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| A suspicious process termination event was detected | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| The system process "svchost" was executed in an abnormal context | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| The system process "svchost" was executed in a rare service | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| A suspicious command line was executed | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| A PowerShell script file characteristics in common with known malware | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| A known malicious PowerShell command was executed | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| A built-in SQL user executed a process in a normally volatile context | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |
| A base-64 encoded executable was detected, which could indicate an executable on-the-fly through a sequence of commands | Medium | 2023-10-27 10:15:00 | US West | Malware |

Contextual Information

If additional information is available, it will be shown in the Security incident below the list of alerts. This could include:

- Log client events
- PHP device plugged from unknown device
- Alerts that are not actionable
- New account creation
- File encoded using certutil tool

SQL Database & Data Warehouse Analysis

Security Center resource analysis focuses on platforms as a service (PaaS) services, such as the integration with Threat Detection for Azure SQL Database and Azure SQL Data Warehouse. Threat Detection detects anomalous activities indicating unusual and potentially harmful attempts to access or exploit database and triggers the following alerts:

- **Vulnerability to SQL injection:** This alert is triggered when an application generates a faulty SQL statement in the database. This may indicate a possible vulnerability to SQL injection attacks. There are two possible reasons for the generation of a faulty statement:
 - A defect in application code that constructs the faulty SQL statement.
 - Application code or stored procedures don't sanitize user input when constructing the faulty SQL statement, which may be exploited for SQL injection.
- **Repetitive SQL injection:** This alert is triggered when an active exploit happens against an identified application vulnerability to SQL injection. This means the attacker is trying to inject malicious SQL statements using the vulnerable application code or stored procedures.
- **Access from unusual location:** Someone has logged on to a new application or external endpoint.
- **Access from unusual Azure region:** Someone has logged on to a recent period. In some cases, the alert is triggered in other cases, the alert is triggered in other cases, the alert is triggered in other cases.
- **Access from unfamiliar IP:** Someone has logged on to a new application or external endpoint.
- **Access from a potentially hijacked database:** In some cases, common attack tools.
- **Brute force SQL credentials:** In some cases, the alert is triggered in other cases, the alert is triggered in other cases.

Network Analysis

- **Suspicious incoming RDP network activity from multiple sources:** Network traffic analysis detected anomalous incoming Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) communication to your machine, which is considered abnormal for this environment. This activity may indicate an attempt to brute force your RDP end point.
- **Suspicious incoming RDP network activity:** Network traffic analysis detected anomalous incoming Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) communication. Specifically, compiled network data shows a high number of incoming connections to your machine, which is considered abnormal for this environment. This activity may indicate an attempt to brute force your RDP end point.
- **Suspicious outgoing RDP network activity to multiple destinations:** Network traffic analysis detected anomalous outgoing Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) communication to multiple destinations. This activity may indicate that your machine was compromised and is now used to brute force external RDP end points. Note that this type of activity could possibly cause your IP to be flagged as malicious by external entities.
- **Suspicious outgoing RDP network activity:** Network traffic analysis detected anomalous outgoing Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) communication. Specifically, compiled network data shows a high number of outgoing connections from your machine, which is considered abnormal for this environment. This activity may indicate that your machine was compromised and is now used to brute force external RDP end points. Note that this type of activity could possibly cause your IP to be flagged as malicious by external entities.
- **Suspicious incoming SSH network activity from multiple sources:** Network traffic analysis detected anomalous incoming SSH communication to your machine, which is considered abnormal for this environment. This activity may indicate an attempt to brute force your SSH end point.
- **Suspicious incoming SSH network activity:** Network traffic analysis detected anomalous incoming SSH communication. Specifically, compiled network data shows a high number of incoming connections to your machine, which is considered abnormal for this environment. This activity may indicate that your machine was compromised and is now used to brute force external SSH end points. Note that this type of activity could possibly cause your IP to be flagged as malicious by external entities.
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- **Network communication with a malicious machine detected:** Network traffic analysis indicates that your machine has communicated with what is possibly a Command and Control center.
- **Possible compromised machine detected:** Network traffic analysis detected outgoing activity, which may indicate it is acting as part of a botnet. The analysis is based on IP's accessed by your resource together with public DNS records.

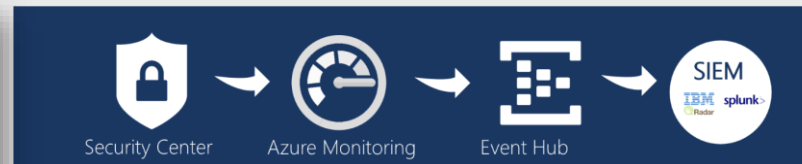
Security Operations – Alert & Log Integration

GENERAL GUIDANCE



NOW - ALERT INTEGRATION

- **What** – Integrate Alerts from Azure Security Center into your existing SIEM (if you are currently using one).
- **Why** – Organizations use SIEMs as a central clearinghouse for security alerts that require an analyst to respond
- **How** – Follow these instructions <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-export-data-to-siem>
- Alternately, you can use Azure Security Center for central security dashboard function if
 - You don't have a SIEM
 - Your teams desire/require a console focused on Azure resources



NOW - CRITICAL LOGS

- **What** – Integrate Azure logs with your SIEM (or archive logs if no SIEM)
- **Why** – These logs enable security incident investigation and enable you to query data prior to the online log retention period of the service.
- **How** – Use [Azure Monitor](#) to gather logs



CRITICAL LOGS



AZURE MONITOR



LATER - ADDITIONAL LOGS

- **What** – When required, integrate additional Azure service logs for Azure platform and services into your SIEM
- **Why** – Additional Logs may be required for investigation and for generating customized alerts for applications and Azure service usage.
- **How** – Follow these instructions and guidance to onboard appropriate logs

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security/azure-log-audit>

Security Operations – Journey to Cloud Analytics

CRITICAL CHOICE



CLOUD ANALYTICS STRATEGY

- **What** – Choose when and how to integrate cloud-based security analytics/SIEM (such as Azure Sentinel, ELK stack, etc.)
- **Why** – As more enterprise services generate security data in the cloud, hauling this data back to on premises becomes expensive and inefficient. This '[Data Gravity](#)' will increasingly require security analytics to be hosted in the cloud as you migrate workloads.
- **How** – Ensure your strategy for security analytics & SIEM plans for this transition and includes thresholds & timing for progression into each phase.

3. Cloud Native Architecture

Security analytics and storage use native cloud services.

Benefits of native cloud analytics may also accelerate transition plans (advanced capabilities, simplified management, etc.)

2. Side by Side Architecture

Separate event log stores and analytics engines

- *On premises for local resources*
- *Cloud based analytics for cloud resources*

Integration can be done at the level of

- **Alerts** – using [Microsoft Graph Security API](#)
- **Incidents** – using case management tooling

Can be Native Cloud Analytics (recommended) or Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) SIEM. Native is recommended over IaaS because of reduced infrastructure management

1. On-Premises SIEM Architecture

Classic model with on-premises analytics & database

Hybrid Architecture can Function as either a

- **Transition State**
- **Permanent State**

Security Operations

GENERAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



Have analysts learn new authentication flows

Many analysts may be unfamiliar with how newer authentication protocols like OAuth, SAML, and WS-Federation work. Ensure analysts get familiar with these protocols as they are different than on premises protocols like NTLM and Kerberos



Prioritize critical impact admin accounts

Ensure your SOC processes prioritize attacks on critical impact admins that could have a significant business impact if compromised. Prioritization should include admin only elements like Azure AD PIM as well as prioritizing general detections that include admin users like leaked credentials, behavior analytics, etc.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/reports-monitoring/howto-integrate-activity-logs-with-sumologic>



On-Premises Identity Attack Detection

Attackers frequently use pass the hash/ticket/password and other credential theft/impersonation attacks which can affect Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) Virtual Machines (VMs). Azure Security Center includes some detections on Azure, but you should also consider specialized identity security tools such as Azure ATP or a 3rd party solution (which can also protect on-premises components).

Identity and Access Management

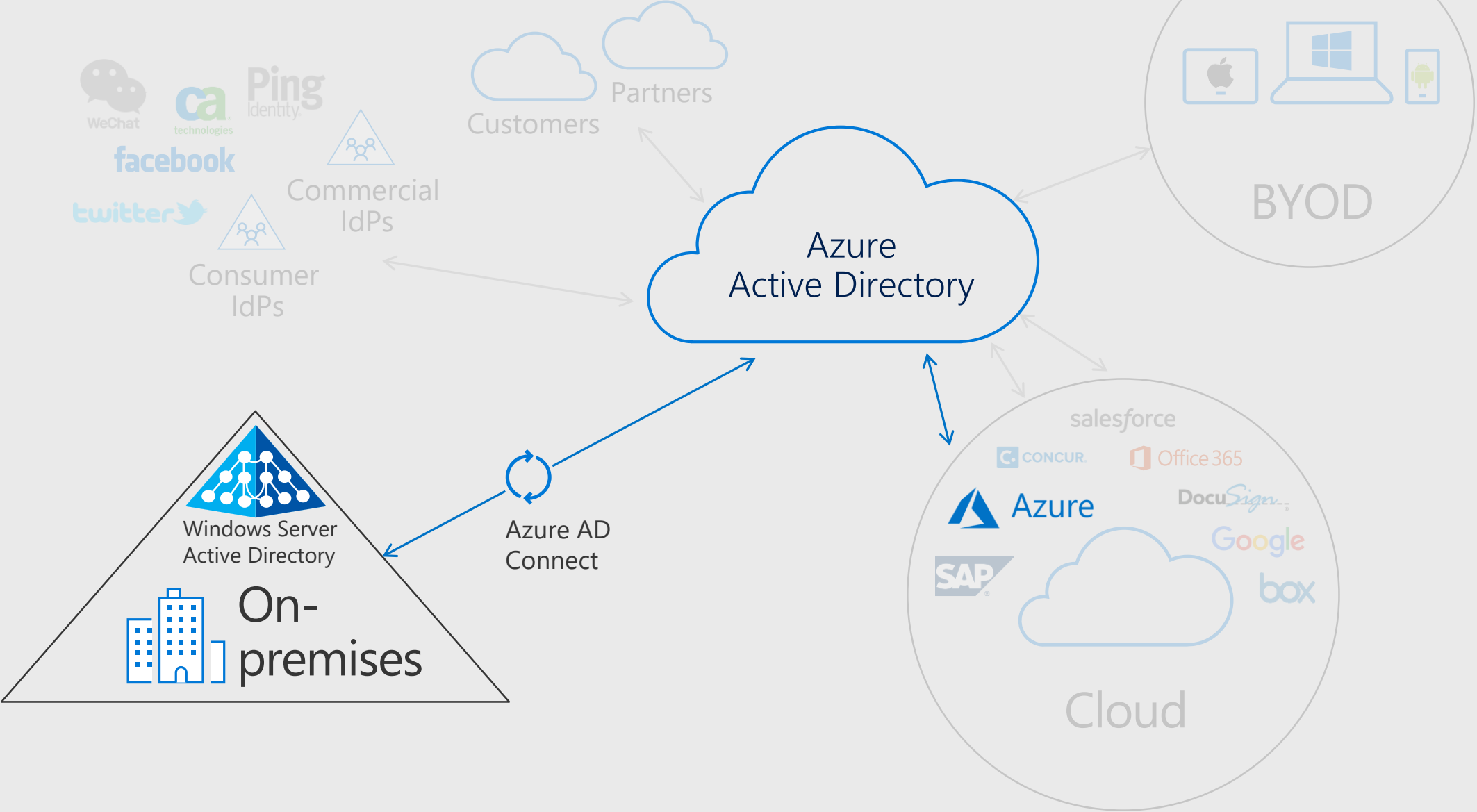


Architecture guidance on this topic can be found at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/security/identity>

Identity as the Control Plane

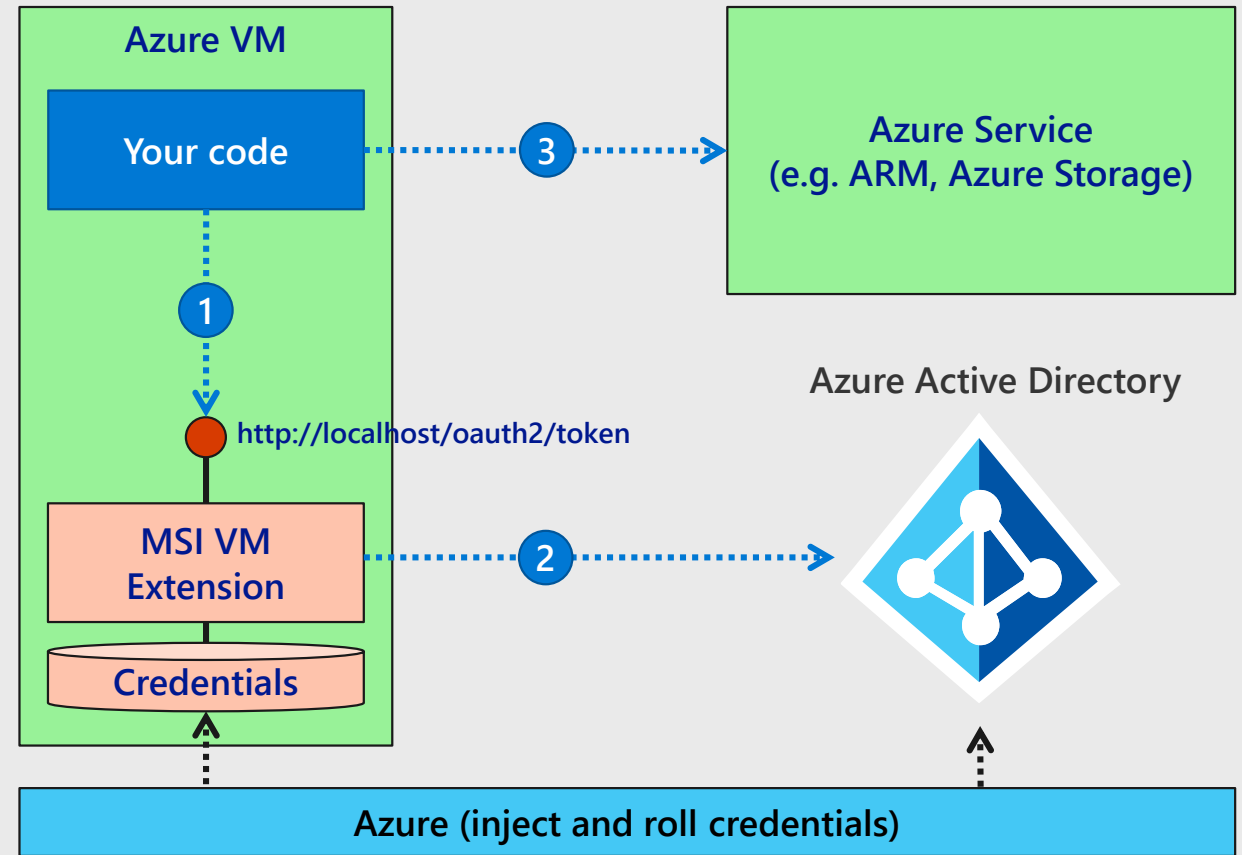
Single Sign-On and Zero Trust Access Control Across Your Enterprise



Managed identities for Azure resources

- Simplifies authentication/security for developers (vs. service principals)
 - Authenticate to services without inserting credentials into code
 - *Target Service must support Azure AD authentication*
 - E.g. Allow (code running on) a specific VM to access Azure Key Vault, Storage Account, Azure SQL, etc.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/managed-identities-azure-resources/overview>

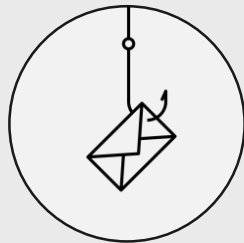


Top 3 Attacks



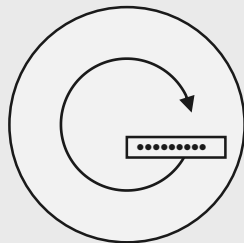
Password Spray

200,000 accounts compromised in Aug 2018
(Primarily via legacy AuthN protocols)



Phishing

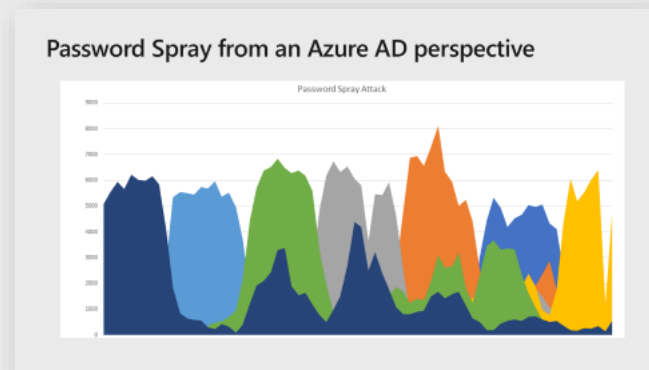
5B emails blocked in 2018
44M risk events in Aug 2018



Breach Replay

650,000 accounts with leaked credentials in 2018

Password Spray



Typical Attack

1. Attempt a common password used against many, many accounts.
(stay below account lockout threshold)
2. After successful login, dump the GAL.
3. Start pivoting in environment.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Josi@contoso.com | Password123 |
| Chance@wingtiptoy.com | Password123 |
| Rami@fabrikam.com | Password123 |
| TomH@cohowinery.com | Password123 |
| AnitaM@cohovineyard.com | Password123 |
| EitokuK@cpandl.com | Password123 |
| Ramanujan@Adatum.com | Password123 |
| Maria@Treyresearch.net | Password123 |
| LC@adventure-works.com | Password123 |
| EW@alpineskihouse.com | Password123 |
| info@blueyonderairlines.com | Password123 |
| Ailis@fourthcoffee.com | Password123 |
| MM39@litwareinc.com | Password123 |
| Margie@margiestravel.com | Password123 |
| Ling-Pi997@proseware.com | Password123 |
| PabloP@fineartschool.net | Password123 |
| GiseleD@tailspintoys.com | Password123 |
| Luly@worldwideimporters.com | Password123 |
| Bjorn@woodgrovebank.com | Password123 |
| NK@lucernepublishing.com | Password123 |

Identity – Consistency

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



SINGLE ENTERPRISE DIRECTORY

- **What** – Establish a single enterprise Azure Active Directory (Azure AD) instance
- **How** – Designate a single Azure AD directory as the authoritative source for corporate/organizational accounts.



SYNCHRONIZE WITH ACTIVE DIRECTORY & IDENTITY SYSTEMS

- **What** – Synchronize Azure AD with your existing on-premises AD
- **How** – Leverage Azure AD connect to synchronize with on premises AD and any identity management systems
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/connect/active-directory-aadconnect>



AZURE AD FOR APPLICATIONS

- **What** – For new development, use Azure AD for consistent authentication
- **How** – Use appropriate capabilities to support authentication needs :
 - [Azure AD](#) – Employees
 - [Azure AD B2B](#) – Partners
 - [Azure AD B2C](#) - Customers/citizens

- **Why** – Consistency and single authoritative sources will increase clarity and reduce security risk from human errors and configuration/automation complexity.

Identity

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



BLOCK LEGACY AUTHENTICATION

- **What** – Block legacy authentication protocols for Azure AD
- **Why** – Weaknesses in older protocols are actively exploited by attackers daily, particularly for bypassing MFA and for password spray attacks (majority use legacy auth)
- **How** – Configure Conditional Access to block legacy protocols

<https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/Azure-Active-Directory-Identity/Azure-AD-Conditional-Access-support-for-blocking-legacy-auth-is/ba-p/245417>

For more information

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGk0J4z90GI>



DON'T SYNCH AD ADMINS

- **What** – Don't synchronize accounts to Azure AD that have high privileges in your existing Active Directory
- **Why** – This mitigates the risk of adversaries pivoting from cloud to on premises assets (creating a potential major incident).
- **How** – This is blocked by default. Do not change the default Azure AD Connect configuration that filters out these accounts

See also the converse guidance in Administration section:

- **Critical Impact Admin - Account**
- **Critical Impact Admin - Workstation**

Identity – Password Synchronization

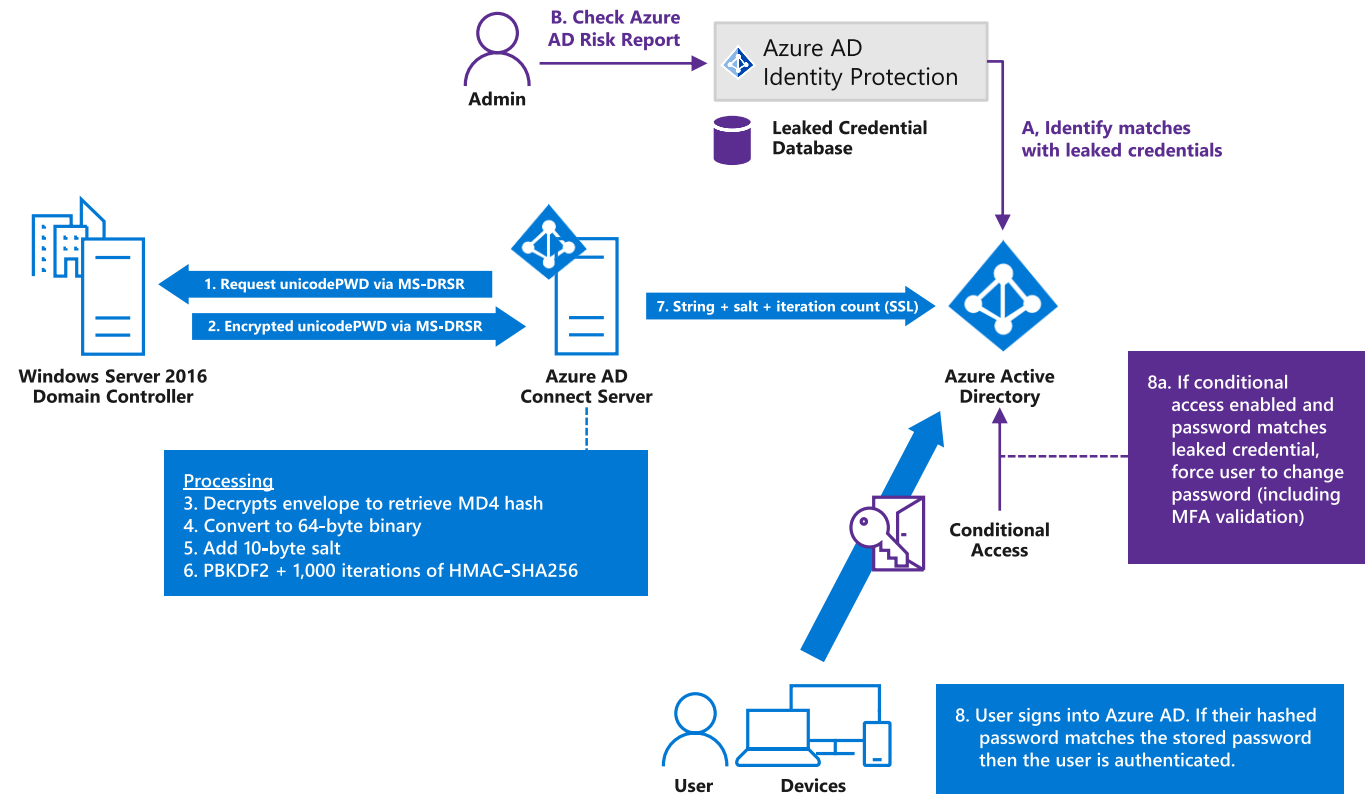
CRITICAL BEST PRACTICE



SYNCHRONIZE PASSWORD HASHES

- **What** – Synchronize your user password hashes from on-premises Active Directory instance to Azure Active Directory (Azure AD).
- **Why** – This increases both
 - **Security** - Protects against leaked credentials being replayed from previous attacks
 - **Reliability** - Customers affected by (Not)Petya attacks were able to continue business operations when password hashes were synced to Azure AD (vs. near zero IT functionality for customers who did not)
- **How** – Configure Azure AD Connect to synchronize password hashes

<https://docs.microsoft.com/azure/active-directory/connect/active-directory-aadconnectsync-implement-password-hash-synchronization>



Identity – Password Protection from Cloud

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



AZURE AD PASSWORD PROTECTION

- **What** – Choose the level of password protection in Azure Active Directory
- **Why** – Static on-premises defenses capabilities can no longer protect password-based accounts.
 - **Microsoft** - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/publication/password-guidance/>
 - **NIST** - <https://pages.nist.gov/800-63-3/sp800-63b.html>

[Passwordless](#) solutions are ideal and MFA can help, but password-based accounts must be protected

How – Choose protection for Azure AD Passwords

2. Automatic Enforcement

Automatically remediate high risk passwords with Conditional Access (leveraging Azure AD Identity Protection risk assessments)

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/identity-protection/overview>

1. Report & Remediate

View reports and manually remediate accounts

- **Azure AD reporting** - Risk events are part of Azure AD's security reports. For more information, see the [users at risk security report](#) and the [risky sign-ins security report](#).
- **Azure AD Identity Protection** - Risk events are also part of the reporting capabilities of [Azure Active Directory Identity Protection](#).
- Use the [Identity Protection risk events API](#) to gain programmatic access to security detections using Microsoft Graph.

~~0. Do Nothing (Not Recommended)~~

Identity

GENERAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



AZURE AD FOR LINUX LOGIN

Use Azure Active Directory for authenticating to Linux VMs to simplify management and security

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/linux/login-using-aad>



CLOUD PROTECTION FOR ON PREMISES ACTIVE DIRECTORY

Protect passwords in your on-premises AD using Azure AD

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/authentication/concept-password-ban-bad-on-premises>

Administration



Architecture guidance on this topic can be found at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/security/critical-impact-accounts>

Highest Protection for Highest Privileges

Critical Impact Accounts in Azure

1. Administrative Privileges

- **Global Azure AD Admins + Azure Tenant Admins**

2. Data Access

- **Groups & Accounts** with read/write/delete access to business-critical data

3. Operational Access

- **Groups & Accounts** with control of business-critical systems

*Owners & Admins of Management Groups/Subscriptions containing

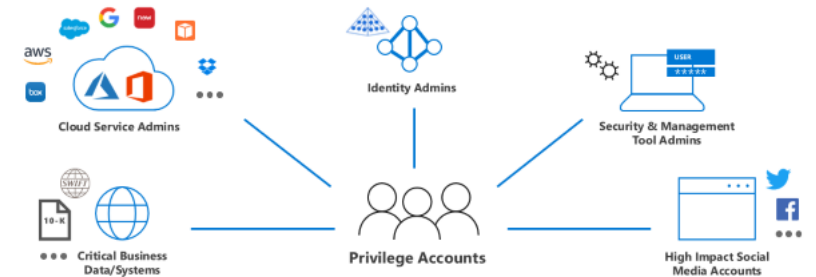
- Shared Services
- Business Critical Apps

Most guidance in this section refers to protecting IT Admin accounts

You should consider applying similar procedures to other admins as well

Privileged Access is more than Administrators

Protect high impact accounts/roles



Admin – Quantity

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



LEAST NUMBER OF CRITICAL IMPACT ADMINS

- **What** – Grant the fewest number of accounts to groups with critical business impact

- **Why** – Each admin account represents potential attack surface and business risk

How –

- Assign at least 2 accounts for business continuity



- When 2+ accounts, provide justification for each



- Regularly review members & justification



Tips

- Grant only required privileges (using built in RBAC roles) vs. global admin and segment owner roles
- For people outside your organization, use [AAD B2B Collaboration](#) instead of personal or corporate accounts

Admin – Accounts

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



MANAGED ACCOUNTS FOR ADMINS

- **What** – Ensure all critical impact admins are managed Azure AD accounts
- **Why** – This provides enterprise visibility into whether the policies of the organization and any regulatory requirements are followed.
- **How** – Ensure all critical impact admins are in your enterprise Azure AD. Remove any consumer accounts from these roles (e.g. Microsoft accounts like @Hotmail.com, @live.com, @outlook.com, etc.)



SEPARATE ACCOUNTS FOR ADMINS

- **What** – Ensure all critical impact admins have a separate account for administrative tasks
- **Why** – Adversaries regularly use phishing and web browser attacks to compromise administrative accounts.
- **How** – Create a separate administrative account for critical privileges. For these accounts, block productivity tools like Office 365 email ([remove license](#)) and arbitrary web browsing (with proxy and/or application controls if available)

Admin – Emergency Access

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICE



BREAK GLASS ACCESS

- **What** – Ensure you have a mechanism for obtaining emergency administrative access
- **Why** – Provide access in the event of where normal administrative accounts can't be used (federation unavailable, etc.)
- **How** – Follow the instructions at [Managing emergency access administrative accounts in Azure AD](#) and ensure that security operations monitors these accounts carefully



Admin – Attack Pivot Risk

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICE

See identity section for converse guidance “Don’t Synch AD Admins”



CRITICAL IMPACT ADMIN - ACCOUNT

- **What** – For critical impact accounts, carefully choose the account type and directory



CRITICAL IMPACT ADMIN - WORKSTATION

- **What** – For critical impact accounts, choose whether the admin workstation they use will be managed by cloud services or existing on-premises processes

- **Why** – Leveraging existing management and identity de/provisioning processes can decrease some risk, but can also create risk of an attacker compromising an on-premises account and pivoting to the cloud. You may choose a different strategy for different roles (e.g. IT admins vs. business unit admins)

DEFAULT RECOMMENDATION

Native Azure AD Accounts

Create Native Azure AD Accounts that are not synchronized with on-premises Active Directory



Native Cloud Management & Protection

- Join to Azure AD & Manage/Patch with Intune/other
- Protect and Monitor with Windows Defender ATP/other

Synchronize from On Premises Active Directory

Leverage existing administrative roles



Manage with Existing Systems

Join AD domain & leverage existing management/security

Administration – Account protection

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



PASSWORDLESS OR MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION FOR ADMINS

- **What** – Require all critical impact admins to be passwordless (preferred) or require MFA.
- **Why** – Passwords cannot protect accounts against common attacks.
<https://channel9.msdn.com/events/ignite/Microsoft-Ignite-Orlando-2017/BRK3016>
- **How** –
 - **Passwordless (Windows Hello)**
<http://aka.ms/HelloForBusiness>
 - **Passwordless (Authenticator App)**
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/authentication/howto-authentication-phone-sign-in>
 - **Multifactor Authentication**
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/authentication/howto-mfa-userstates>
 - **3rd Party MFA Solution**



NO STANDING ACCESS

- **What** – No standing access for critical impact admins
- **Why** – Permanent privileges increase business risk by increasing attack surface of accounts (time)
- **How** –
 - **Just in Time** - Enable Azure AD PIM or 3rd party solution) for all of these accounts
 - **Break glass** – Process for accounts (preferred for low use accounts like global admin)

Note: Text Message based MFA is now relatively inexpensive for attackers to bypass, so focus on passwordless & stronger MFA

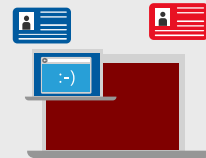
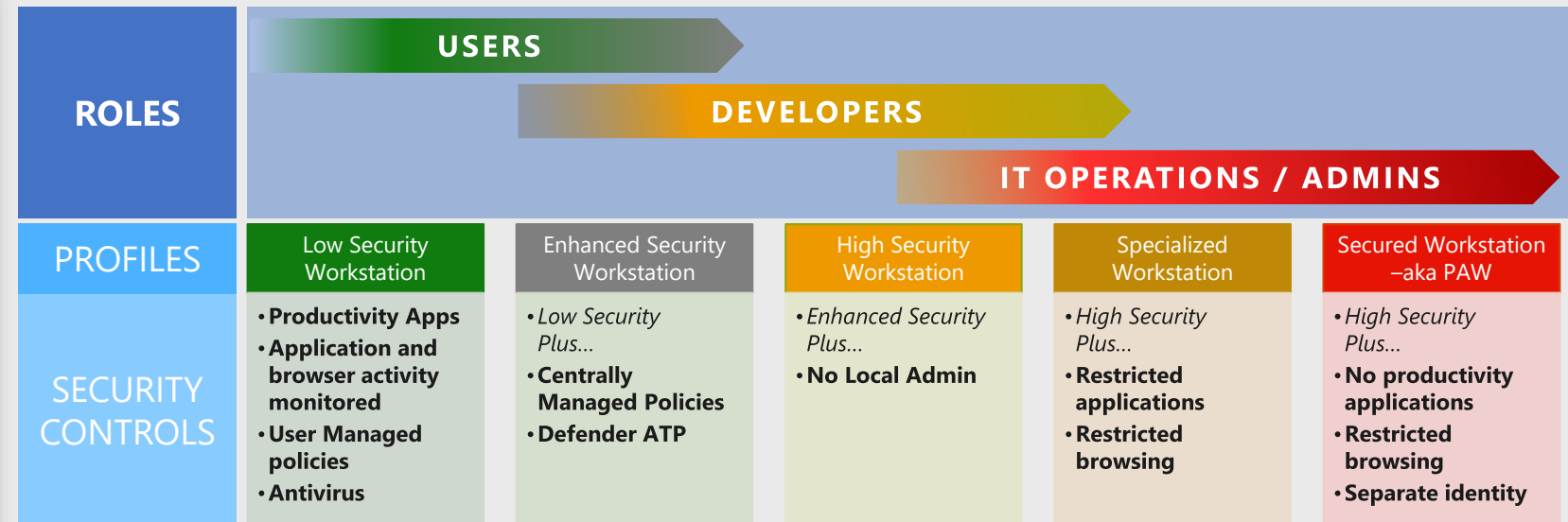
Admin – Workstation Security

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



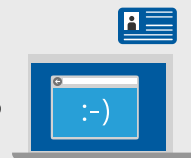
ADMIN WORKSTATION SECURITY

- **What** – For critical impact admins, choose what admin workstation security level to start with (and when you will progress to full admin workstations)
- **Why** – Attack vectors that use browsing and email (like phishing) are cheap and common. Isolating critical impact admins from these will significantly lower your risk of a major incident
- **How** – Choose level of admin workstation security (using either Microsoft security capabilities or equivalent from 3rd party security providers)



Virtualization

OR



Physical Separation



Secure Workstation Documentation

Overview- <http://aka.ms/SWoverview>

Implementation - <http://aka.ms/secureworkstation>

Admin – Conditional access

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICE



BEST PRACTICE

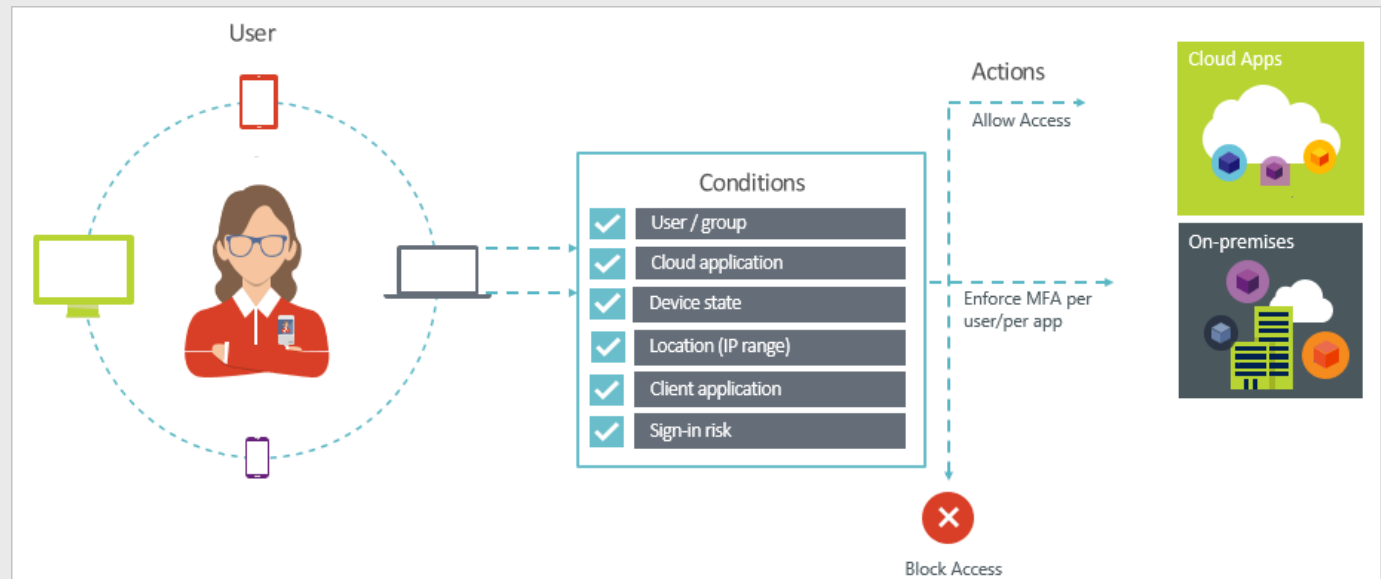


CHOICE



ENFORCE ACCESS SECURITY

- **What** – Choose security requirements to enforce for admins managing Azure
- **Why** – Attackers compromising Azure Admin accounts can cause significant harm. Conditional Access can significantly reduce that risk by enforcing security hygiene before allowing access to Azure management
- **How** – Configure [Conditional Access policy for Azure management](#) that meets your organizations risk appetite and operational needs
 - **Require Multifactor Authentication** and/or connection from designated work network
 - **Require Device [integrity with Windows Defender ATP](#)** (Strong Assurance)



More information on Conditional Access:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/conditional-access/overview>

Admin – Simplify Permissions

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



USE BUILT IN ROLES

- **What** – Use built-in roles for assigning permissions
- **Why** – Customization leads to complexity that inhibits human understanding, security, automation, and governance.
- **How** – Evaluate the [built-in roles](#) designed to cover most common scenarios.

[Custom roles](#) are a powerful and sometimes useful capability, but they should be reserved for cases when built in roles won't work



AVOID GRANULAR AND CUSTOM PERMISSIONS

- **What** – Avoid permissions specifically referencing resources or users
- **Why** – Specific permissions create unneeded complexity and confusion, accumulating into a “legacy” configuration that is difficult to fix (without fear of “breaking something”)
- **How** –
 - 🚫 **Avoid Resource specific permissions** – Instead, you should use
 - ➡ **Management Groups** for enterprise wide permissions
 - ➡ **Resource groups** for permissions within subscriptions
 - 🚫 **Avoid user specific permissions** – Instead, you should
 - ➡ **Assign access to groups in Azure AD.**
 - If there isn't an appropriate group, work with the identity team to create one
 - This allows you to add and remove group members externally to Azure and ensure permissions are current, while also allowing the group to be used for other purposes such as mailing lists.

Admin – Account Lifecycle

GENERAL GUIDANCE

Automatic deprovisioning



Ensure you have a process for disabling or deleting administrative accounts when admin personnel leave the organization (or leave administrative positions)

See also “Regularly Review Critical Access” in *Governance, Risk, and Compliance* section

Attack Simulation



Regularly test administrative users using current attack techniques to educate and empower them. You can use Office 365 Attack Simulation capabilities or a 3rd party offering

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/office365/securitycompliance/attack-simulator>

Network Security & Containment



Architecture guidance on this topic can be found at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/security/network-security-containment>

Azure Networking Services

Virtual Network

Virtual WAN

ExpressRoute

VPN

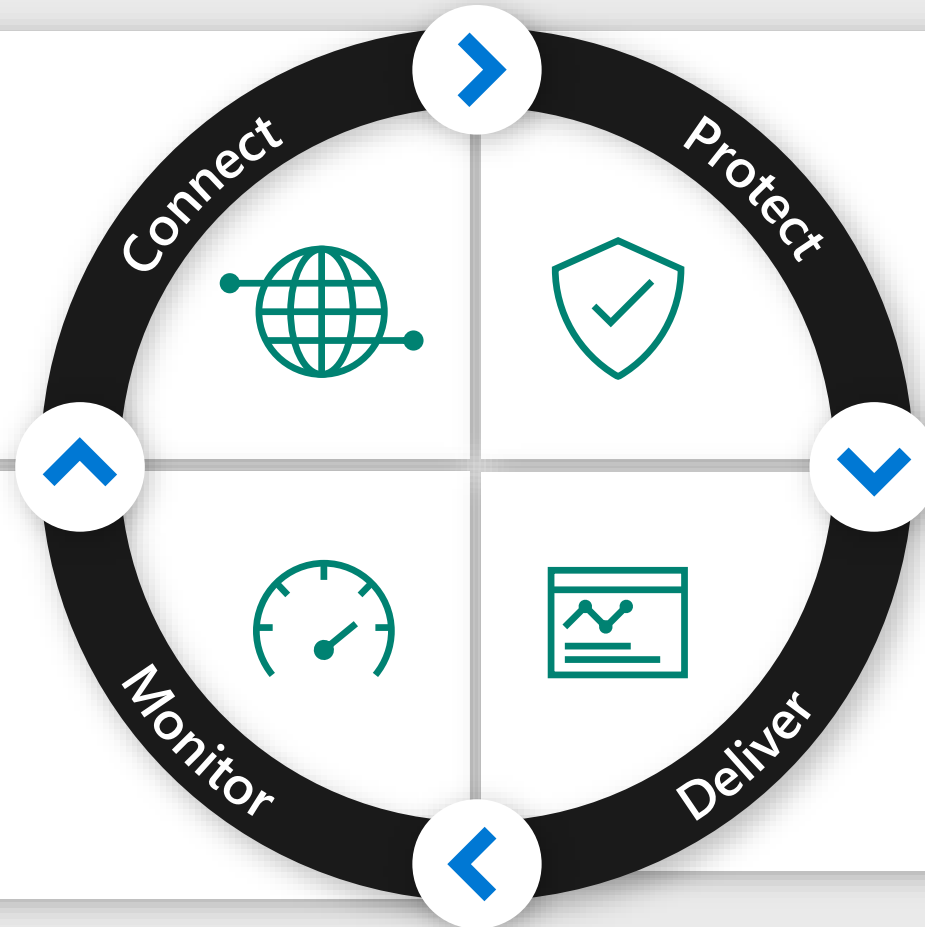
DNS

Network Watcher

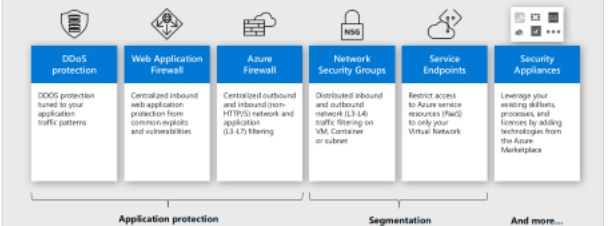
ExpressRoute Monitor

Azure Monitor

Virtual Network TAP



Network protection services



CDN

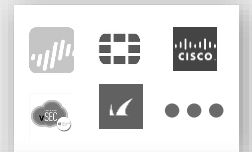
Front Door

Traffic Manager

Application Gateway

Load Balancer

Network protection services



DDoS protection

DDoS protection tuned to your application traffic patterns

Web Application Firewall

Centralized inbound web application protection from common exploits and vulnerabilities

Azure Firewall

Centralized outbound and inbound (non-HTTP/S) network and application (L3-L7) filtering

Network Security Groups

Distributed inbound and outbound network (L3-L4) traffic filtering on VM, Container or subnet

Service Endpoints

Restrict access to Azure service resources (PaaS) to only your Virtual Network

Security Appliances

Leverage your existing skillsets, processes, and licenses by adding technologies from the Azure Marketplace

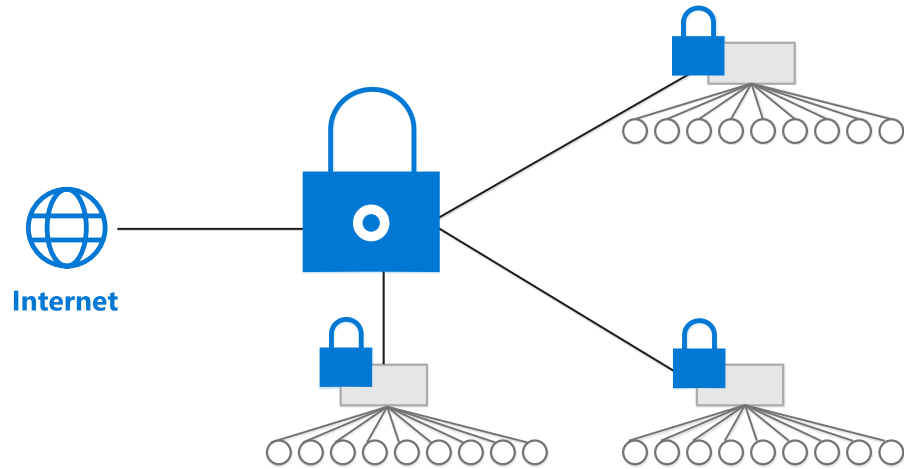
Application protection

Segmentation

And more...

Physical vs. Software Defined Networking

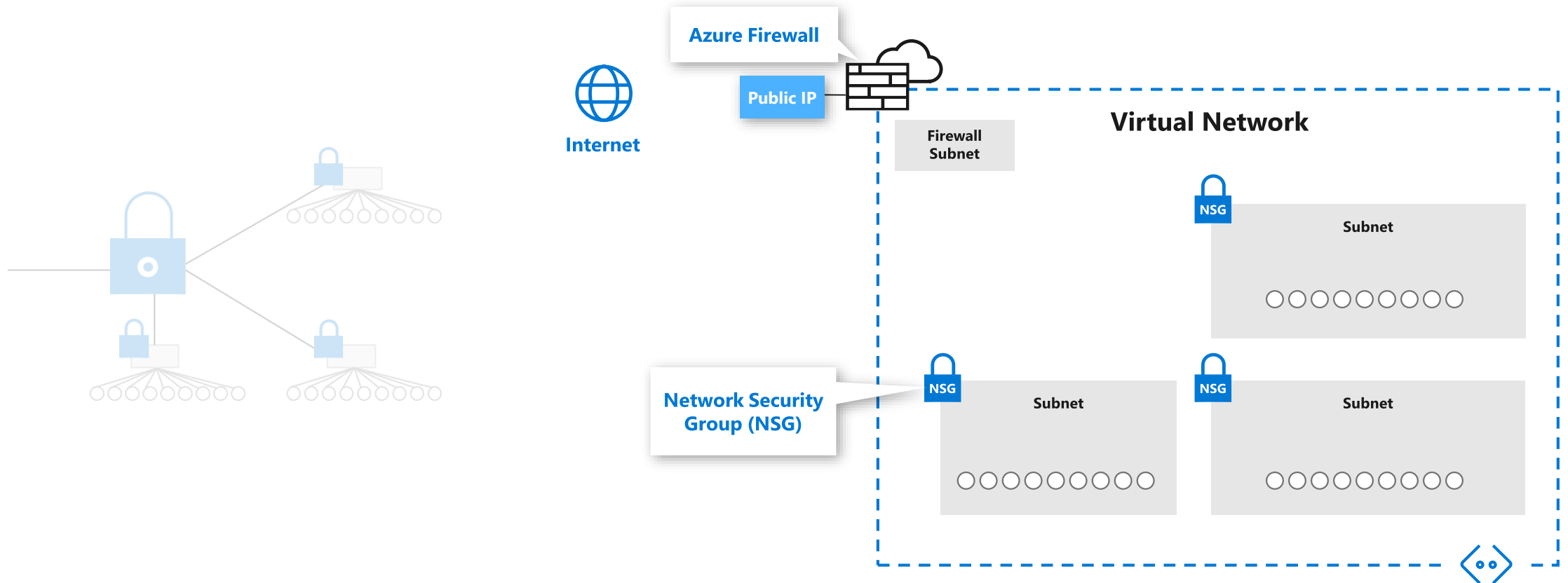
Intercept points  Controls on groups of assets



Physical vs. Software Defined Networking

Intercept points

Controls on groups of assets

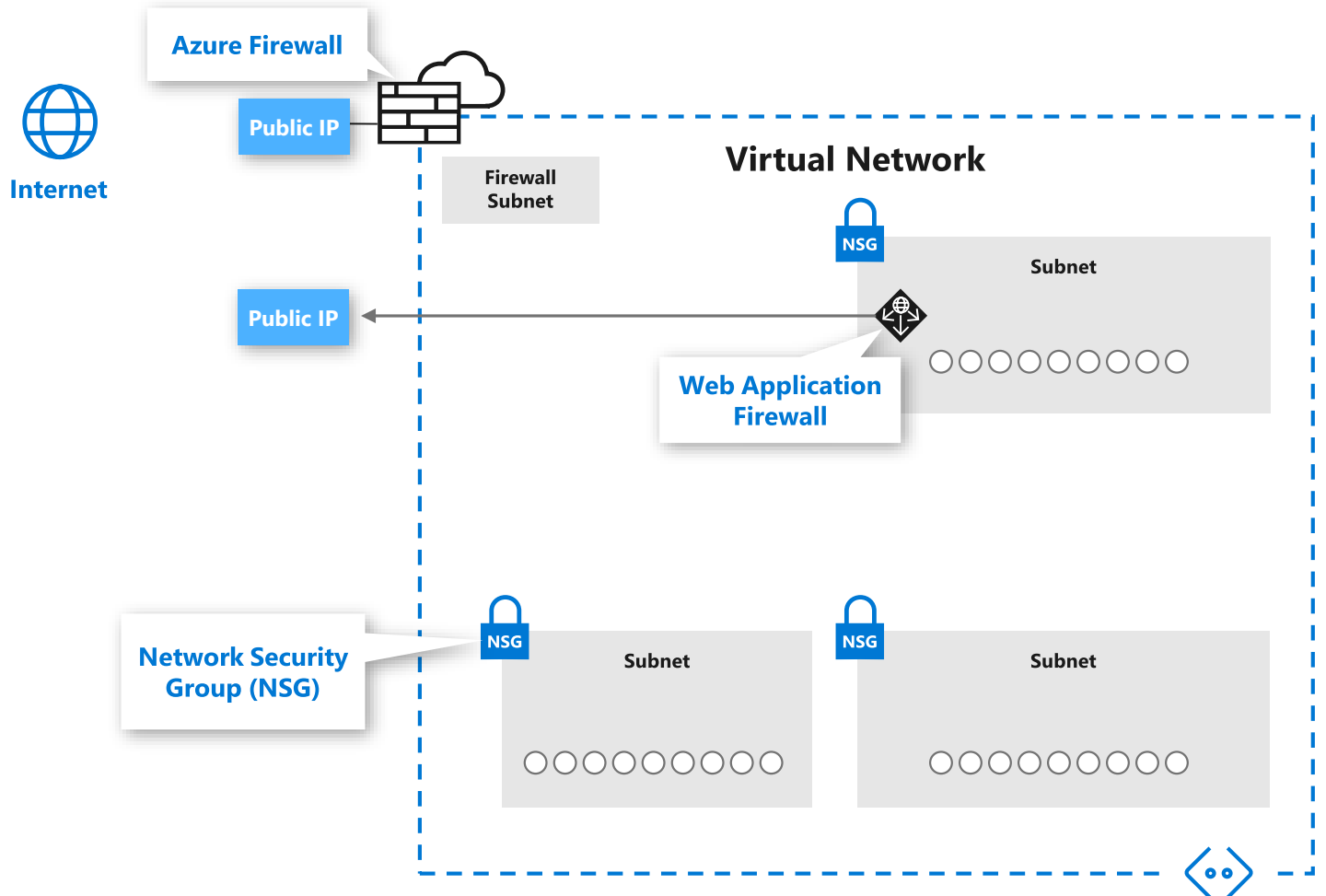


Web App Firewalls

Web Application Firewall

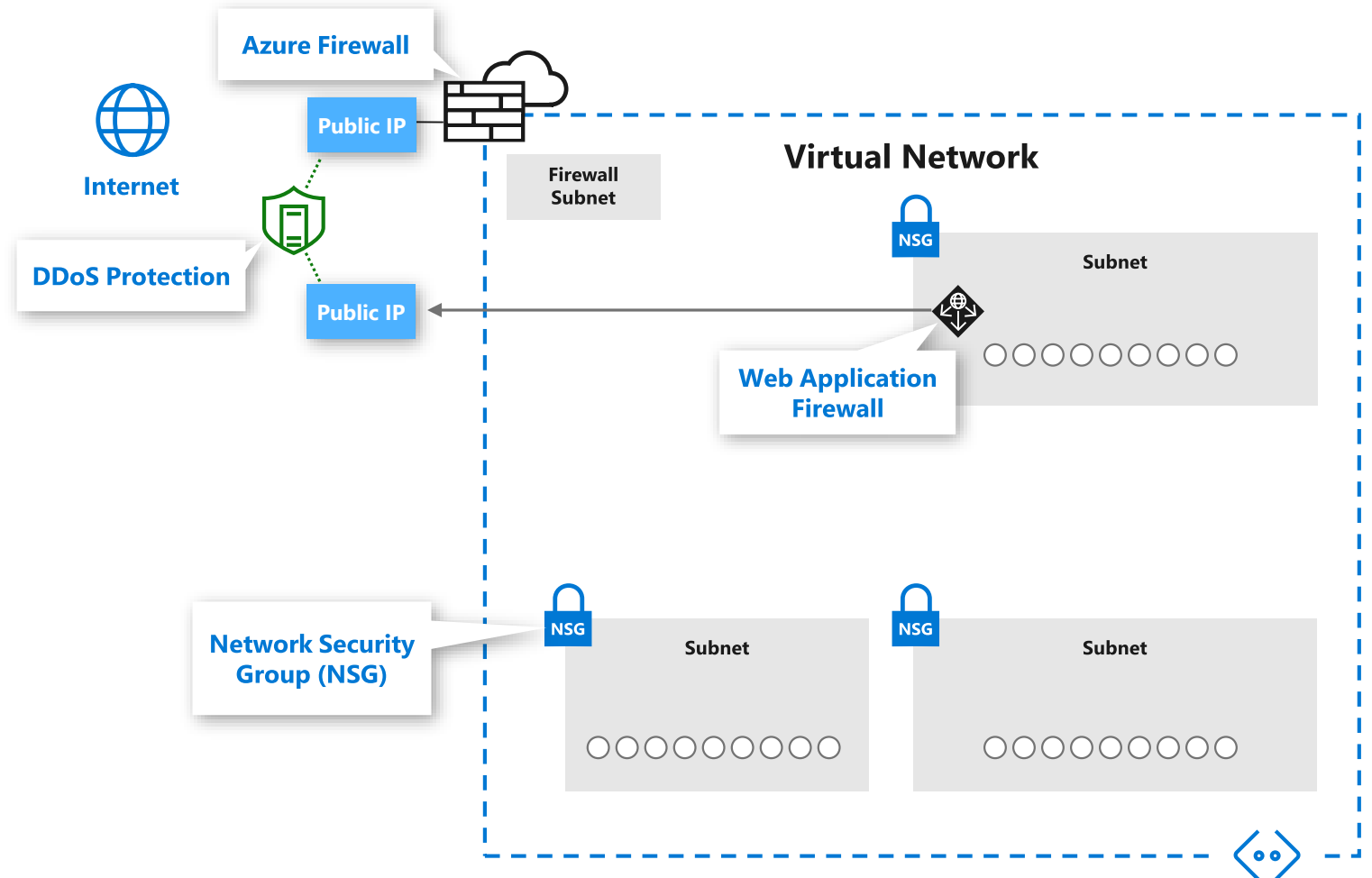
- Web application protection**
 - Protects your application against prevalent X-SS, Site Scripting and SQL Injection attacks
 - Blocks threats based on OWASP core rule sets 3.0 or 2.2.9
 - Integrated with Azure Security Center
 - Real-time logging with Azure Monitor
- High availability and scalability** built in and managed by platform
 - Layer 7 load balancing URL path, host based, round robin, session affinity, redirection
- Centralized SSL management** SSL offload and SSL policy
- Public or ILB** public internal or hybrid
- Rich diagnostics** Azure monitor, Log analytics

The diagram shows traffic from the Internet passing through a WAF (Web Application Firewall) and an L7 LB (Layer 7 Load Balancer) to reach Site 1 and Site 2. The WAF and L7 LB are shown as components that filter and route traffic. The App Gateway is shown as the destination for the traffic.



Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) protection

Basic Protection Built in + Available Advanced Protection



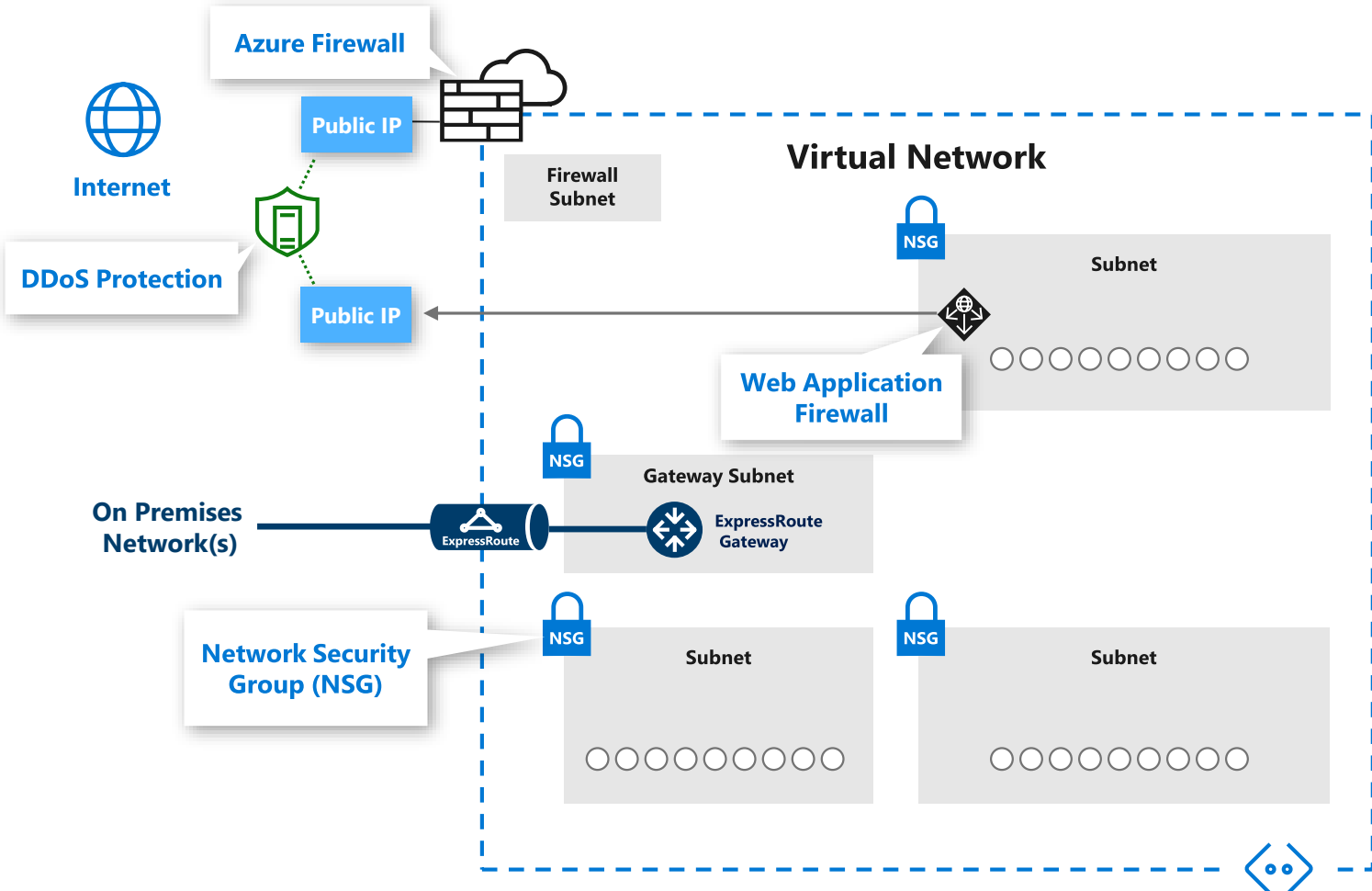
Azure DDoS Protection

- Standard**
 - Tuned to your apps
 - Logging, alerting and telemetry via Azure Monitor
 - L7 Protection via Web App Firewall (WAF)
 - Availability Guarantee and Rapid Response Support
- Basic**
 - Always on L3/L4 attack protection
 - Deployed today in all Azure regions
 - No additional charge and available to all Azure Customers

The diagram shows the architecture of Azure DDoS Protection Standard. It features a Central WAF and multiple Spoke WAFs. Traffic from the Internet passes through the Central WAF and Spoke WAFs before reaching the application. The diagram also indicates that this protection blocks malicious traffic from the Internet and provides proven Microsoft protection.

Connecting to On Premises Resources

ExpressRoute or VPN provides connectivity



Reference Configuration with Native Controls

Azure Firewall + Application Gateway with Web App Firewall (WAF)

Core Services

Azure Firewall

Cloud native stateful Firewall as a service
A first among public cloud providers

- Central governance of all traffic flows**
 - Built-in high availability and auto scale
 - Network and application traffic filtering
 - Centralized policy across VNets and subscriptions
- Complete VNET protection**
 - Filter Outbound, Inbound, Spoiler-Spoiler & Hybrid Connections traffic (VPN and ExpressRoute)
 - Threat intelligence-based filtering to alert/deny traffic from/to known malicious IP addresses and domains
- Centralized logging**
 - Archive logs to a storage account, stream events to your Event Hubs, or send them to Log Analytics or Security Integration and Event Management (SIEM) system of choice

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/firewall/>

Web Application Firewall

Web application protection

- Protects your application against prevalent XSS, Site Scripting and SQL Injection attacks
- Blocks threats based on OWASP core rule sets 3.0 or 2.2.9
- Integrated with Azure Security Center
- Real-time logging with Azure Monitor

High availability and scalability built in and managed by platform

Layer 7 load balancing URL path, host based, round robin, session affinity, redirection

Centralized SSL management SSL offload and SSL policy

Public or IRL public internal or hybrid

Rich diagnostics Azure monitor, Log analytics

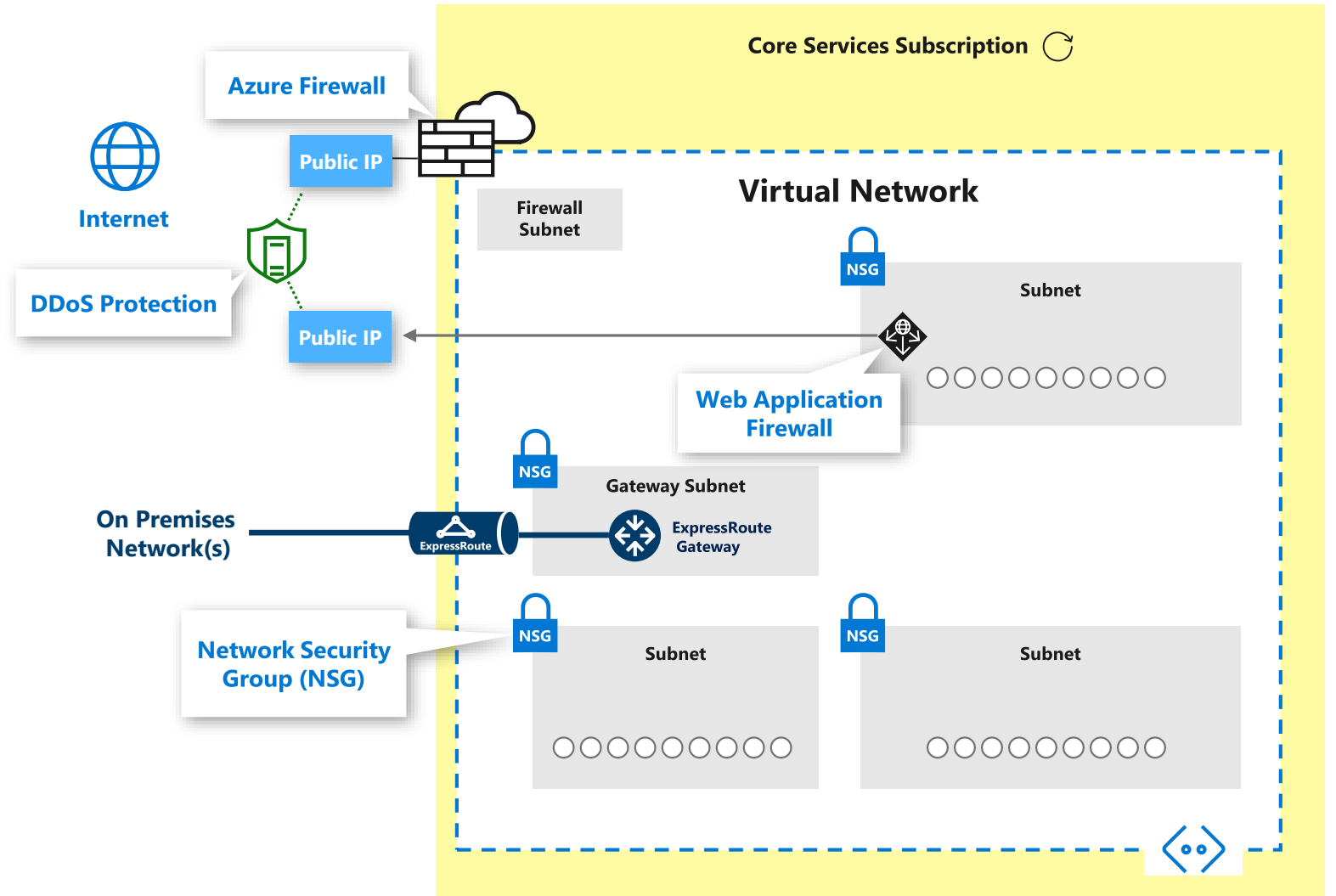
Azure DDoS Protection

Standard

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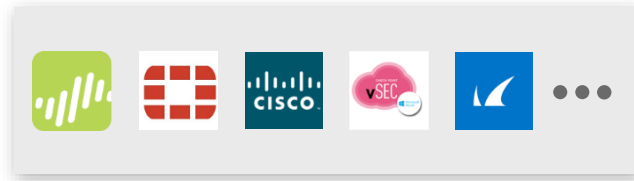
Basic

- Always on L3/L4 attack protection
- Deployed today in all Azure regions
- No additional charge and available to all Azure Customers



Reference Configuration with Virtual Appliance(s)

Next Generation Firewall with Integrated WAF/Proxy



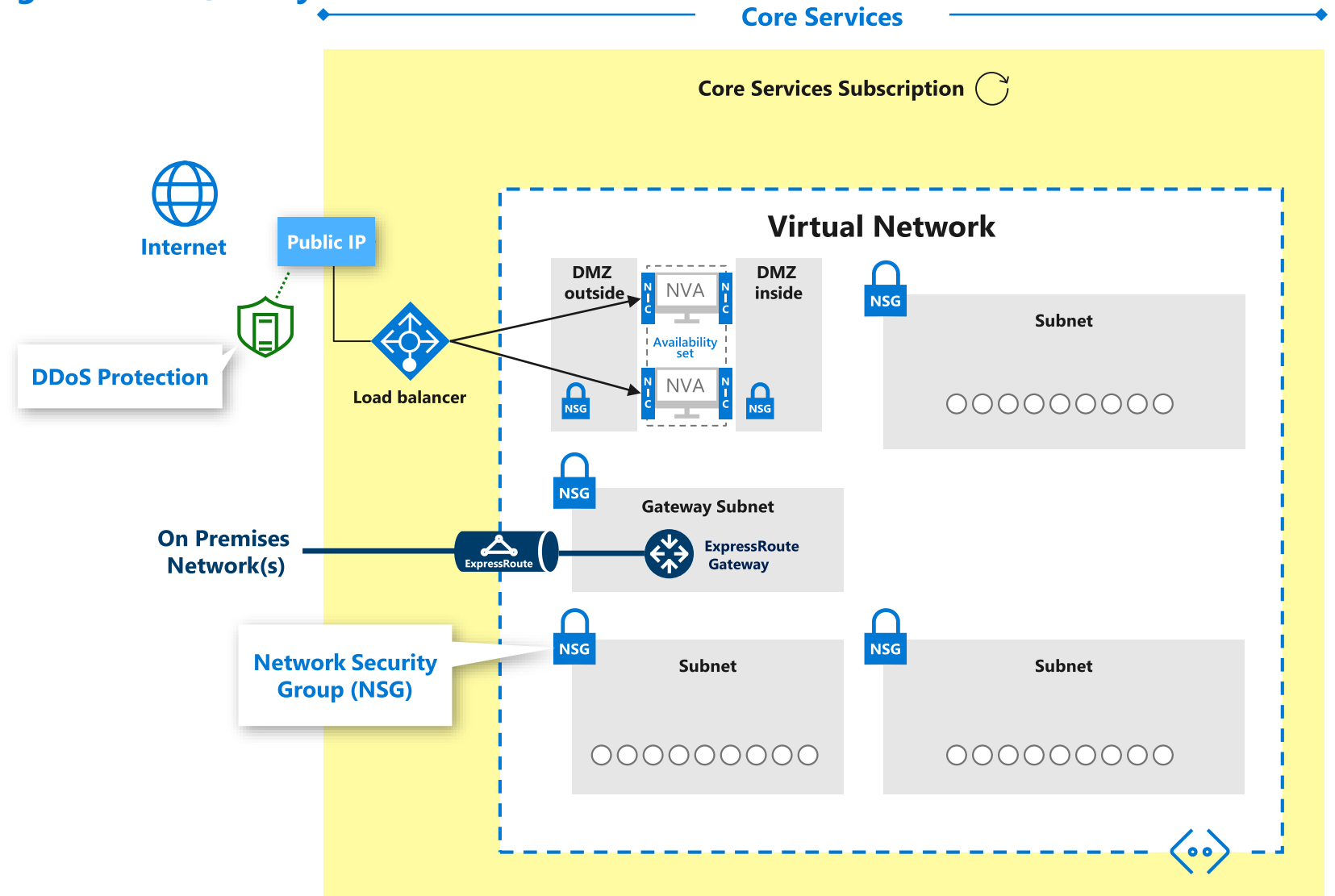
Popular Next Generation Firewalls available in Azure Marketplace

Load balancer enables scalability and availability

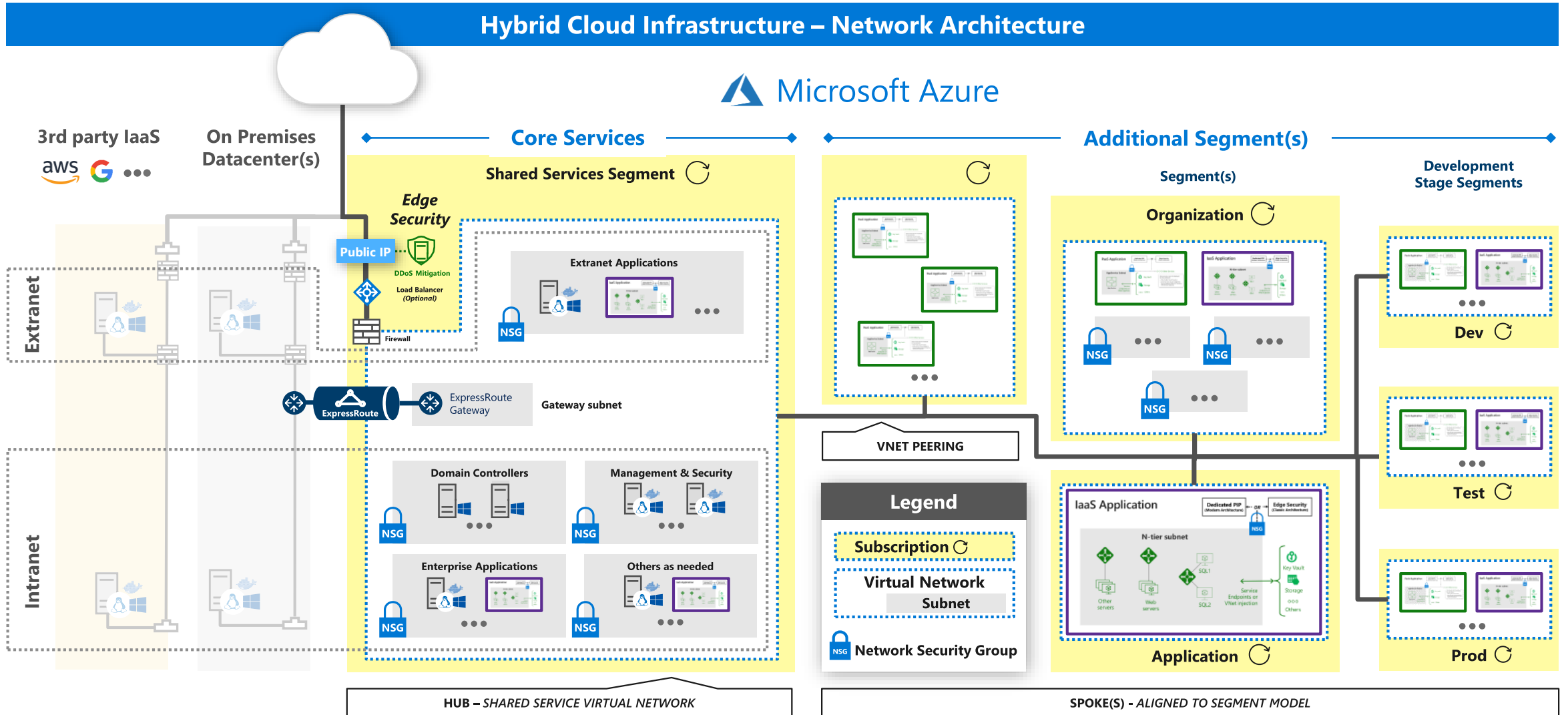
DDoS Protection Standard can be applied to public IP addresses.

More Information online

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/reference-architectures/hybrid-networking/shared-services>



Reference Enterprise Design - Azure Network Security



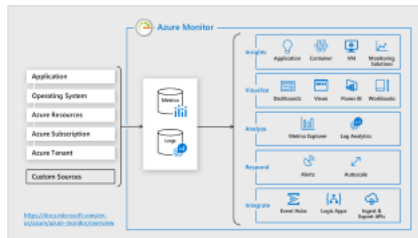
Network Visibility

Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)

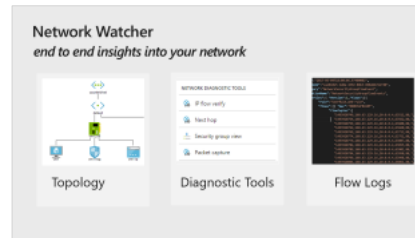
Investigation Workflow

Analytics

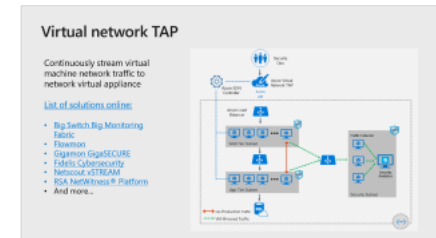
Azure Monitor
Log Aggregation



Network Watcher
Advanced Functions



Virtual Tap (Preview)
Raw Traffic Access



NSG
Diagnostic Logs

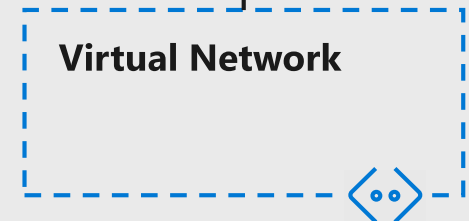
WAF

Azure Firewall



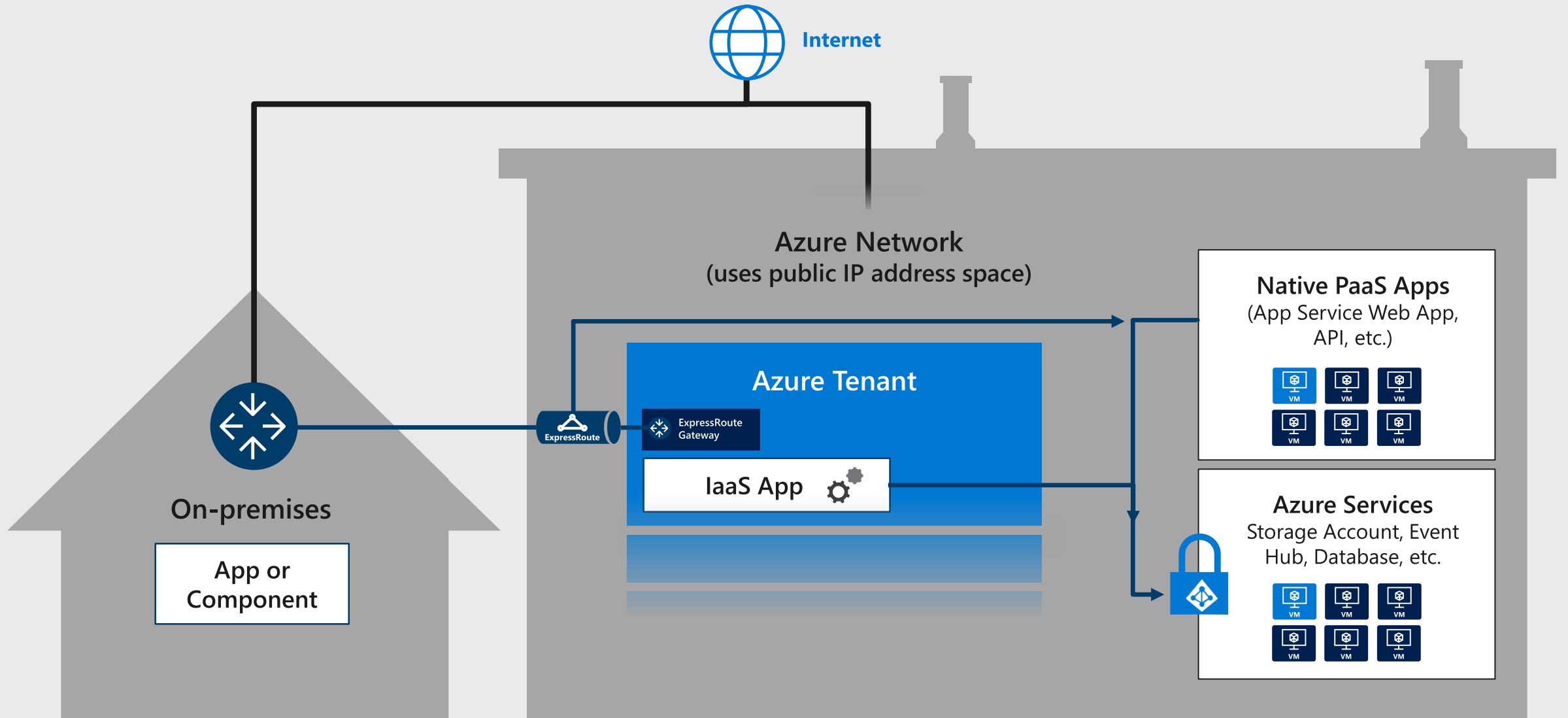
NSG
Flow Logs

Packet Capture
(Point in Time)



Virtual Network

Accessing Azure Services



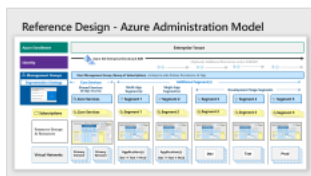
Networks & Containment – Enterprise Consistency

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES

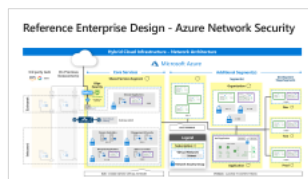


SEGMENTATION ALIGNMENT

- **What** - Align network model with overall segmentation and administrative model
- **Why** – A straightforward unified security strategy leads to less errors as it increases human understanding and automation reliability.
- **How** – Build your designs based on the reference models in this guidance



ADMINISTRATIVE



NETWORK SECURITY



CENTRAL NETWORK MANAGEMENT

- **What** – Centralize management of core network functions like ExpressRoute, virtual network and subnet provisioning, IP addressing, and related items.
- **How** – Recommend using an existing on premises process if applicable. This is typically a central networking group or a council of key stakeholder groups from business units.



CENTRALIZED NETWORK SECURITY

- **What** – Centralize governance and of network security elements such as Network virtual appliances functions like ExpressRoute, virtual network and subnet provisioning, IP addressing, etc.
 - **How** – Recommend using an existing on premises process if applicable. This is typically a central networking group or a council of key stakeholder groups from business units.
- **Why** – Inconsistent strategy and management of these core functions can create significant security risks that an attacker can exploit

Networks and Containment

PRAGMATIC CONTAINMENT STRATEGY

- **What** – Build a risk containment strategy that blends the best available approaches
 - **Existing controls** and practices
 - **Native controls** available in Azure
 - **Zero trust** approaches to continuous validate
- **Why** – Containment of attack vectors within an environment is critical, but traditional approaches aren't enough and must evolve. Consistency of controls across on-premises and cloud infrastructure is important, but defenses are more effective and manageable when leveraging native azure security controls, dynamic (just in time) approaches, and integrated identity/password controls (e.g. zero trust / continuous validation)



Network Security Groups (NSGs) for subnets

Use Network Security Groups to protect against unsolicited traffic into Azure Subnets (replaces/supplements East-West traffic controls)



Choose host-based firewall strategy

Choose whether to continue existing practices for host-based firewalls in Azure or discontinue their use.



Zero Trust approach for new micro/segmentation initiatives

Adopt Zero-trust based approaches for new initiatives that validate trust at access time (instead of static network IP/Port controls)

1. **Conditional Access** to resources based on device, identity, assurance, network location, and more. [More Info](#)
2. **Just in Time Management Port Access** – [using Azure Security Center](#) to enable access only after workflow approval
3. **Just in Time Administrative Privileges** – using [Azure AD PIM](#) or a 3rd party PIM/PAM solution
4. **Just in Time Local Admin Account Access** – using [Local Admin Password Solution \(LAPS\)](#) or a 3rd party PIM/PAM solution

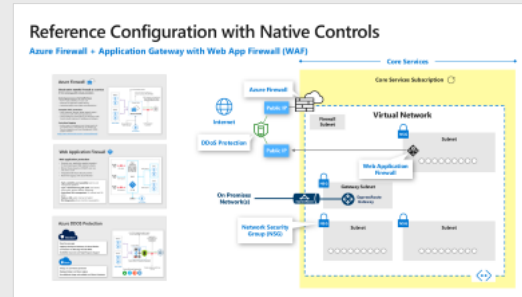
Networks and Containment

CRITICAL BEST PRACTICES



INTERNET EDGE STRATEGY

- **What** – Choose whether to use Native Azure Controls or 3rd party Network Virtual Appliances (NVAs) for internet edge security (North-South)
- **Why** – Legacy workloads require network protection from internet sources and there are advantages to using either 1st or 3rd party controls to provide this.
- **How** – Select a strategy using the comparison information →
Note – Some organizations choose a hybrid configuration where some VNets use advanced 3rd party controls and others use native controls

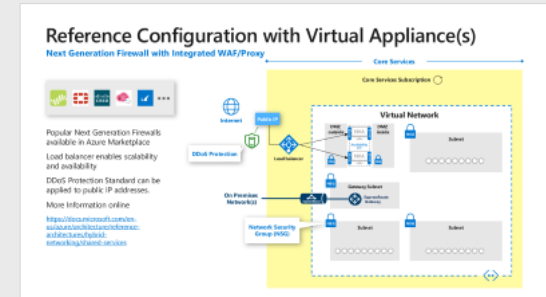


AZURE NATIVE CONTROLS

Basic capabilities with simple integration & management

Azure Firewall + Web App Firewall (in Application Gateway)

These offer basic security that is good enough for some scenarios with a fully stateful firewall as a service, built-in high availability, unrestricted cloud scalability, FQDN filtering, support for OWASP core rule sets, and simple setup and configuration



3RD PARTY CAPABILITIES

Advanced security capabilities from existing vendors

Next Generation Firewall (NGFW) and other 3rd party offerings

Network virtual appliances in the Azure Marketplace include familiar security tools that provide enhanced network security capabilities
Configuration is more complex, but allows you to leverage existing capabilities, and skillsets

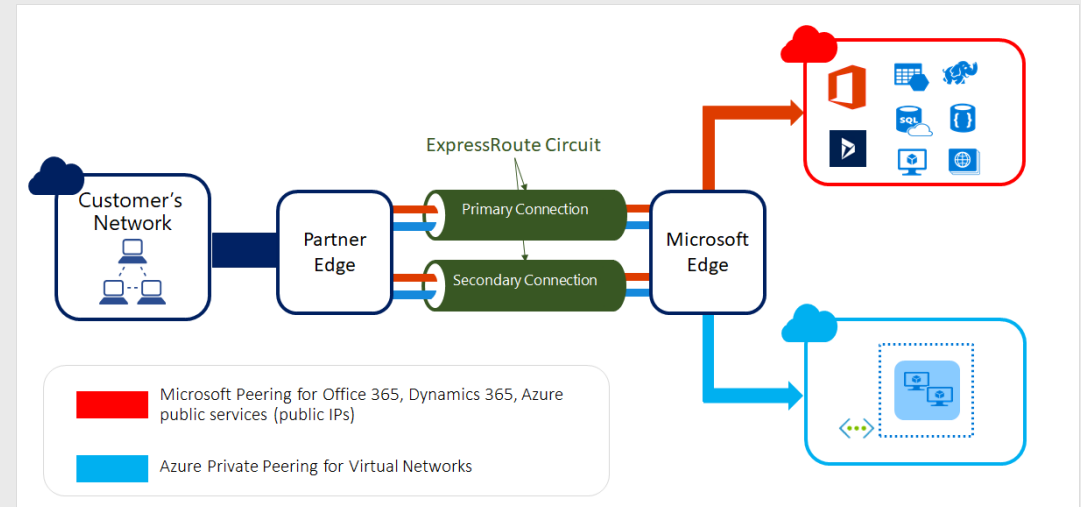
Networks

CRITICAL CHOICE



EXPRESSROUTE TERMINATION

- **What** – Identify where to terminate ExpressRoute private peering (or Site to Site VPN) in existing (on-premises) network
- **Why** – The termination point can affect firewall capacity, scalability, reliability, and network traffic visibility
- **How** –
 - **Terminate outside the firewall** (*DMZ Paradigm*) If you require visibility into the traffic, continue an existing practice of isolating datacenters, or if you are solely putting extranet resources on Azure.
 - **Terminate inside the firewall** (*Network Extension Paradigm - Default Recommendation*) In all other cases, recommend treating Azure as a Nth datacenter



<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/expressroute/expressroute-introduction>

Network – Deprecating Legacy Technology

CRITICAL CHOICES



CLASSIC NETWORK INTRUSION DETECTION/PREVENTION SYSTEMS (NIDS/NIPS)

- **What** – Choose whether to add existing NIDS/NIPS capabilities on Azure
- **Why** – The Azure platform already filters malformed packets and most classic NIDS/NIPS solutions are typically based on outdated signature-based approaches which are easily evaded by attackers and typically produce high rate of false positives.
- **How** –
 - **Do Not Add (Default Recommendation)**
 - **Add to Azure tenant**



NETWORK DATA LOSS PREVENTION (DLP)

- **What** – Choose whether to add Network DLP capabilities on Azure
- **Why** – Network DLP is increasingly ineffective at identifying both inadvertent and deliberate data loss. This is because most modern protocols and most attackers use encryption (most available attacker toolkits have encryption built in)
- **How** –
 - **Do Not Add (Default Recommendation)**
 - **Add to Azure tenant**

Networks and Containment – Subnet & NSG Design



DESIGN VIRTUAL NETWORKS & SUBNETS FOR GROWTH

- **What** – Avoid provisioning small virtual networks and subnets
- **Why** – Most organizations add more resources than initially planned on top of VNets and subnets, triggering a labor-intensive re-allocation of addresses. There is limited security value in small subnet size + increased overhead to map an NSG to each.
- **How** – Define subnets broadly to ensure that you have flexibility for growth. A rule of thumb is to assume you will migrate all enterprise resources to Azure as an end state.



APPLICATION SECURITY GROUPS (ASGs)

- **What** – Simplify NSG rule management by defining application security groups ([ASGs](#))
 - **Why** – While their use is not required, defining ASGs allow you to simplify setup and maintenance of NSG rules.
 - **How** – Define an ASG for lists of IP addresses that you expect may
 - Change in the future
 - Be used across many NSGs
- Ensure to name them clearly for others to understand their content/purpose.



AVOID FULLY OPEN ALLOW RULES

- **What** – Don't assign allow rules with extremely broad ranges (e.g. allow 0.0.0.0 -255.255.255.255)
- **Why** – These lead to a false sense of security and are frequently found and exploited by red teams.
- **How** – Ensure your troubleshooting procedures discourage or ban these "fully open" allow rules

Discover these issues with Network Security Watcher and correct them

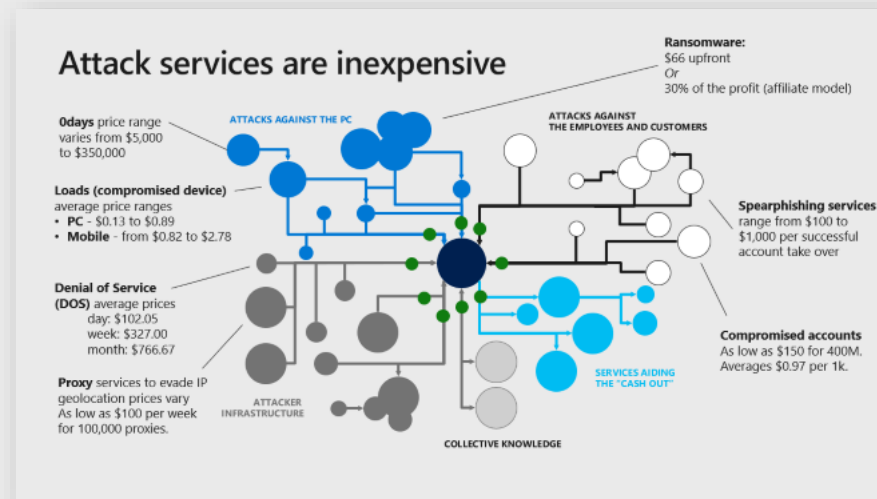
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/network-watcher/network-watcher-nsg-auditing-powershell>

Networks and Containment – DDoS Mitigations

GENERAL GUIDANCE

DDoS MITIGATIONS

- **What** – Enable DDoS Mitigations for all business-critical web applications, and services
- **Why** – DDoS attacks are prevalent and are very inexpensive to access on the dark markets
- **How** – Evaluate and select the best option for protecting your critical applications and services
 - [Azure DDoS basic](#)
 - [Azure DDoS standard](#)
 - 3rd party service



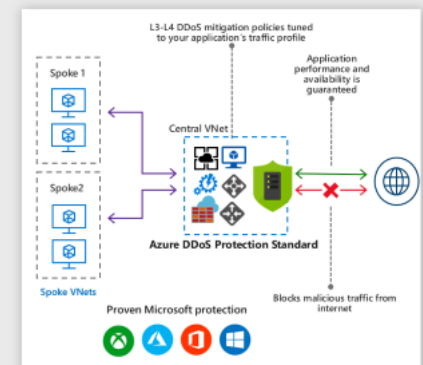
Azure DDoS Protection



Tuned to your apps
Logging, alerting and telemetry via Azure Monitor
L7 Protection via Web App Firewall (WAF)
Availability Guarantee and Rapid Response Support



Always on L3/L4 attack protection
Deployed today in all Azure regions
No additional charge and available to all Azure Customers



Networks and Containment – Egress/Ingress

GENERAL GUIDANCE

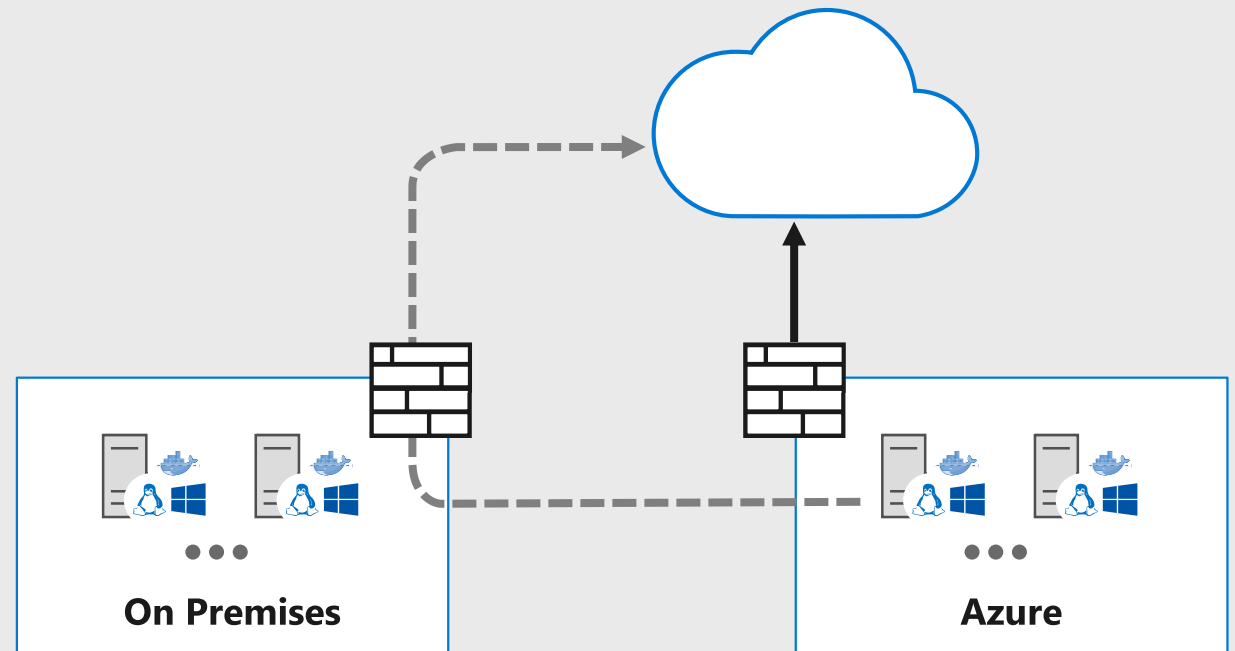


NETWORK INGRESS/EGRESS SECURITY

- **What** – Choose whether to route Azure ingress/egress traffic through on-premises network edge security or via security hosted on Azure
- **Why** – Routing all internet traffic for Azure through on-premises ingress/egress points can add significant cost and latency at scale.
- **How** – Choose

↑ **Direct Internet (Default recommendation)** - Route traffic directly to internet using Azure hosted network edge security.

↪ **“Hairpin” (Not recommended)** - Route all traffic through existing network edge security on premises. with forced tunneling on [Azure ExpressRoute](#) or [Site-to-Site VPN](#)



Traffic hairpin approach fits a *Datacenter Expansion* paradigm and works well for a quick proof of concept, but scales poorly because of the increased traffic load/latency and cost.

Direct Internet approach fits a *Nth Datacenter* paradigm and scales much better for an enterprise deployment as it removes unnecessary hops.

Network – Advanced Visibility

GENERAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE

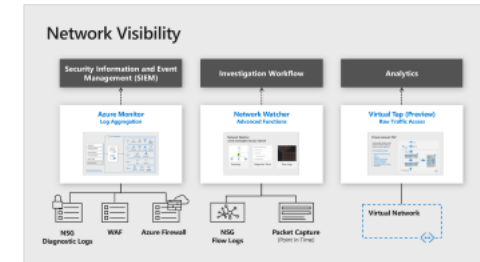


CHOICE

Network Logs

As required, integrate network logs into SIEM / analytics platform using [Azure Monitor](#)

- NSG Logs
- WAF Logs
- Azure Firewall Logs



NSG Flow Logs

If you do this today, Integrate NSG flow logs and packet capture (via Network Watcher) into your investigation workflow



Virtual TAP

If required, integrate [virtual TAP](#) into existing network monitoring program/analytics capability

Information Protection & Storage



Architecture guidance on this topic can be found at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/security/storage-data-encryption>

Azure Storage

Azure Cloud Storage:

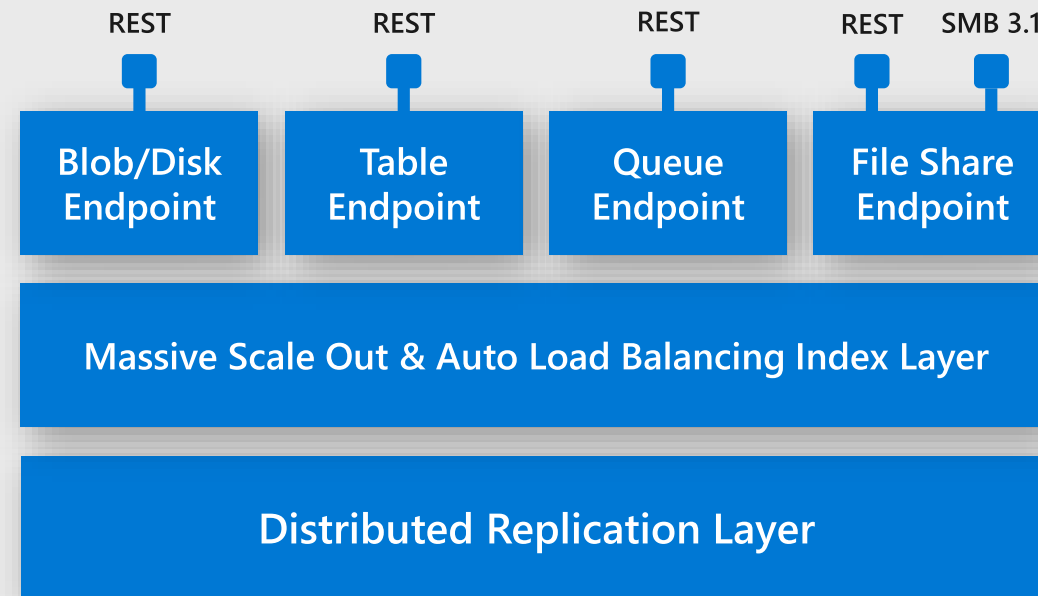
- Object based, durable, massively scalable storage
- Designed from ground up by Microsoft
- Presents as Blobs, Disks, Tables, Queues and Files
- Accessed via REST APIs, Client Libraries and Tools

Access Control

- Azure Active Directory (Azure AD)
- Symmetric Shared Key Authentication
- Shared Access Signature (SAS)

Notable Security Attributes

- All data is encrypted by the service
- No read without write (mitigate cross-tenant data leaks)
- Maintains 3 Synchronous copies of data
- Virtual storage, not dedicated disks
- Detailed activity logging availability (Opt in)
- Data will remain only in the region you choose



More Information



[Storage System Design and Architecture:](#)



[Azure Storage Managed Disks](#)

Azure Storage Firewalls

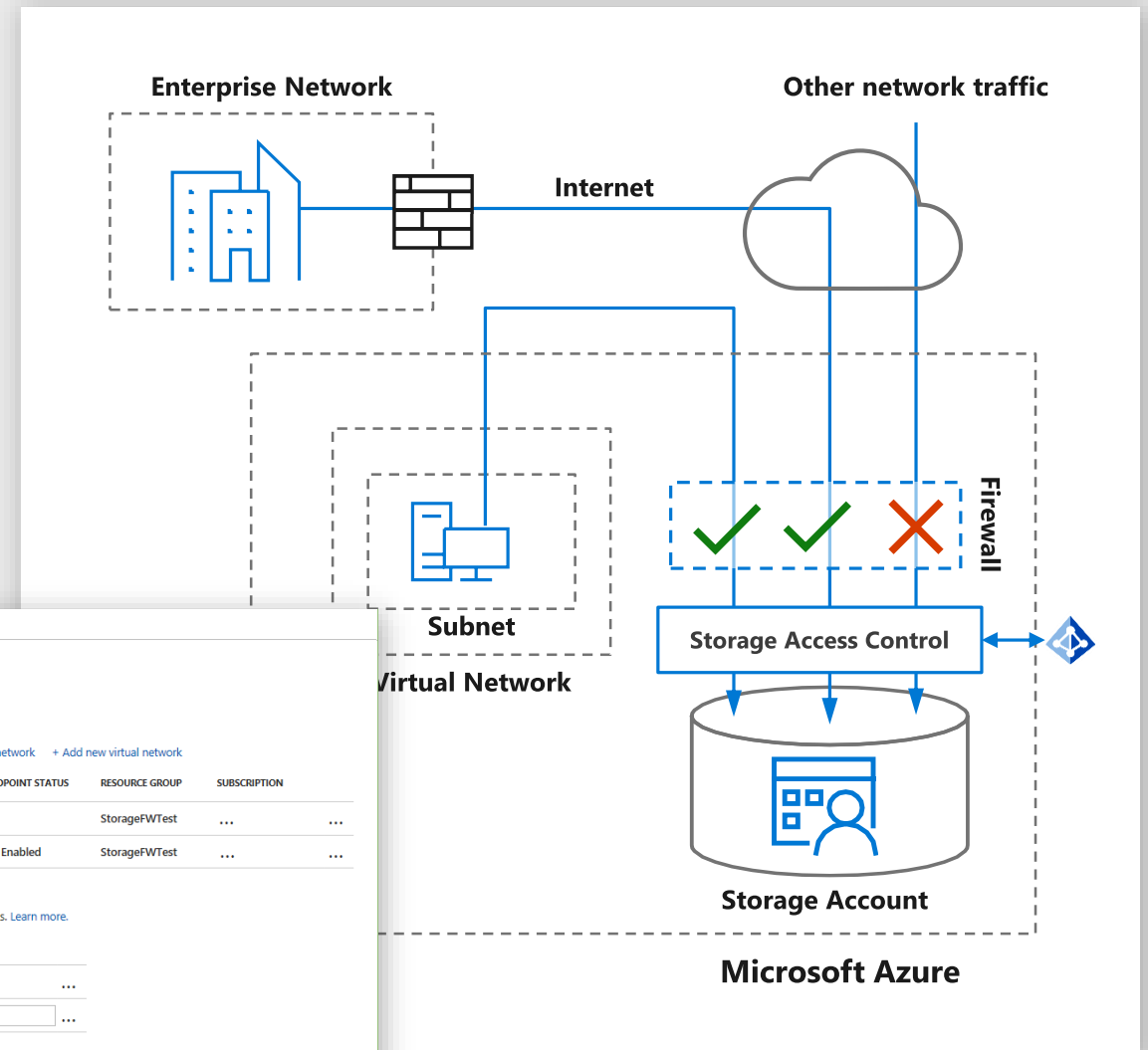
Configured on each Storage Account (prompt during creation)

- Controls network access using ACLs
- Enforced on all network protocols
- If not configured, all networks can access

Authentication is still required to access storage (Azure AD, SAS tokens, etc.)

Access by Azure Services must be configured to allow connection (checkbox)

- VM Access to VM Disks not affected by storage firewall
- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-network-security>



Save Discard

Allow access from
 All networks Selected networks
Configure network security for your storage accounts. [Learn more.](#)

Virtual networks
Secure your storage account with virtual networks. [+ Add existing virtual network](#) [+ Add new virtual network](#)

| VIRTUAL NETWORK | SUBNET | ADDRESS RANGE | ENDPOINT STATUS | RESOURCE GROUP | SUBSCRIPTION |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| MyVNet1 | 1 | 10.1.0.0/24 | | StorageFWTest | ... |
| | MySubnett | 10.1.0.0/24 | ✓ Enabled | StorageFWTest | ... |

Firewall
Add IP ranges to allow access from the internet or your on-premises networks. [Learn more.](#)

ADDRESS RANGE

16.17.18.0/24 ...

...

Exceptions

Allow trusted Microsoft services to access this storage account

Allow read access to storage logging from any network

Allow read access to storage metrics from any network

Advanced Threat Protection for Azure Storage

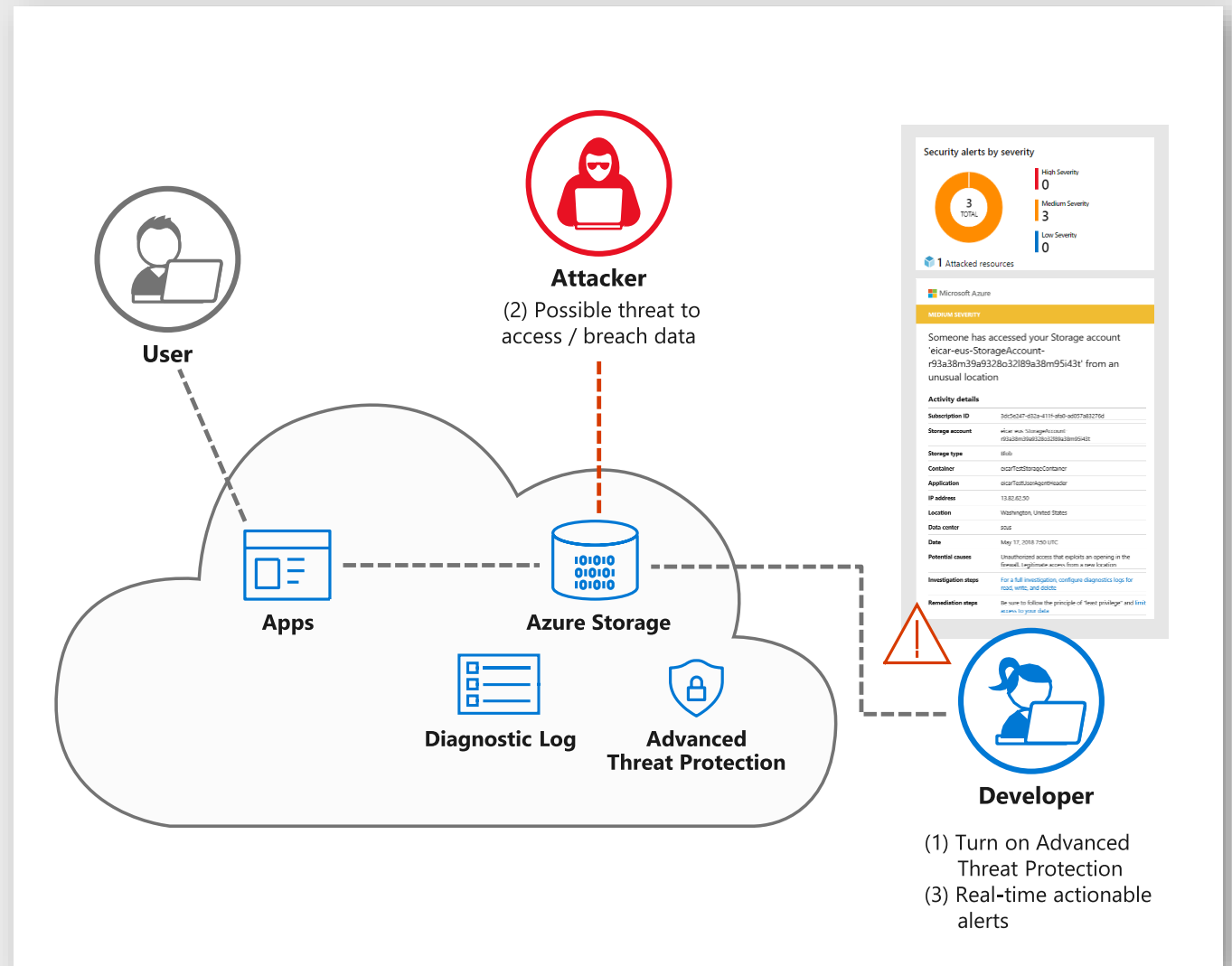
- Alerts on anomalous access & potential data exfiltration
- Investigation & remediation guidance
- Alerts in Azure Security Center

Advanced Threat Protection for Storage Alerts

| Alert | Description |
|--|---|
| Unusual location access anomaly | Sampled network traffic analysis detected anomalous outgoing Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) communication originating from a resource in your deployment. This activity is considered anomalous for this environment. It can indicate that your resource has been compromised, and is now used to brute force attack an external RDP endpoint. Note that the type of activity might cause your IP to be flagged as malicious by external entities. |
| Application access anomaly | Indicates that an unusual application has accessed the storage account. A potential cause is that an attacker has accessed your storage account by using a new application. |
| Anonymous access anomaly | Indicates that there is a change in the access pattern to a storage account. For instance, the account has been accessed anonymously (without any authentication), which is unexpected compared to the recent access pattern on this account. A potential cause is that an attacker has exploited public read access to a container that holds Blob storage. |
| Too Anonymity | Indicates that this account has been accessed successfully from an IP address that is blocked as an action and method of file access management. The anomaly can be blocked as an action and method of file access management. |

Full List at <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security-center/security-center-alerts-data-services#azure-storage>

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-advanced-threat-protection>



Azure Data Encryption

Layers (and why each is important)

Encrypt Documents and unstructured data

- Regulatory requirements
- Data Leakage (malicious or inadvertent)

Application Layer Encryption

- Meet regulatory requirements
- Mitigate against attacks on cloud provider/infrastructure

Azure Service Encryption

- Same as application layer
- Near zero management effort (for Microsoft managed key)

Virtual Machine / Operating Systems

- Mitigate against loss/leakage of VM Disks from storage account

Storage System

- Mitigate against attacks on cloud provider/infrastructure
- On by default and unable to disable

Encryption
is not a
panacea



Encryption Technologies

- [Azure Information Protection \(AIP\)](#) or 3rd party solutions

- **BYO Encryption** - .NET Libraries, client-side encryption, etc.

- **SQL** [Transparent Data Encryption](#), [Always Encrypted](#)>
- **HDInsight** [Encryption](#)
- **Azure Backup** [Encrypted at Rest](#), [Encrypted VM support](#)

- **Azure Disk Encryption** - <BitLocker [Windows], DM-Crypt [Linux]>
- **Partner Volume Encryption** – <CloudLink[®] SecureVM, Vormetric, etc.>
- **BYO Encryption** – <Customer provided>

- **Azure Storage Service Encryption (server side encryption)** <AES-256, Block, Append, and page Blobs>

Storage and Encryption

CRITICAL GUIDANCE



BEST PRACTICE



CHOICE



USE AZURE AD FOR STORAGE AUTH

- **What** – Use Azure AD for authenticating access to storage unless another method is required and there is no other option
- **Why** – Azure AD provides flexible role-based access control while providing accountability
- **How** – Configure Storage objects to use Azure AD Authentication

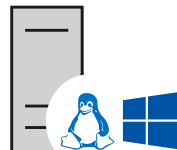
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/common/storage-auth-aad>



ENABLE VM DISK ENCRYPTION

- **What** – Enable disk encryption on all IaaS VMs
- **Why** – This provides mitigation against data leakage from a VM disk being downloaded directly from storage (because of configuration error, etc.)
- **How** – Configure disk encryption on all Windows and Linux VMs

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security/azure-security-disk-encryption-overview>



ENABLE ENCRYPTION IN AZURE AND CLOUD SERVICES

- **What** – Enable built-in encryption features for any Azure services as well as 3rd party services you call from Azure applications.
- **Why** – Typically near zero overhead for using integrated encryption features
- **How** – See the table in the link below for which services offer encryption:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/security/azure-security-encryption-atrest>

Azure Security Center - Remediation

The screenshot displays the Azure Security Center interface. The breadcrumb navigation at the top reads: Home > Security Center - Overview > Compute > Add a web application firewall > Add a Web Application Firewall. The main content area is titled "Add a web application firewall" and features a table of existing firewalls. A sidebar on the left shows a list of resource groups with colored bars representing their security posture. On the right, a panel titled "Add a Web Application Firewall" offers options to "Create New" or "Use existing solution". The "Use existing solution" section lists a Microsoft-managed solution named "ContosoAppGW1".

Home > Security Center - Overview > Compute > Add a web application firewall > Add a Web Application Firewall

× Add a web application firewall ×

Filter

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------|------|-----|
| finance9 | virtual mac... | finance9 | Open | High | ... |
| InfraScaleVMs-ip | Virtual mac... | InfraScaleV... | Open | High | ... |
| kubernetes-ab4f4b379... | Virtual mac... | kubernetes... | Open | High | ... |
| linuxip | Virtual mac... | linuxip | Open | High | ... |
| marketing1 | Virtual mac... | marketing1 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing2 | Virtual mac... | marketing2 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing3 | Virtual mac... | marketing3 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing4 | Virtual mac... | marketing4 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing5 | Virtual mac... | marketing5 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing6 | Virtual mac... | marketing6 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing7 | Virtual mac... | marketing7 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing8 | Virtual mac... | marketing8 | Open | High | ... |
| marketing9 | Virtual mac... | marketing9 | Open | High | ... |
| MarketingLinux1-ip | Virtual mac... | MarketingLin... | Open | High | ... |
| myPublicIP | Virtual mac... | myPublicIP | Open | High | ... |
| myPublicIP | Virtual mac... | myPublicIP | Open | High | ... |
| RestoreConstoso-pip-8... | Virtual mac... | RestoreCon... | Open | High | ... |
| splunkIP | Virtual mac... | splunkIP | Open | High | ... |

Add a Web Application Firewall
Select an existing solution or create a new one

+ Create New

- Or -

Use existing solution

Microsoft
ContosoAppGW1

Microsoft and CIS Partnership

Goal

Simplify and drive consistency in our customers' efforts to securely deploy workloads to Azure

Benefits

CIS brings independence and consensus driven approach

Benchmarks informed by Microsoft's experience & best practices



What are CIS Benchmarks?

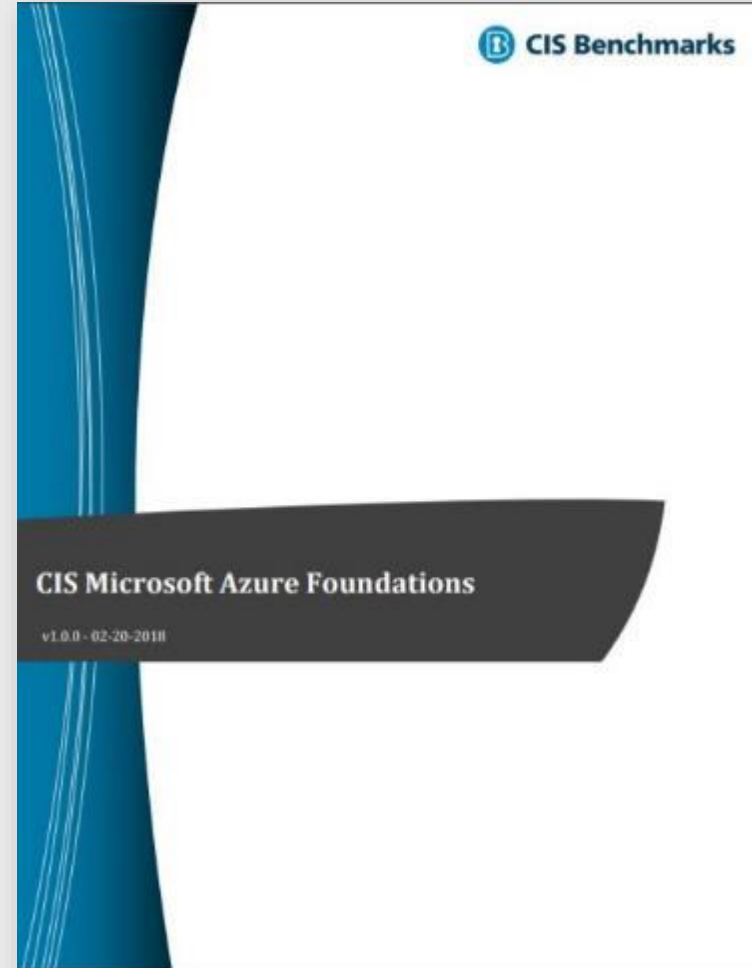
Consensus Based Best Practices

Over 100 benchmarks covering
14 technology groups

Examples:

- Ensure Multi-factor Auth is Enabled
- Ensure SSH access is restricted
- Ensure that 'Data disks' are encrypted

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/resources/cis-microsoft-azure-foundations-security-benchmark/>



What's inside a CIS benchmark?

What it applies to...

What to do...

Why to do it...

How to audit...

How to fix...

1.3 Ensure that there are no guest users (Scored)

Profile Applicability:

- Level 1

Description:

Do not add guest users if not needed.

Rationale:

Azure AD is extended to include Azure AD B2B collaboration, allowing you to invite people from outside your organization to be guest users in your cloud account. Until you have a business need to provide guest access to any user, avoid creating such guest users. Guest users are typically added out of your employee on-boarding/off-boarding process and could potentially be lying there unnoticed indefinitely leading to a potential vulnerability.

Audit:

Azure Console

1. Go to Azure Active Directory
2. Go to Users and group
3. Go to All Users
4. Click on Show drop down and select Guest users only
5. Ensure that there are no guest users listed (USER_TYPE = Guest)

Azure Command Line Interface 2.0

```
az ad user list --query "{?additionalProperties.userType=='Guest'}"
```

If any users are listed, then this recommendation is non-compliant.

Remediation:

Delete the Guest users.

Impact:

None

Default Value:

By default, no guest users are created.

Summary of CIS Controls v1.0

MAIN
MENU



| Section | Recommendations | Control Count |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Identity & Access Mgmt. | Setting the appropriate IAM policies | 23 |
| Azure Security Center | Configuration and use of Azure Security Center | 19 |
| Storage Accounts | Setting storage account policies | 7 |
| Azure SQL Services | Securing Azure SQL Servers | 8 |
| Azure SQL Databases | Securing Azure SQL Databases | 8 |
| Logging/Monitoring | Setting logging & monitoring policies on Azure subscriptions | 13 |
| Networking | Securely configuring Azure networking settings and policies | 5 |
| Virtual Machines | Setting security policies for Azure compute services, specifically virtual machines | 6 |
| Other | General security and operational controls, including those related to Azure Key Vault and Resource Locks | 3 |
| | Total Recommendations | 92 |