What is SD-WAN?

This virtual WAN architecture, Software-defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN), allows enterprises to leverage any combination of transport services – including MPLS, LTE and broadband internet services – to securely connect users to applications.

Using a centralised control function to securely direct traffic across the WAN, SD-WAN increases application performance and delivers a high-quality user experience (UX), resulting in increased business productivity, agility, and reduced costs for IT.

Why SD-WAN is needed

Like many things since the introduction of Cloud technology, traditional WANs based on conventional routers are no longer fit for purpose.

Why? Because they typically require backhauling all traffic, causing a delay which results in poor user experience and lost productivity.

Enter SD-WAN. Unlike its router-centric predecessor, SD-WAN is designed to support applications hosted in on-premises data centres, public or private clouds and SaaS services, while delivering the highest levels of application performance.

Altogether, SD-WAN prioritises performance, security and data privacy while providing WAN simplification, lower costs, bandwidth efficiency and a seamless on-ramp to the cloud.

Link with SASE

SASE, or Secure Access Service Edge, is the cloud-native architecture solution that securely connects the Edge to the cloud. And SD-WAN enables businesses to deliver a SASE architecture.

Bringing together SD-WAN, routing, segmentation, zone-based firewall and WAN optimisation with cloud-delivered security services, SASE provides an improved and cohesive architecture. No matter the location or device, SASE ensures direct, secure access to applications and services across multi-cloud environments, designed for the modern day. And more specifically, remote working.

Thanks to enhanced security and improved performance, SASE gives businesses peace of mind when capturing data at the Edge. With fewer risks, it helps to maintain brand image. And with improved performance, SASE increases productivity, customer satisfaction, and IT efficiency, even lowering overall WAN and security costs. Plus, it gives businesses the opportunity to evaluate and integrate new security technologies as they arise.

SD-WAN, SASE and Aruba ESP

Due to increased remote working and more data being generated outside of the cloud, businesses are turning to Aruba ESP in swathes. As an integrated services platform, Aruba ESP reduces the need for troubleshooting with sixth sense, AI technology, and simplified IT operations with a Unified Infrastructure.

However, as Aruba ESP captures data at the Edge, proficient security is required as old architectures simply aren't up to the task. That's why Aruba ESP features a built-in foundation for the SASE framework. As a result, businesses can effortlessly adopt the SASE architecture alongside the Aruba ESP platform, improving both their security and their productivity.

To find out more about how SD-WAN, SASE and Aruba ESP can enhance your business, get in touch with us today.

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