



The bridge to possible

# Secure Access with ISE in the Cloud

Eugene Korneychuk, Technical Leader

# About Eugene Korneychuk

- Security TAC Technical Leadership Team
- 15+ years of security and networking experience
- 20+ published documents
- On personal note:
  - Family time
  - Travel
  - Football
- Lives in Cary, North Carolina, US



# Session Objective



The Goal of this session is to:

- Make you familiar with ISE Cloud deployments and designs
- Cover ISE automation techniques
- Explain the SAML Authentication functionality and its implementation on ISE
- Walk you through ROPC authentication with ISE and Azure Active Directory



# Agenda

- ISE Architecture Concepts
- ISE in the Cloud
- ISE in AWS and Azure
- AWS Partner Solution
- ISE SAML SSO
- ISE Azure Active Directory Authentication
- Conclusion

# Cisco Webex App

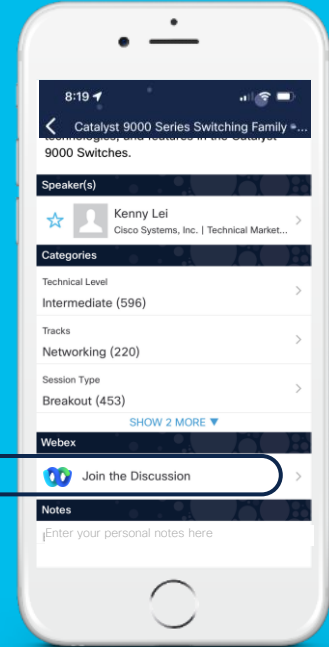
## Questions?

Use Cisco Webex App to chat with the speaker after the session

## How

- 1 Find this session in the Cisco Live Mobile App
- 2 Click “Join the Discussion”
- 3 Install the Webex App or go directly to the Webex space
- 4 Enter messages/questions in the Webex space

Webex spaces will be moderated until February 24, 2023.



# ISE Architecture Concepts

# ISE Design Concepts



## Policy Administration Node (PAN)

- Single plane of glass for ISE admin
- Owns ISE database and replicates it to other nodes

## Monitoring & Troubleshooting Node (MnT)

- Reporting and logging node
- Collects health and log information from other nodes

## Policy Services Node (PSN)

- Makes policy decisions
- RADIUS / TACACS+ Servers

## pxGrid Controller

- Facilitates sharing of context

# ISE Scaling



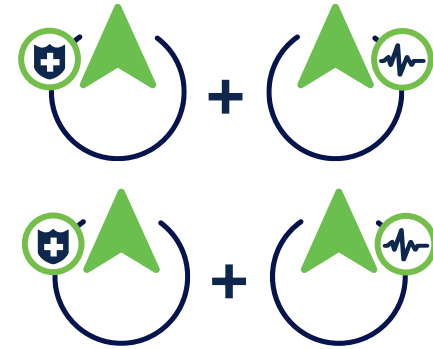
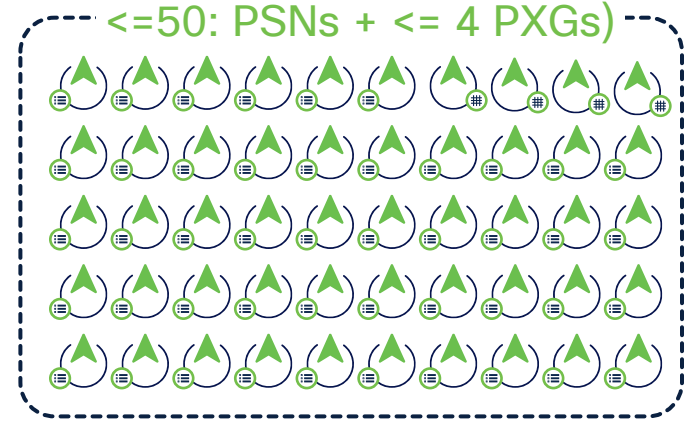
Lab and Evaluation



Small HA Deployment  
2 x (PAN+MNT+PSN)



Medium Multi-node Deployment  
2 x (PAN+MNT+PXG), <= 6 PSN



Large Deployment  
2 PAN, 2 MNT, <=50: PSNs + <= 4 PXGs



# PSN Sizing Across Platforms

Cisco ISE



PSN Profile	Extra Small	Small	Medium	Large
Physical Appliance	-	Cisco SNS 3615	Cisco SNS 3595	Cisco SNS 3655 Cisco SNS 3695
VM Appliance	Extra Small VM (8vCPU, 32 GB)	VM Equivalent of SNS 3615 (16vCPU, 32 GB)	VM Equivalent of SNS 3595 (16vCPU, 32 GB)	VM Equivalent of SNS 3655 (24vCPU, 96 GB) VM Equivalent of SNS 3695 (24vCPU, 256 GB)
AWS	m5.2xlarge	c5.4xlarge* m5.4xlarge	-	c5.9xlarge
Azure	Standard_D8s_v4	Standard_F16s_v2* Standard_D16s_v4	-	Standard_F32s_v2
OCI	Standard3.Flex (4 OCPU and 32 GB)	Optimized3.Flex* (8 OCPU and 32 GB) Standard3.Flex (8 OCPU and 64 GB)	-	Optimized3.Flex (16 OCPU and 64GB)

\* This instance is compute-optimized and provides better performance compared to the general purpose instances

# PSN Maximum Concurrent Active Sessions

Cisco ISE



## PSN Profile

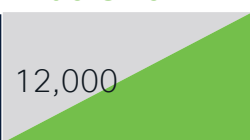
Concurrent active endpoints supported by a dedicated PSN

(Cisco ISE node has only PSN persona)

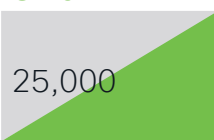
Concurrent active endpoints supported by a shared PSN

(Cisco ISE node has multiple personas)

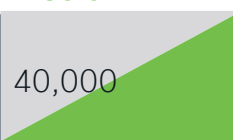
## Extra Small



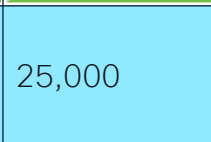
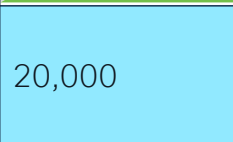
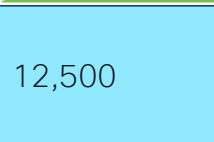
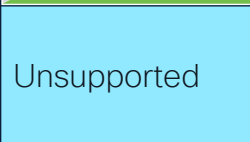
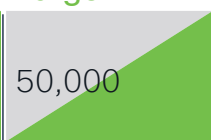
## Small



## Medium



## Large



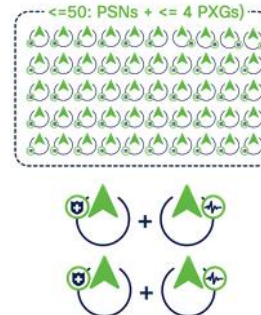
## Small Deployment



## Medium Deployment



## Large Deployment



# PAN/MNT Sizing Across Platforms

Cisco ISE



PAN/MNT Profile	Small	Medium	Large	Extra Large
Physical Appliance	Cisco SNS 3615	Cisco SNS 3595	Cisco SNS 3655	Cisco SNS 3695
VM Appliance	VM 16vCPU, 32 GB	VM 16 vCPU, 64 GB	VM 24vCPU, 96 GB	VM 24vCPU, 256 GB
AWS	c5.4xlarge	m5.4xlarge c5.9xlarge*	m5.8xlarge	m5.16xlarge
Azure	Standard_F16s_v2	Standard_D16s_v4 Standard_F32s_v2*	Standard_D32s_v4	Standard_D64s_v4
OCI	Optimized3.Flex (8 OCPU and 32 GB)	Standard3.Flex (8 OCPU and 64 GB) Optimized3.Flex* (16 OCPU and 64 GB)	Standard3.Flex (16 OCPU and 128 GB)	Standard3.Flex (32 OCPU and 256 GB)

\* This instance is compute-optimized and provides better performance compared to the general purpose instances

# Total Maximum Concurrent Active Sessions

Cisco ISE



PAN, MNT or both PAN and MNT Profiles

Small

Medium

Large

Extra Large

Large deployment	Unsupported	500,000	500,000	2,000,000
Medium deployment	10,000	20,000	25,000	50,000
Small deployment	10,000	20,000	25,000	50,000

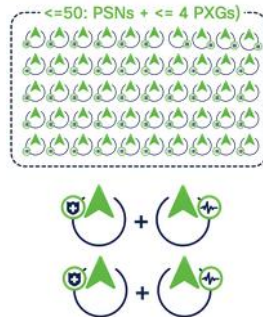
Small Deployment



Medium Deployment



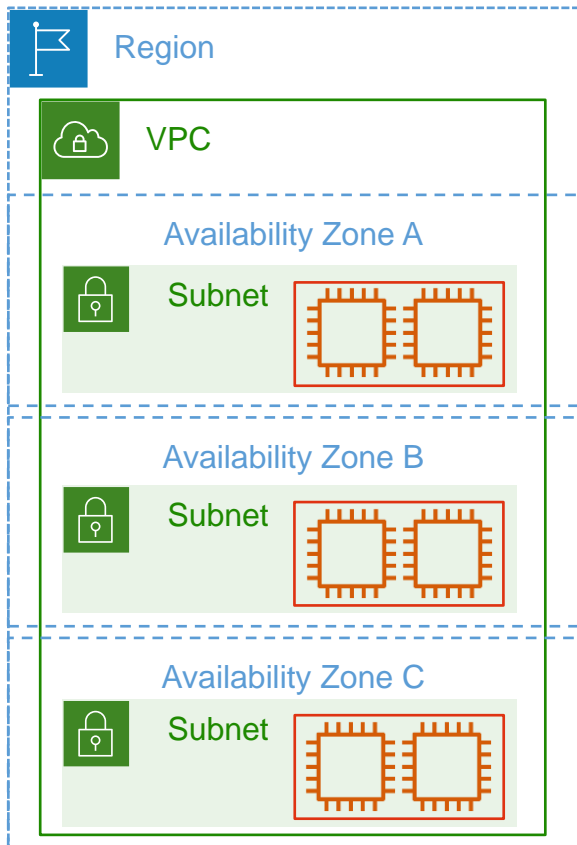
Large Deployment



CISCO *Live!*

# ISE in the Cloud

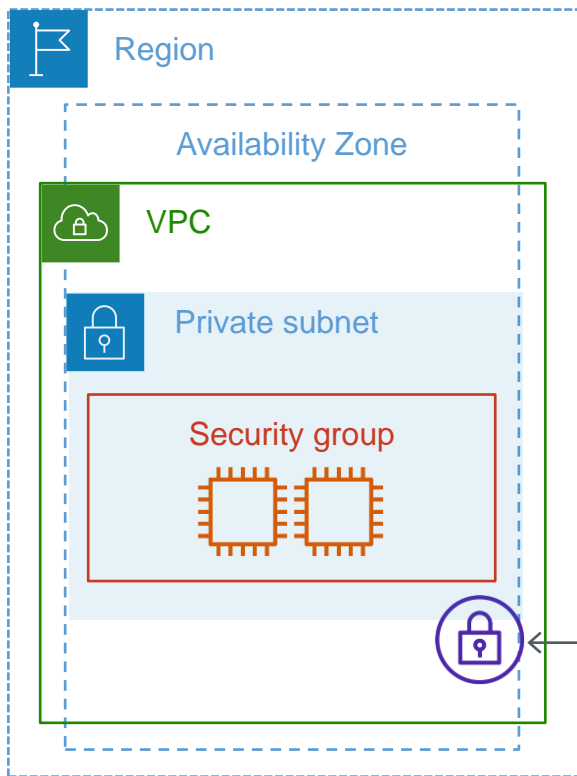
# AWS basics



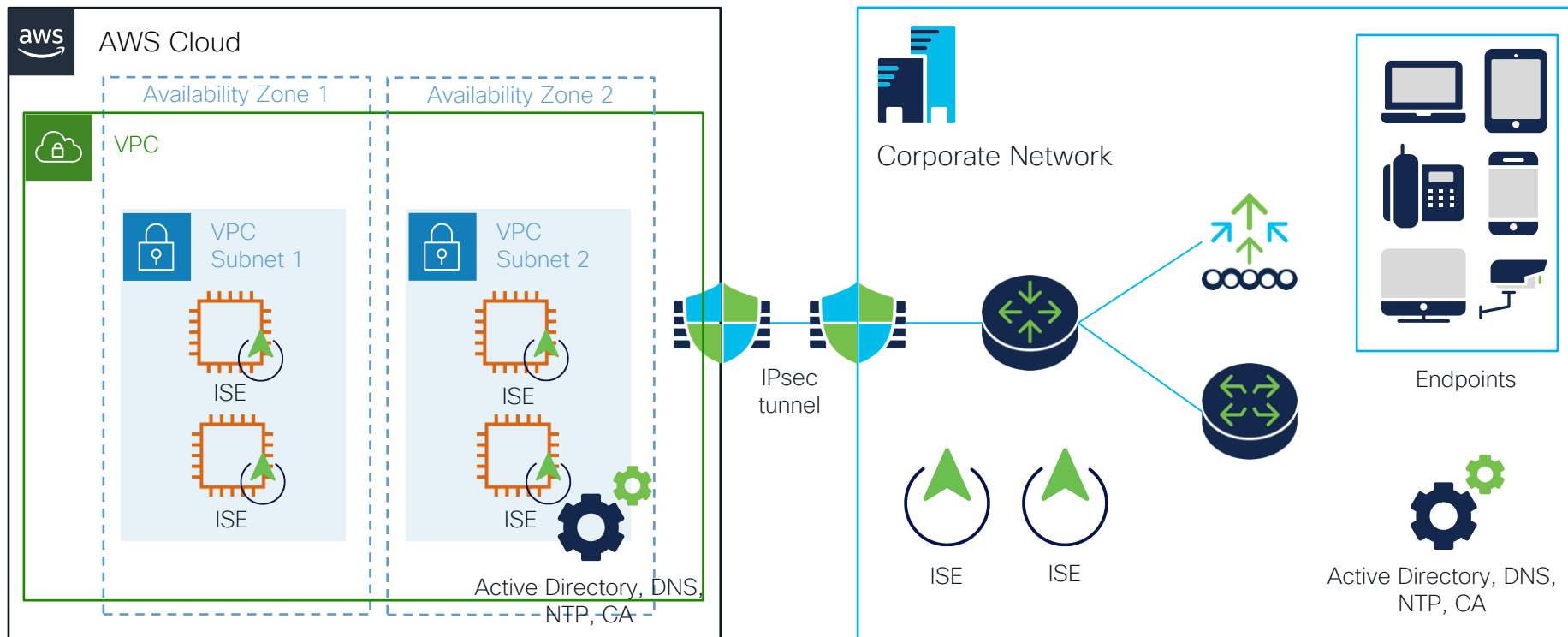
- Each Region is fully isolated from another region to achieve fault tolerance.
  - us-east-2 (Ohio)
  - eu-central-1 (Frankfurt)
  - ap-south-1 (Mumbai)
- Each Region has multiple isolated locations known as Availability Zones. The code for Availability Zone is its Region code followed by a letter identifier.
  - us-east-1a
  - us-east-1b
- VPC is a Virtual Network which spans all of the Availability Zones in the Region.
  - After creating a VPC you can add one or more subnets in each Availability Zone
- Security Group acts like virtual firewall, controlling the traffic which is allowed to reach and leave the resources associated with it.

# AWS basics

- To connect AWS resources to your Corporate network VPN tunnel can be used

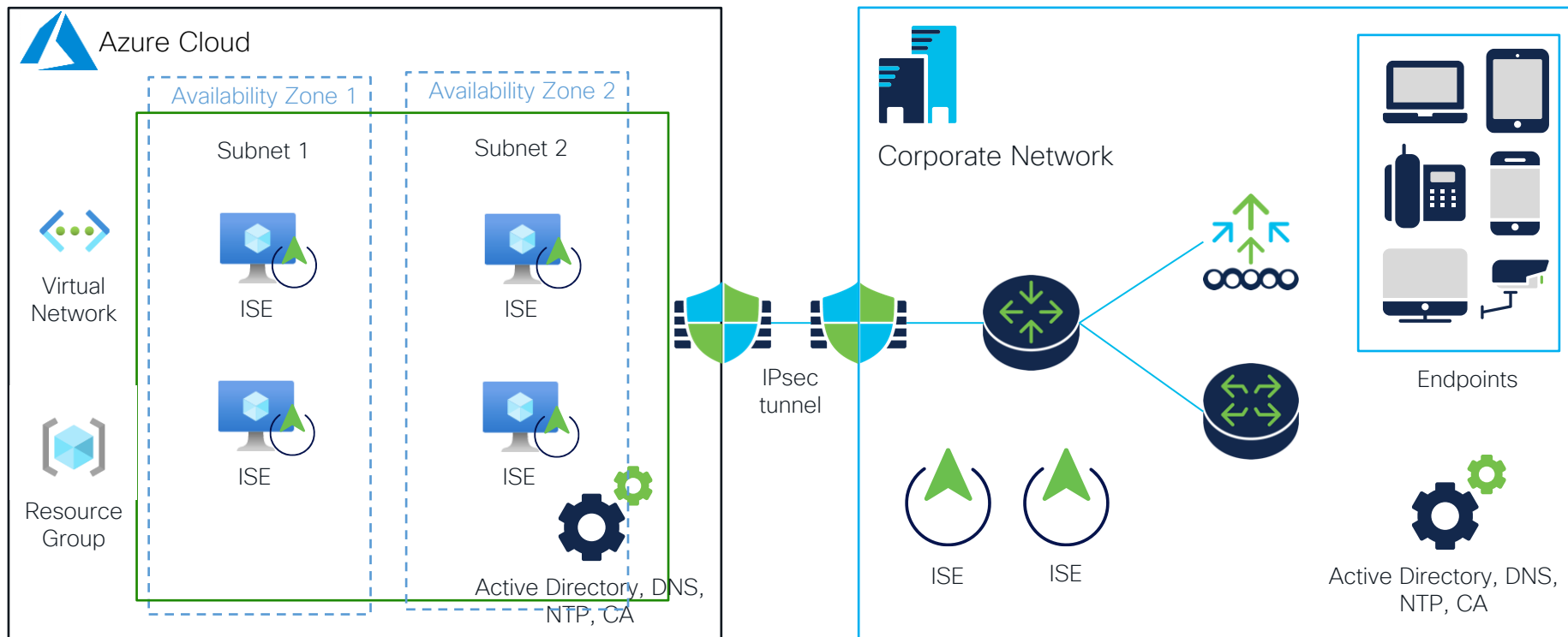


# Design Scenarios - AWS

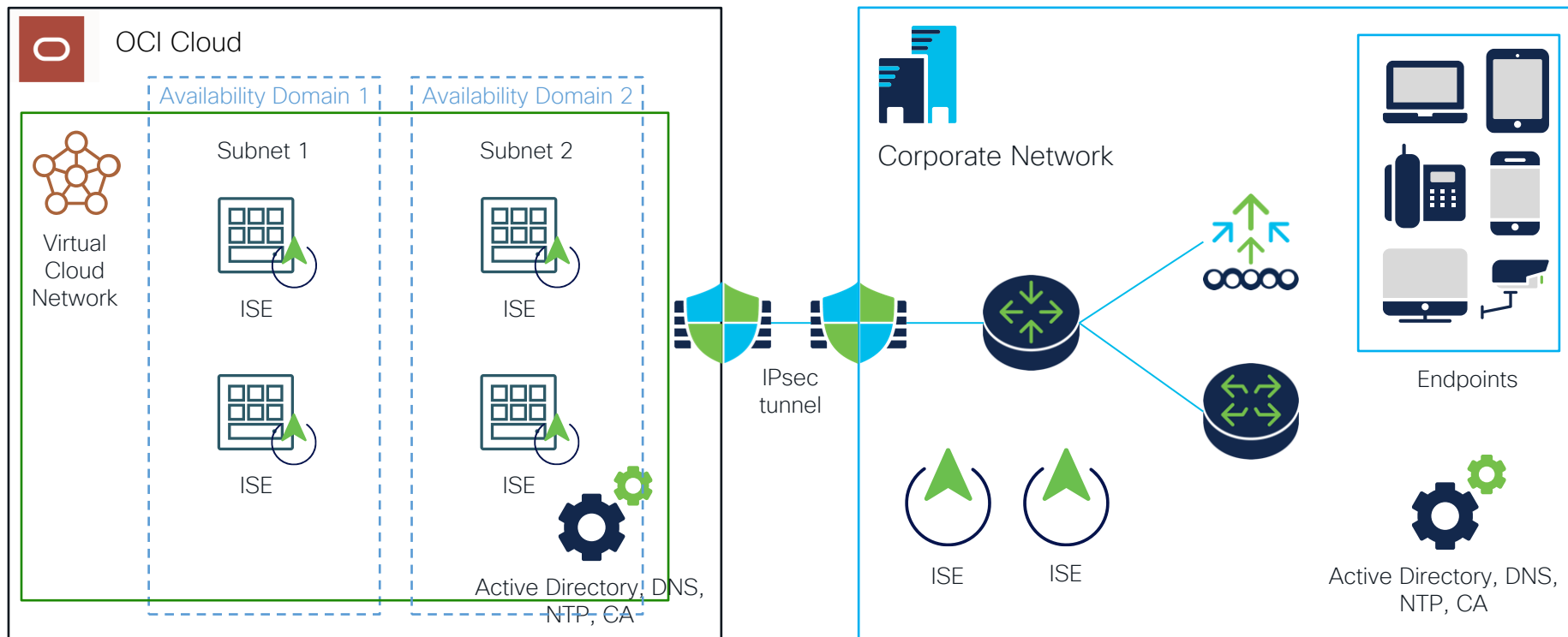




# Design Scenarios - Azure



# Design Scenarios - OCI

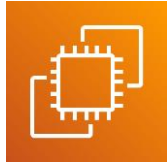


# ISE in AWS

# ISE Setup Options



AWS Marketplace



Amazon Elastic Compute  
Cloud (Amazon EC2)



AWS CloudFormation

Setup ISE Manually



ANSIBLE



TERRAFORM

Automate ISE  
deployment

# Checklist for ISE setup on AWS

1. Decide on Region and Availability Zone
2. Create a VPC and Subnet
3. Create a Security Group
4. Setup VPN between AWS and On-Prem Network
5. Create a Key Pair for SSH
6. Keep ISE setup information handy (hostname, DNS, Domain, NTP, Timezone, credentials)

# Demo. ISE installation on AWS using CloudFormation



# Console Home Info

Reset to default layout

+ Add widgets

📘 Introducing the new Managed instances, Ops summary, and Patch compliance widgets.

View new widgets

✕

☰ Recently visited Info

📄 CloudFormation

📄 EC2

📄 Route 53

📄 AWS Marketplace Subscriptions

📄 VPC

📄 Kinesis

📄 IoT SiteWise

📄 IAM

📄 Key Management Service

📄 API Gateway

📄 CloudWatch

View all services

☰ Welcome to AWS

🚀 Getting started with AWS [🔗](#)

Learn the fundamentals and find valuable information to get the most out of AWS.

📄 Training and certification [🔗](#)

Learn from AWS experts and advance your skills and knowledge.

💡 What's new with AWS? [🔗](#)

Discover new AWS services, features, and Regions.

☰ AWS Health Info

Open issues

0

Past 7 days

☰ Build a solution Info

Start building with simple wizards and automated workflows.

📄 Launch a virtual machine

With EC2 (2 mins)

📄 Register a domain

With Route 53 (3 mins)

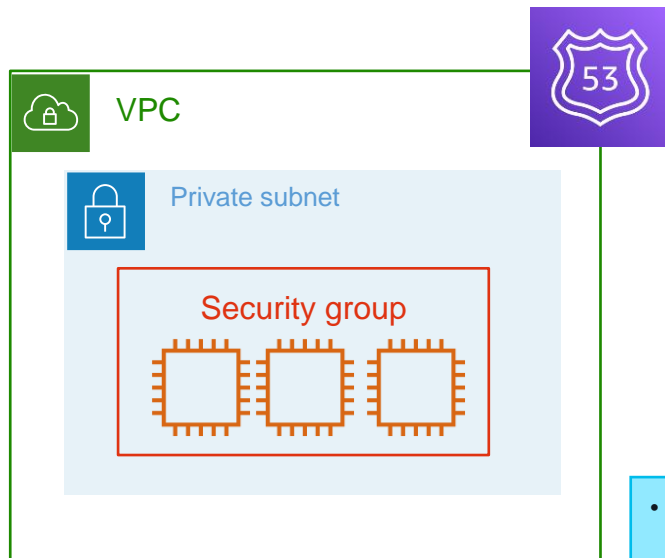
What if you  
would like to  
install whole  
infrastructure?





# Terraform

- Infrastructure as a Code to automate the provisioning of your infrastructure resources



- Create VPC
- Create a Subnet
- Create Security Group
- Create EC2 Instances
- Create DNS records

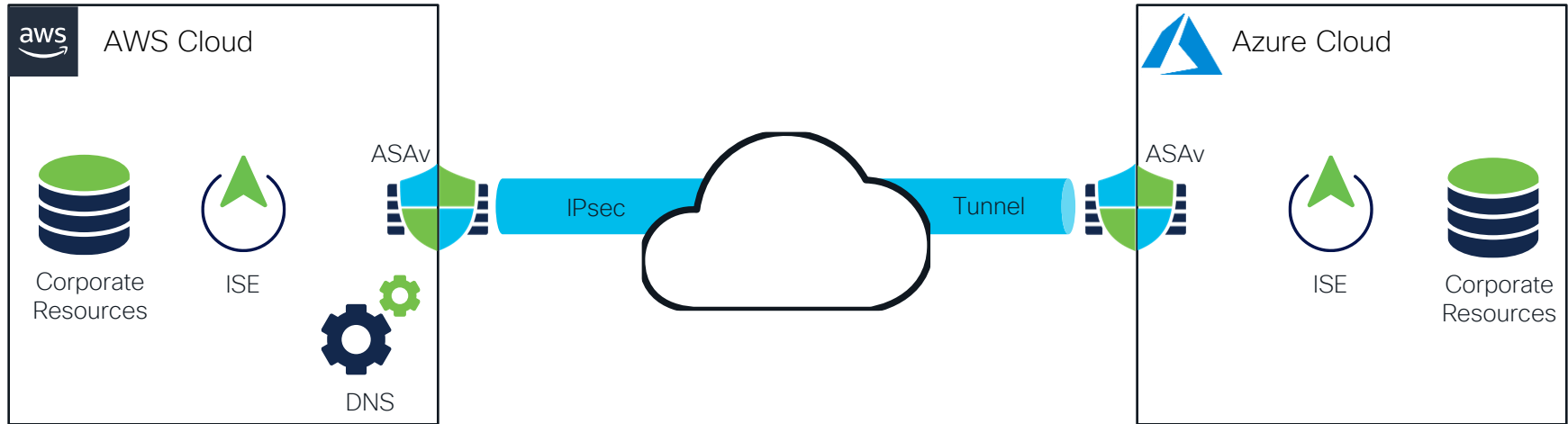
- Relies on the main.tf (terraform config) file to provision resources
- Terraform keeps the state of the infrastructure, compare the end result to what the current state is and provisions resources accordingly



# Demo. ISE installation on AWS and Azure using Terraform



# Deployment Topology



```
ekorneyc@EKORNEYC-M-20GN Terraform %  
ekorneyc@EKORNEYC-M-20GN Terraform % terraform apply
```

Terraform used the selected providers to generate the following execution plan. Resource actions are indicated with the following symbols:

+ create

Terraform will perform the following actions:

```
# aws_instance.ise1 will be created  
+ resource "aws_instance" "ise1" {  
  + ami                      = "ami-08c545c5ef3cacedd"  
  + arn                      = (known after apply)  
  + associate_public_ip_address = (known after apply)  
  + availability_zone         = (known after apply)  
  + cpu_core_count           = (known after apply)  
  + cpu_threads_per_core     = (known after apply)  
  + disable_api_termination  = (known after apply)  
  + ebs_optimized            = (known after apply)  
  + get_password_data        = false  
  + host_id                  = (known after apply)  
  + id                       = (known after apply)  
  + instance_initiated_shutdown_behavior = (known after apply)  
  + instance_state           = (known after apply)  
  + instance_type            = "c5.4xlarge"  
  + ipv6_address_count       = (known after apply)  
  + ipv6_addresses          = (known after apply)  
  + key_name                 = "AWS2"  
  + monitoring               = (known after apply)
```

That's not it, you  
need to  
configure  
things...



# Ansible

- Ansible playbooks are written in YAML
- Ansible playbooks consist of plays, which are sets of Tasks



galaxy.ansible.com

Community Authors > cisco > ise



Ansible Modules for Cisco ISE

cisco

Details

Read Me

Content

## Info

### Installation

```
$ ansible-galaxy collection install cisco.ise
```

**NOTE:** Installing collections with ansible-galaxy is only supported in ansible 2.9+

[Download tarball](#)

### Install Version

2.5.11 released 4 days ago (latest)

### Tags

cisco ise cloud collection networking sdn

Play (set of tasks)

Task

Playbook (set of plays)

```
- hosts: ise_servers
  vars_files:
    - credentials_emea.yml
  gather_facts: no
  tasks:

- name: Create or update ASAv
  cisco.ise.network_device:
    ise_hostname: "{{ise_hostname}}"
    ise_username: "{{ise_username}}"
    ise_password: "{{ise_password}}"
    ise_verify: "{{ise_verify}}"
    state: present
    name: ASAv2
    NetworkDeviceIPList:
      - ipaddress: 172.31.108.43
        mask: 32
    authenticationSettings:
      radiusSharedSecret: 'cisco'
      networkProtocol: 'RADIUS'
      description: 'ASAv in AWS'
    register: result
```

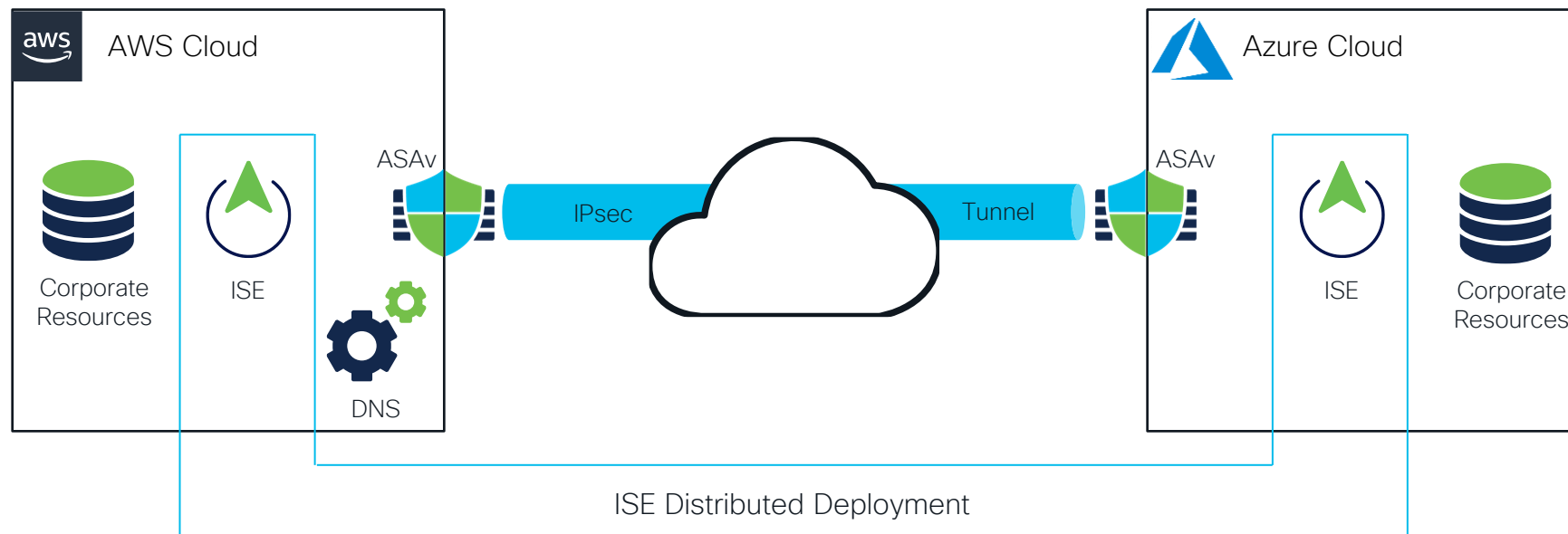
# Demo. ISE configuration using Ansible



# Deployment Topology



ISE Configuration





(Ansible) ekorneyc@EKORNEYC-M-20GN example % ansible-playbook -i hosts emea2023-ise-playbook.yaml

# AWS Partner Solution – Cisco ISE

# Partner Solutions Overview (formerly Quick Starts)

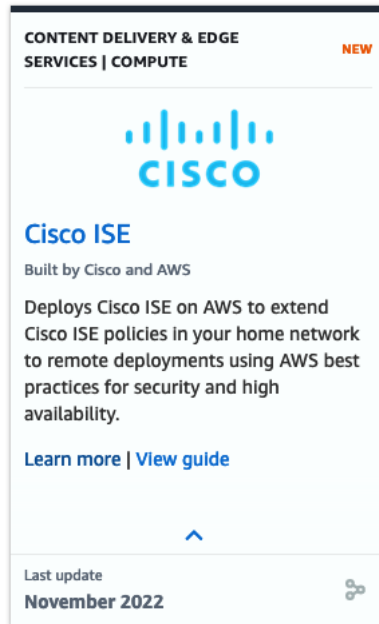
Automated Deployments built by Amazon Web Services solutions Architects and AWS Partners

Helps customers deploy popular technologies on AWS according to AWS Best Practices

Reduces hundreds of manual procedures into just few steps, so AWS customers can build production environments quickly

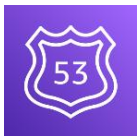


Automate deployments  
to the AWS Cloud



<https://aws.amazon.com/quickstart/>

# Even more terminology



Route 53

DNS Web Service



EventBridge

Serverless Service which can receive events from applications and invoke AWS Lambda Function based on Rules



Systems Manager

Parameter Store provides a storage for configuration data



Amazon SNS

Managed Messaging Service



AWS Lambda

Runs code in response to events



Step Functions

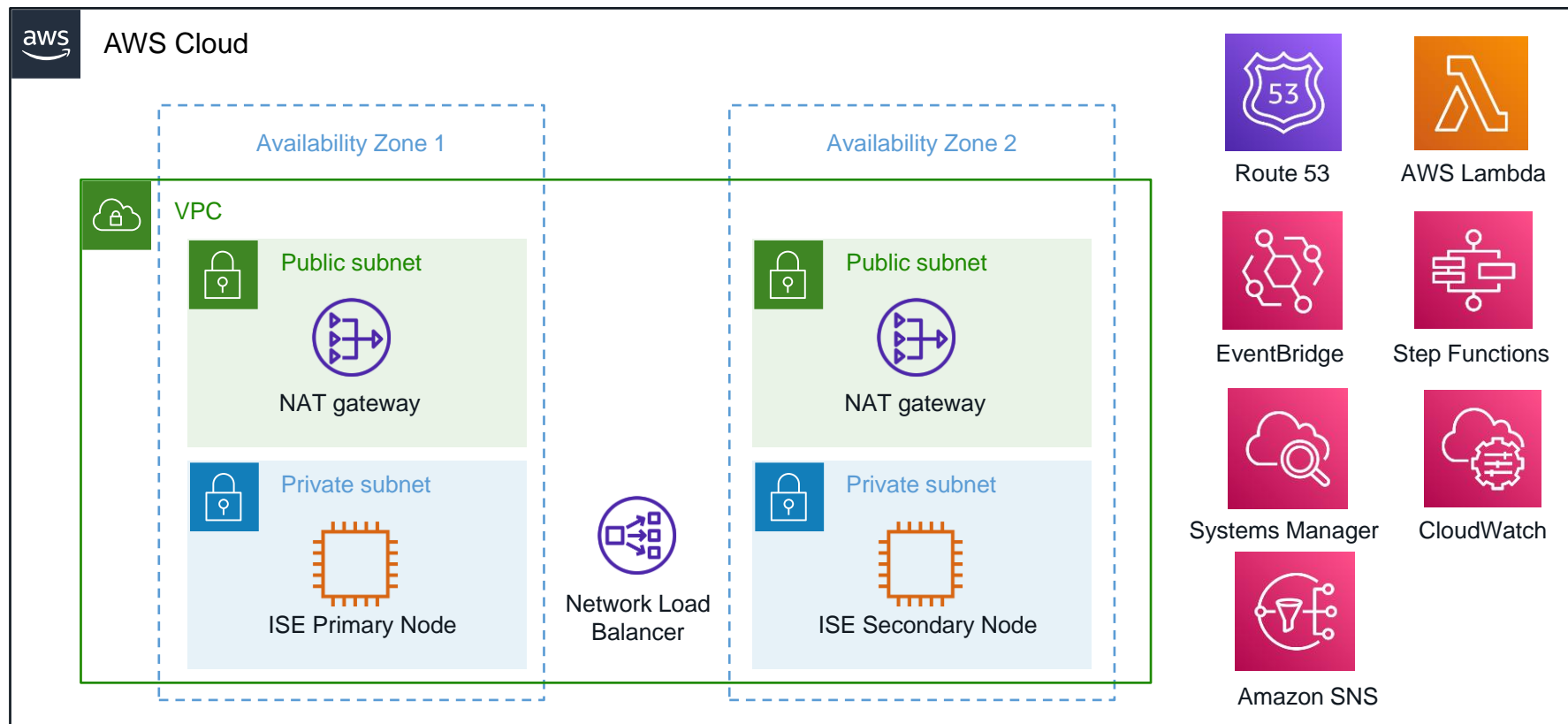
Orchestration for AWS services based on workflows










CloudWatch

Monitors application and takes automated actions

# AWS Partner Solution – Cisco ISE Architecture



# Implementation

Functionality	Amazon	Cisco
Create or leverage underlying network resources (VPC + Subnets + Routing)		
Bring up ISE Instances (EC2)		
Load Balancer (AWS ELB)		
DNS (Route 53)		
Form 2-node ISE deployment (Lambda + Step Functions + SSM Parameter store + SNS)		
Automatic PAN failover (CloudWatch + Lambda + Step Functions + SSM Parameter store + SNS)		
Health check Service (Event Bridge + Lambda + SNS)		

# Demo. AWS Partner Solution – Cisco ISE





AWS Partner Solutions

Terraform modules

FAQs

Resources



# AWS Partner Solutions

(formerly Quick Starts)

Automate deployments to the AWS Cloud

Partner Solutions are automated reference deployments built by Amazon Web Services (AWS) solutions architects and AWS Partners. Partner Solutions help you deploy popular technologies to AWS according to AWS best practices. You can reduce hundreds of manual procedures to a few steps and start using your environment within minutes.

## SEE ALSO

For guidance on automating AWS Cloud DevOps tasks, see the [Integration & Automation blog](#).

[Clear all filters](#)

### Content Type

- ☐ AWS Partner Solutions
- ☐ AWS Solutions Implementations

### Technology Category

1-15 (444)

1-15 (444)

MACHINE LEARNING & AI

UPDATED

SOLUTION | MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

UPDATED

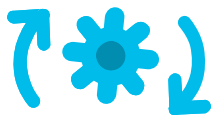
GUIDANCE

NEW

Sort by: Last update (newest - oldest)



# ISE in the Cloud. Design Considerations



- Upgrade workflow is not supported. Only fresh installs are supported. However, you can carry out backup and restore of configuration data



- SSH access to Cisco ISE CLI using password-based authentication is not supported. You can only access the Cisco ISE CLI through a key pair



- Latency should be below 300 msec



- Starting ISE 3.2 default GUI username is “iseadmin”

# ISE in the Cloud. Licensing

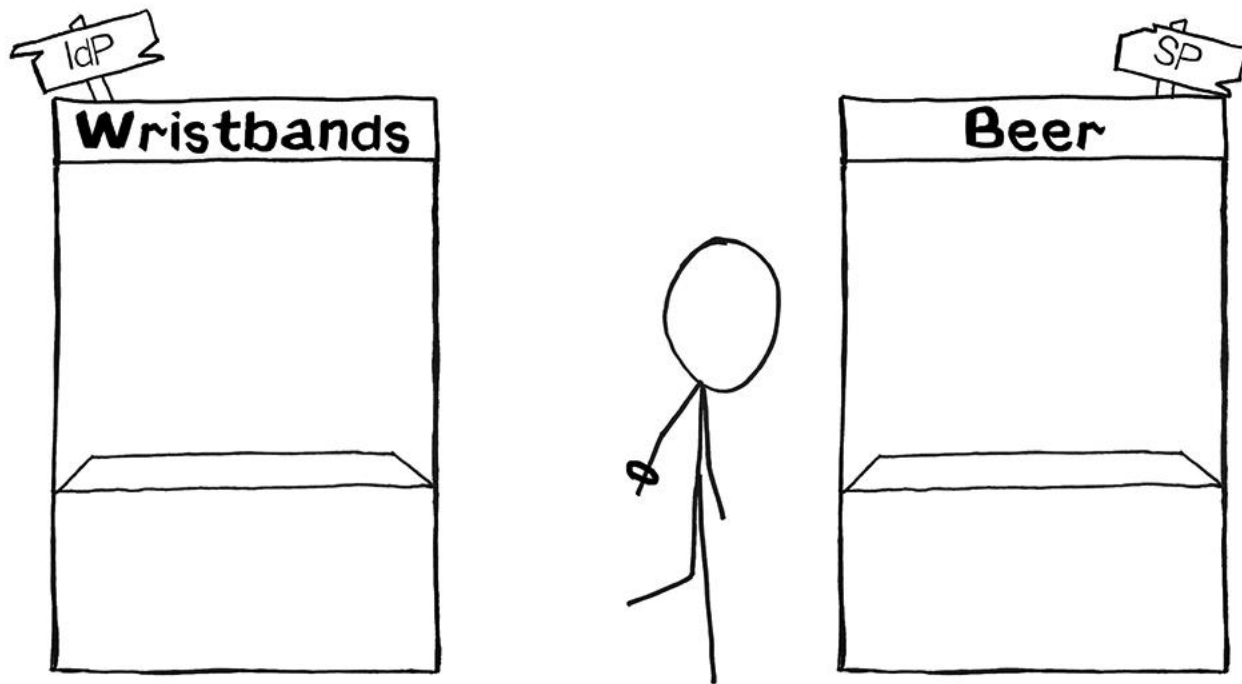
Cisco ISE leverages the Bring Your Own License (BYOL)

- ISE Comes with 90-days Evaluation License
- Use the Common VM License to enable Cisco ISE on cloud platforms, in addition to the other Cisco ISE licenses that you need for the Cisco ISE features you want to use.



# ISE SAML SSO

# What is SAML?



[The Beer Drinker's Guide to SAML](#)

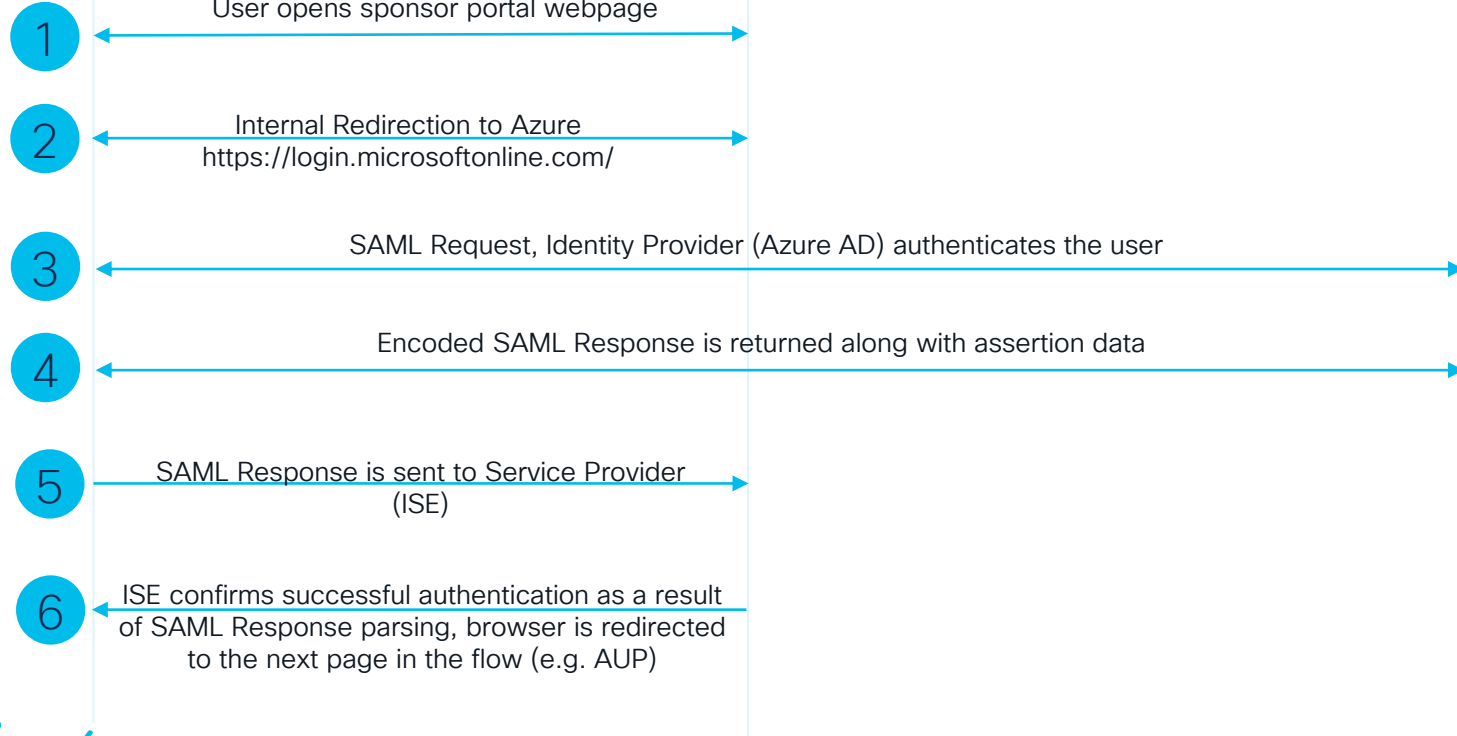
Web Browser



ISE

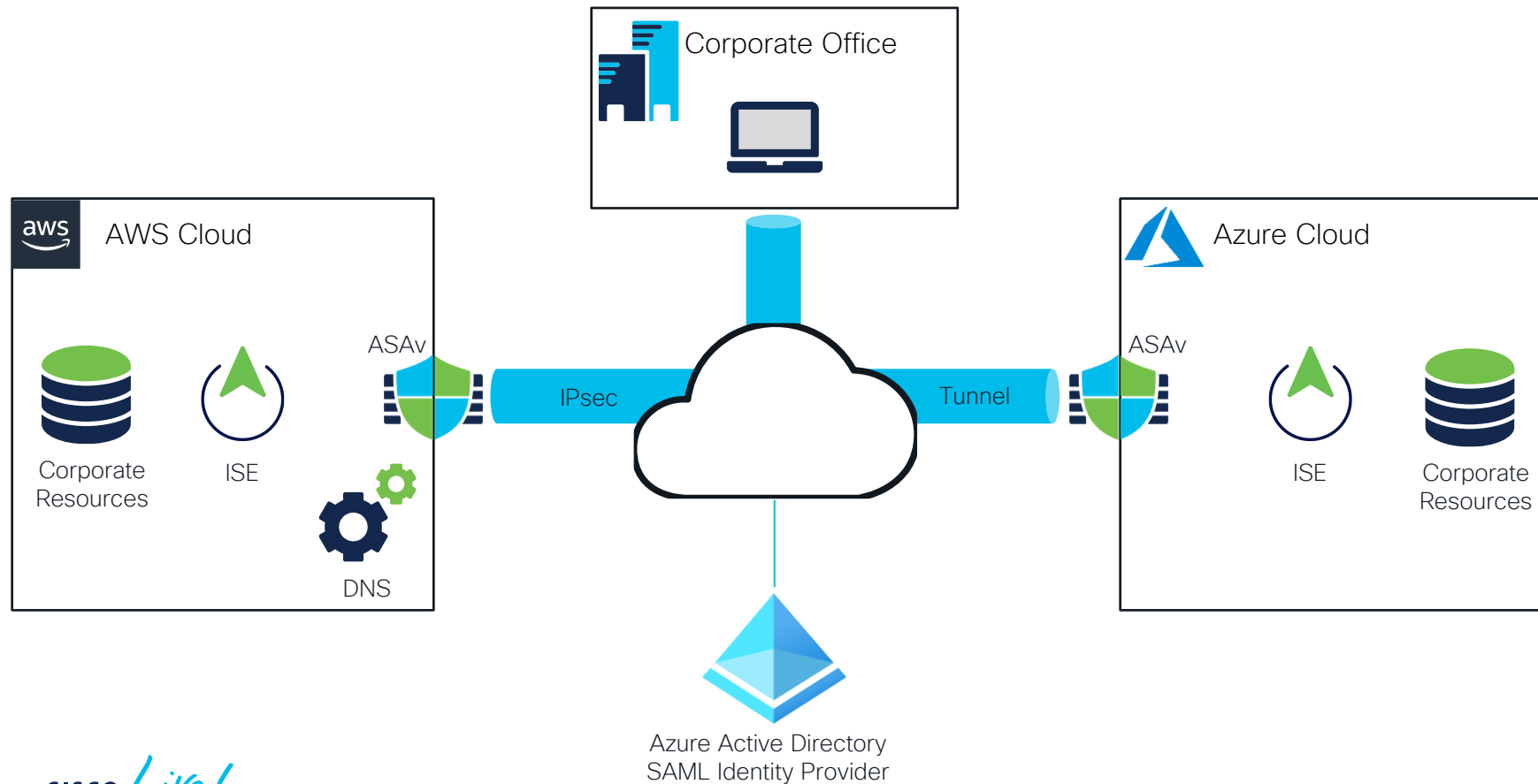


Azure AD



# Demo. ISE Sponsor Portal Authentication with SAML

# Deployment Topology



Route 53 Console Hosted Zones X

Identity Services Engine X

← → ↺

https://54.80.78.237/admin/#home

☆

🛡️

E

🔥

👤

APP

🌐

☰

☰ Cisco ISE

Dashboard

⚠️ Evaluation Mode 89 Days 🔍 ? 🗨️ ⚙️

Summary

Endpoints

Guests

Vulnerability

Threat

+

Manage ▾

<

Total Endpoints ⓘ

1

Active Endpoints ⓘ

0

Rejected Endpoints ⓘ

0

Anomalous Behavior ⓘ

0

Authenticated Guests ⓘ

0

BYOD Endpoints ⓘ

0

↺

C

>

⋮ AUTHENTICATIONS ⓘ

🔗 ↺ ✕

Identity Store

Identity Group

Network Device

Failure Reason

⋮ NETWORK DEVICES ⓘ

🔗 ↺ ✕

Device Name

Type

Location

⋮ ENDPOINTS ⓘ

🔗 ↺ ✕

Profile

Logical Profile

⋮ BYOD ENDPOINTS ⓘ

🔗 ↺ ✕

Type

Profile

⋮ ALARMS ⓘ

🔗 ↺ ✕

Severity	Name	Occu...	Last Occurred
⚠️	ISE Authentication In...	75	less than 1 min ...

⋮ SYSTEM SUMMARY ⓘ

🔗 ↺ ✕

2 node(s)

ISE31-aws1

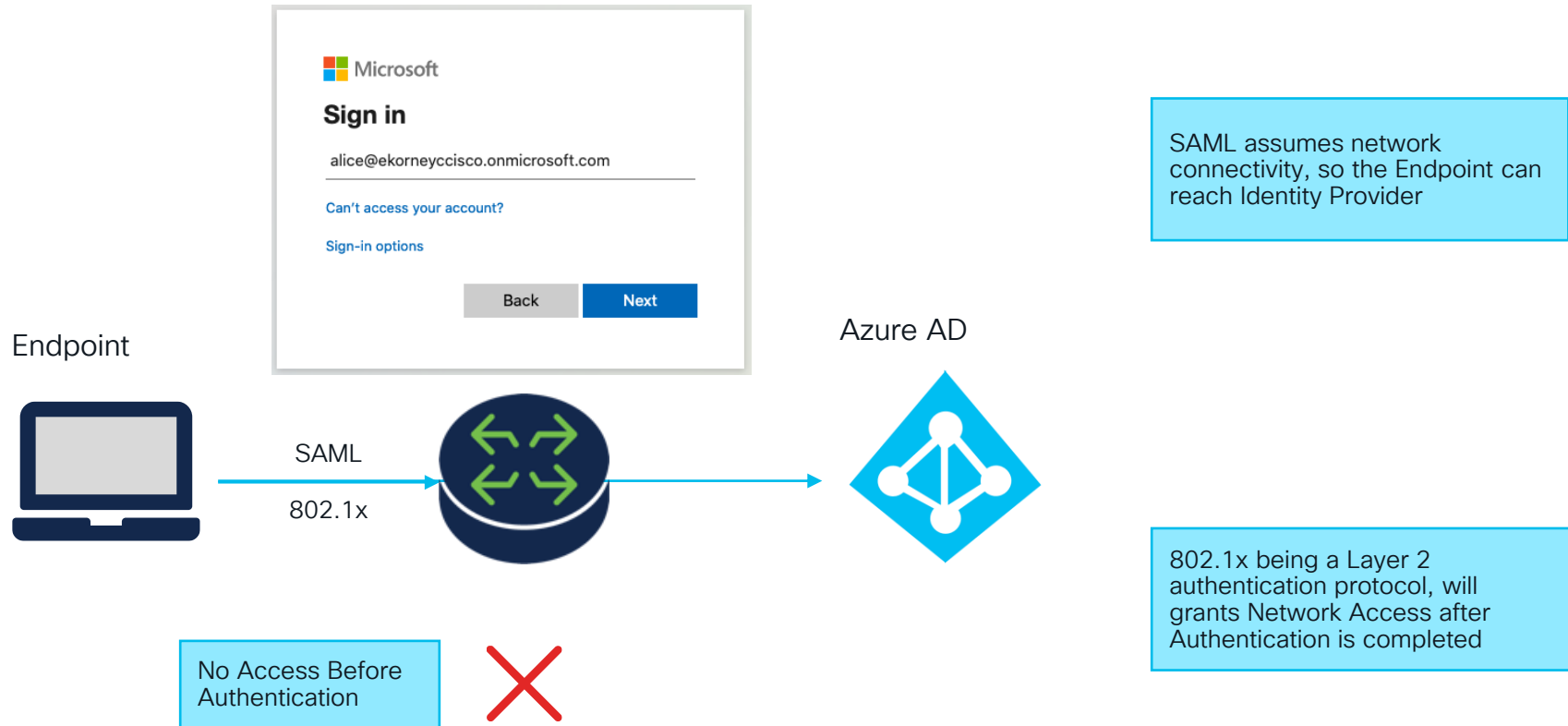
All ▾ 24HR ▾

51

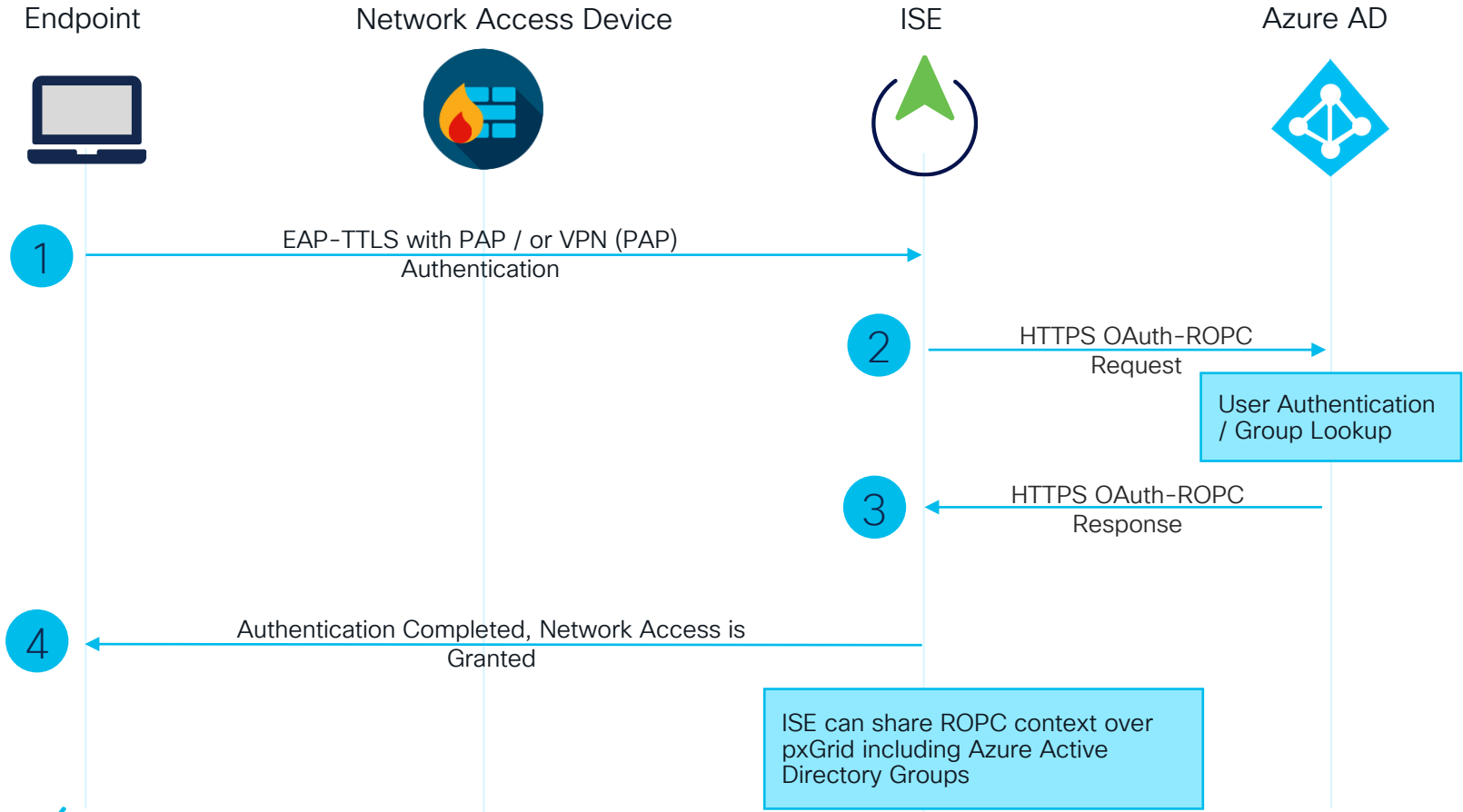


# ISE Azure Active Directory Authentication

# 802.1x Authentication Problem with SAML



# ROPC Flow Diagram



# EAP-TLS Authorization with Azure Active Directory

Endpoint

Network Access Device

ISE

Azure AD



1

EAP-TLS / TEAP Authentication

2

REST API Group Lookup

Group Lookup

3

REST API Group Lookup  
Response

4

Authentication Completed, Network Access is  
Granted



NEW. ISE 3.2+

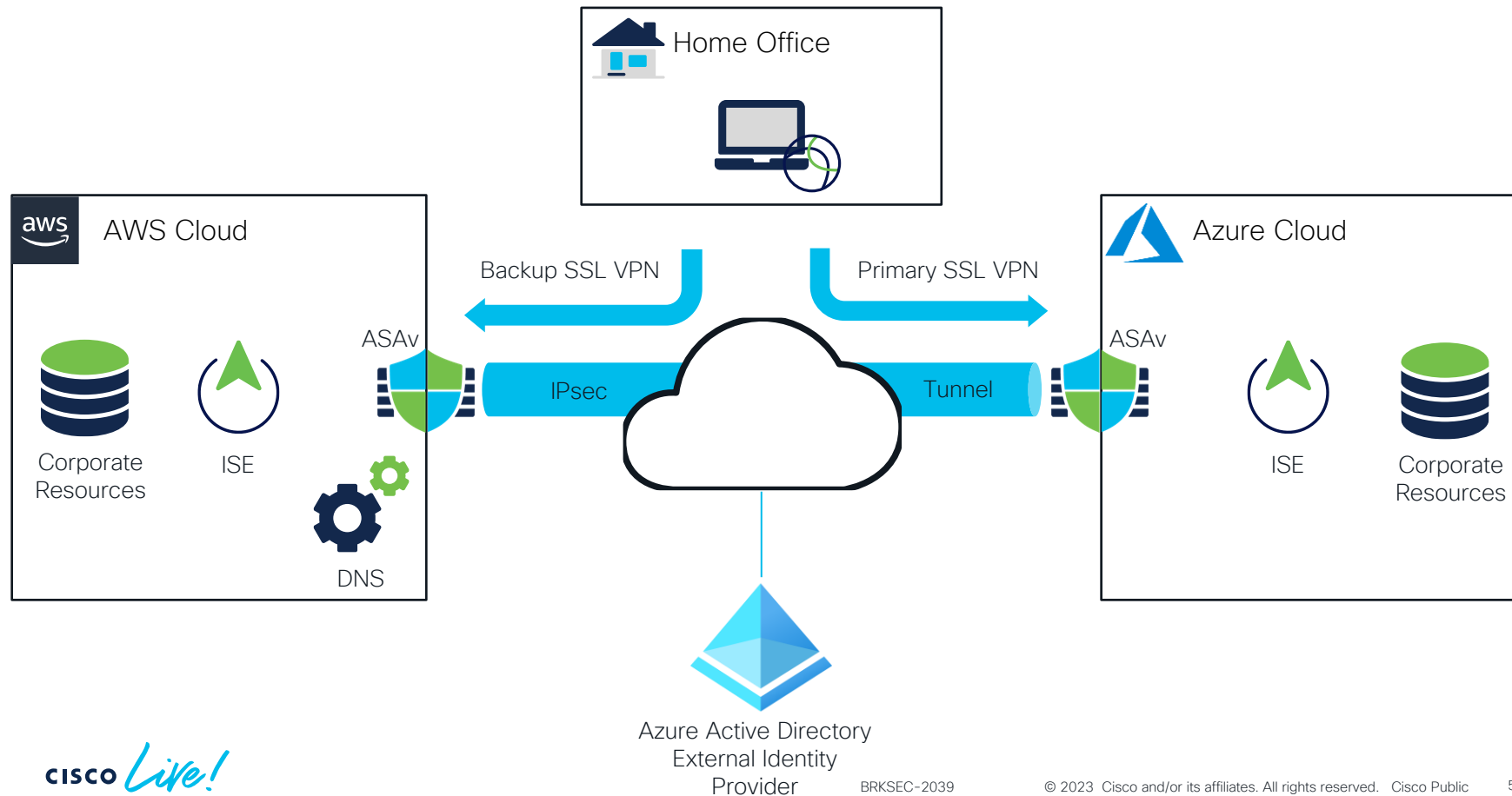
# ROPC Limitations



- No user interactions allowed for password changes, MFA, or AUPs
- No new accounts that have not yet changed the default password
- Azure AD tenants and accounts only. No invited personal accounts or federated IdPs like Microsoft, Google+, Twitter, AD-FS, Facebook
- Only user authentication is supported

# Demo. Remote Access VPN Authentication with Azure Active Directory

# Deployment Topology



Dashboard | EC2 Management | ASAv-Outside-NSG - Microsoft | bob - Microsoft Azure | Identity Services Engine

https://44.202.48.66/admin/#home

120%

Cisco ISE

Dashboard

Evaluation Mode 88 Days 1

Your Evaluation license expires in 88 days. You will have limited administrative access to Cisco ISE after the license expiration date. Update license

Summary

Endpoints

Guests

Vulnerability

Threat

Manage

Total Endpoints

1

Active Endpoints

0

Rejected Endpoints

0

Anomalous Behavior

0

Authenticated Guests

0

AUTHENTICATIONS

Identity Store

Identity Group

Network Device

Failure Reason

1

azuread - 100%

NETWORK DEVICES

Device Name

Type

Location

1

asav-azure - 100%

ENDPOINTS

Profile

Logical Profile

1

windo...ation - 100%

BYOD ENDPOINTS

Type

Profile

ALARMS

Severity

Name

Occu...

Last Oc

SYSTEM SUMMARY

2 node(s)

ISE-AWS

All

24HR

60



# Conclusion

# Key Takeaways

- ISE can be deployed natively on AWS, Azure, OCI
- SAML SSO is available on ISE for Portals (Admin, Guest, Sponsor, etc.)
- 802.1X authentications, RA VPN authentications are possible with Azure Active Directory as an External Identity Store

# Complete your Session Survey

- Please complete your session survey after each session. Your feedback is very important.
- Complete a minimum of 4 session surveys and the Overall Conference survey (open from Thursday) to receive your Cisco Live t-shirt.
- All surveys can be taken in the Cisco Events Mobile App or by logging in to the Session Catalog and clicking the "Attendee Dashboard" at <https://www.ciscolive.com/emea/learn/sessions/session-catalog.html>



# Continue Your Education



Visit the Cisco Showcase for related demos.



Book your one-on-one Meet the Engineer meeting.



Attend any of the related sessions at the DevNet, Capture the Flag, and Walk-in Labs zones.



Visit the On-Demand Library for more sessions at [ciscolive.com/on-demand](https://ciscolive.com/on-demand).

# Security Technologies

## General Security Technologies

Learn about the different shades of cyber security in our daily lives and join us for a journey through various topics, from the depths of the darknet to the peak of crypto-analysis.

START

Feb 7 | 08:30

### **BRKSEC-2487**

Cat and Mouse - Defender's need better Mousetraps!

Feb 7 | 10:00

### **BRKSEC-2727**

6 Years of Supply Chain Attacks

Feb 7 | 11:30

### **BRKSEC-1240**

If you don't have a Security Reference Architecture, you must get one!

Feb 7 | 11:30

### **BRKSEC-2037**

Securing Starlink Internet Services

Feb 7 | 12:20

### **PSOSEC-1213**

The Evolution of Ransomware

Feb 7 | 13:30

### **BRKSEC-2354**

Automating Security: Just Because You Can, Doesn't Mean You Should

Feb 7 | 14:00

### **IBOSEC-3000**

Critical Requirements for Securing Government Networks

Feb 7 | 15:00

### **BRKSEC-2051**

The Evolution of DNS Security

Feb 7 | 17:15

### **IBOSEC-2012**

Ransomware Role-Playing: A Guided Tabletop Exercise with Talos Incident Response

Feb 8 | 08:45

### **BRKSEC-2227**

Evaluating and Improving Defenses With MITRE ATT&CK



Feb 8 | 10:45

### **BRKSEC-2172**

Peeling an Onion: A Short Travel into the Darknet

If you are unable to attend a live session, you can watch it [On Demand](#) after the event

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# Security Technologies

## Zero Trust

Learn how Cisco will help you deploy a broad range of technologies in order to deploy your end to end Zero Trust strategy.

START

Feb 5 | 16:00

### **LABSEC-2089**

Multi-factor Authentication:  
Integration of DUO with ISE for MFA

Feb 6 | 08:45

### **TECSEC-2007**

Find Your Zen with Cisco Secure  
Workload for Zero Trust Segmentation

Feb 6 | 08:45

### **TECSEC-2781**

Zero Trust: From understanding the  
risks to architecting a practical solution

Feb 6 | 15:20

### **PSOSEC-1210**

A global view on Zero-Trust  
- mapping your business resilience  
requirements

Feb 7 | 08:45

### **BRKSEC-2445**

The Art of ISE Posture, Configuration  
and Troubleshooting

Feb 7 | 16:45

### **BRKSEC-2053**

Zero Trust: Securing the  
Evolving Workplace

Feb 7 | 17:00

### **BRKSEC-1139**

Application Security  
- The Final Frontier

Feb 8 | 10:45

### **BRKSEC-2096**

Securing Industrial Networks:  
Where do I start?

Feb 8 | 13:30

### **BRKSEC-2748**

Taking Authentication to the Next Level  
with Cisco Secure Access by Duo



Feb 8 | 17:00

### **BRKSEC-2123**

Solving the Segmentation Puzzle!  
Secure Workload and Secure  
Firewall Integration

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The bridge to possible

# Thank you

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ALL IN