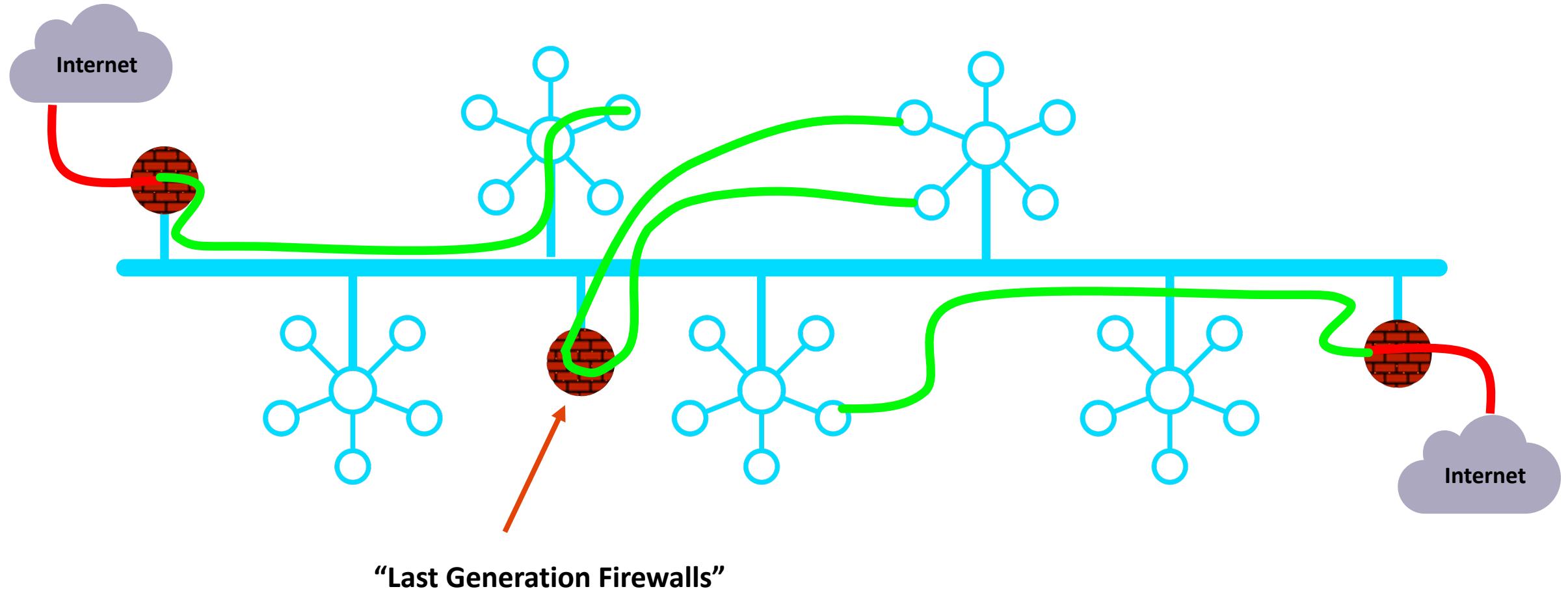




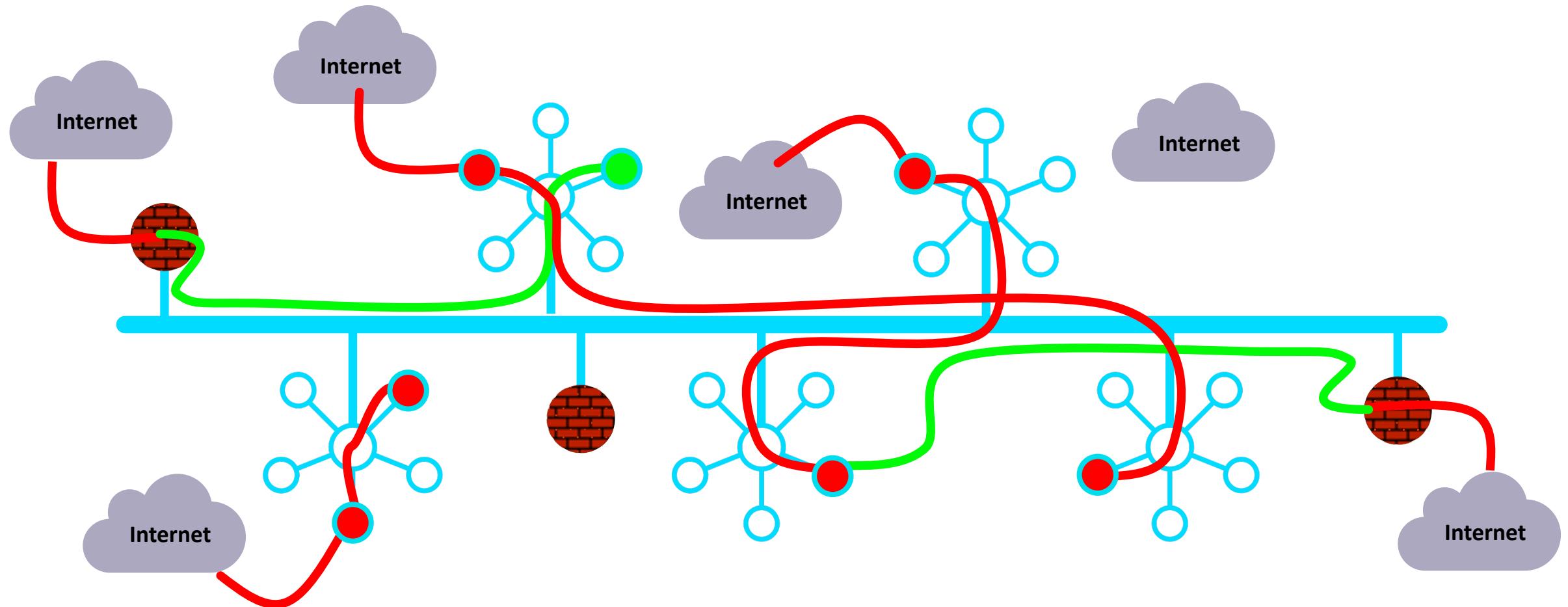
Distributed Cloud Firewall

ACE Solutions Architecture Team

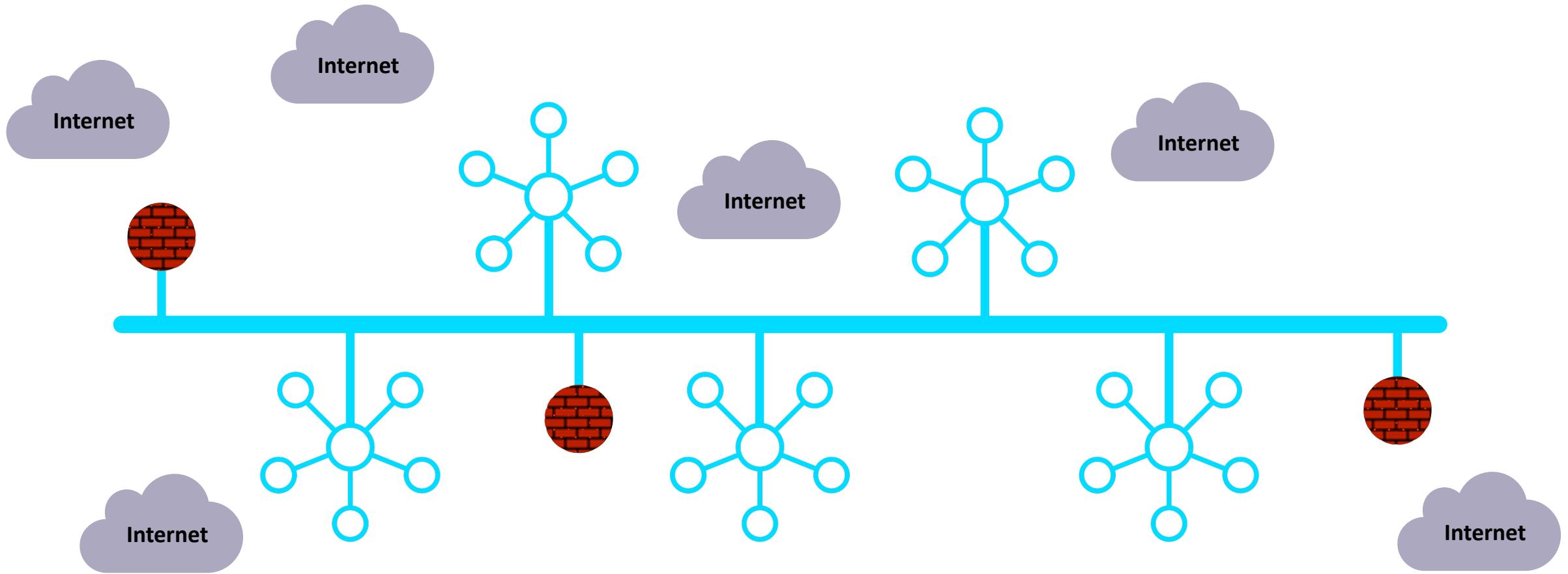
As Architected with Lift-and-Shift, Bolt-on, Data Center Era Products...



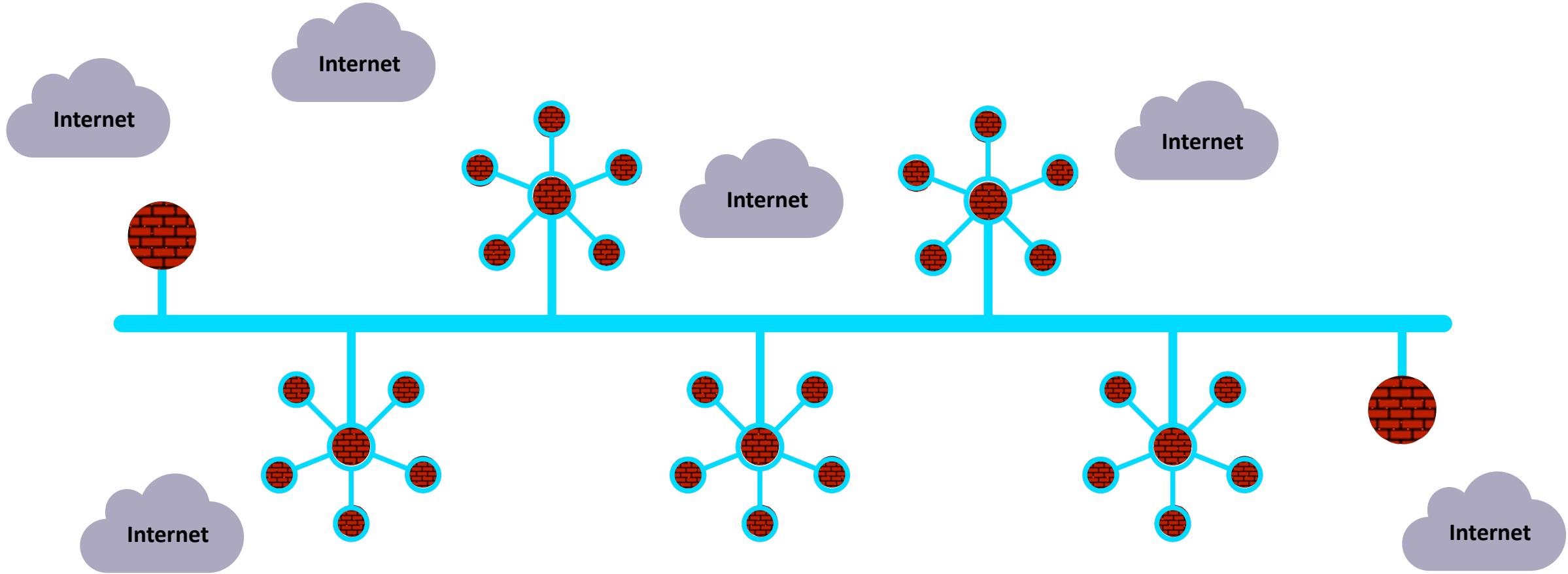
In Reality...



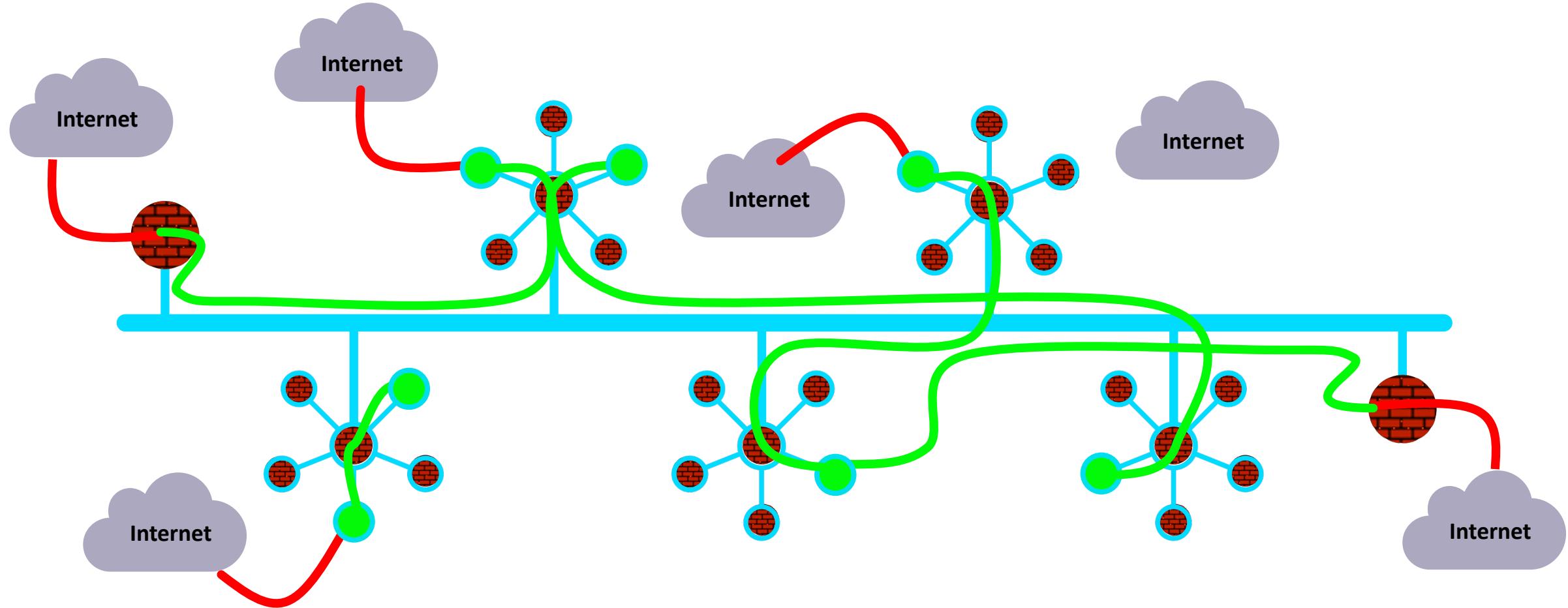
What If... the architecture was built for cloud



Firewalling Functions were Embedded in the Cloud Network Everywhere...

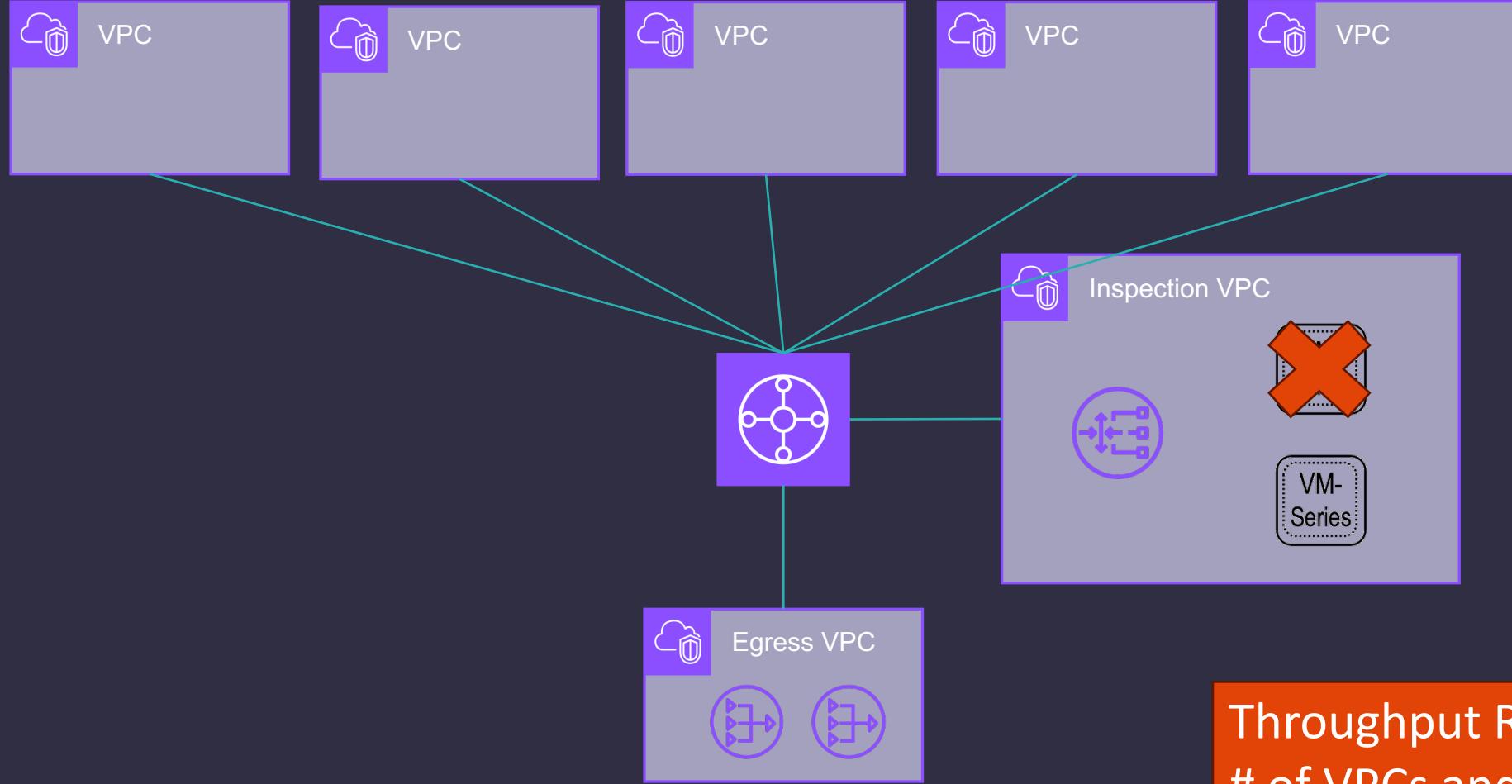


Distribution of the Security Services into the Spokes



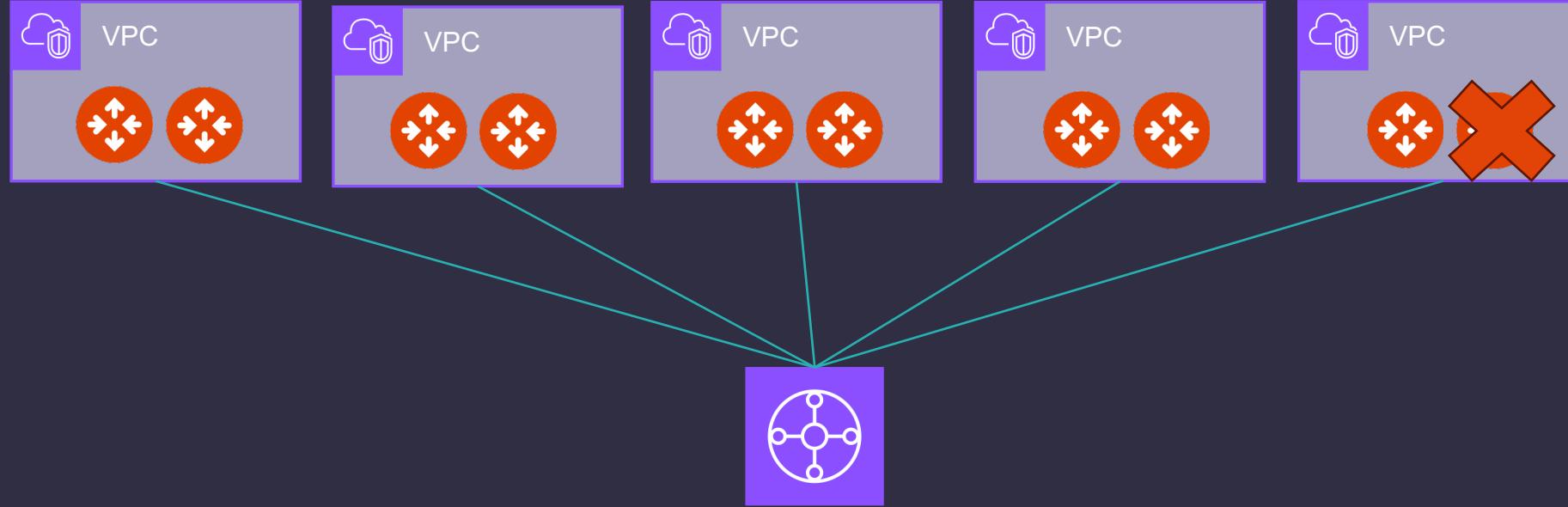
How companies are navigating the network security is an obstacle course in 2024

Impact of Failure – Centralized Architecture



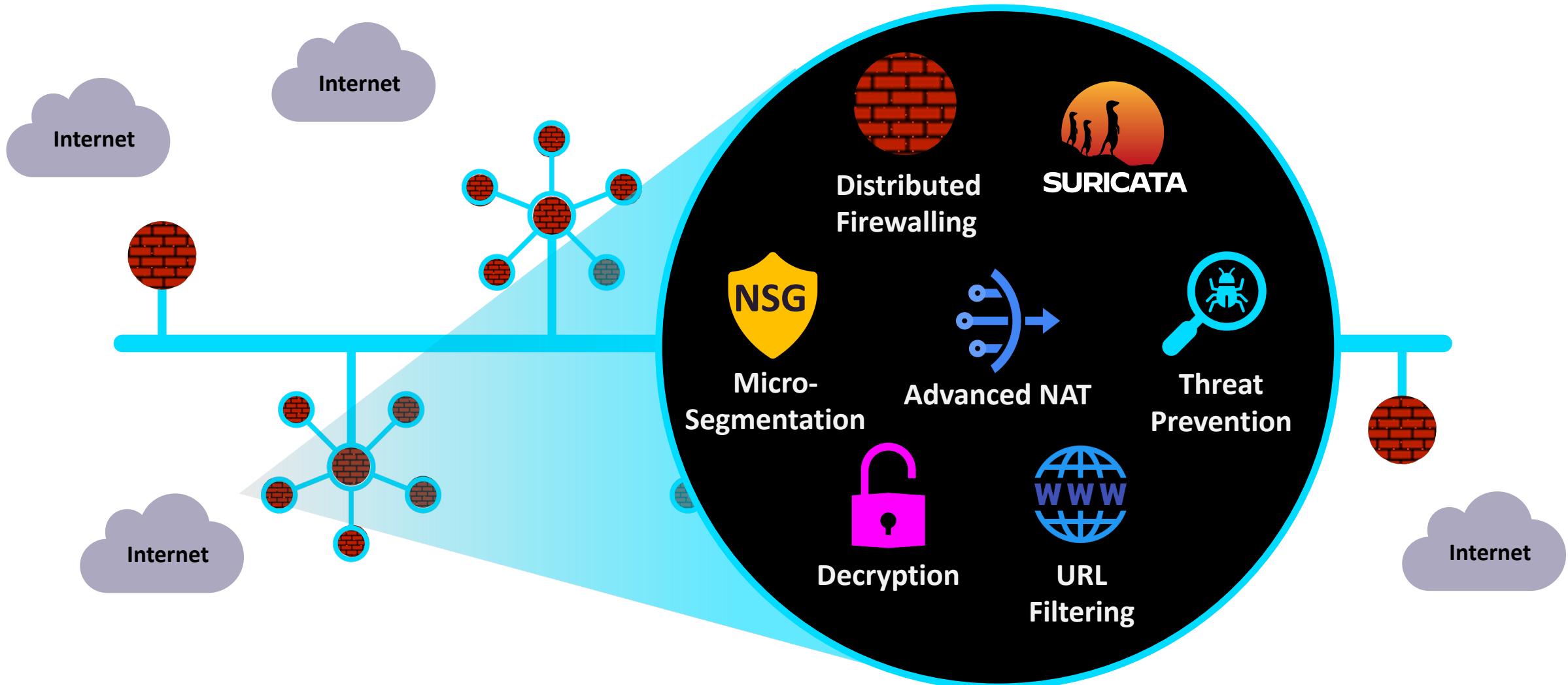
Throughput Reduction: 50%
of VPCs and AZs Impacted: ALL

Impact of Failure – Distributed Architecture

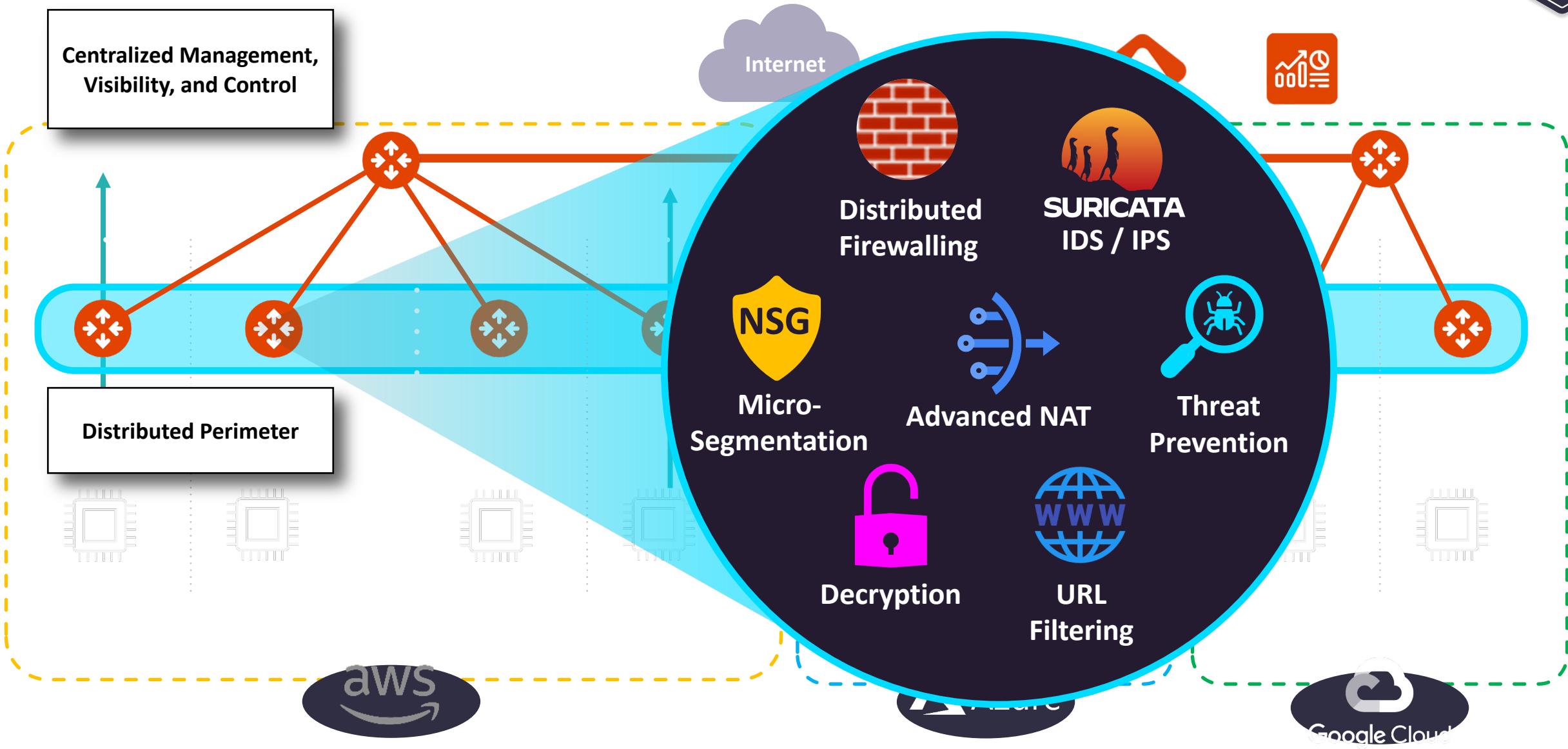


Throughput Reduction: 10%
of VPCs and AZs Impacted: 1 AZ in 1 VPC

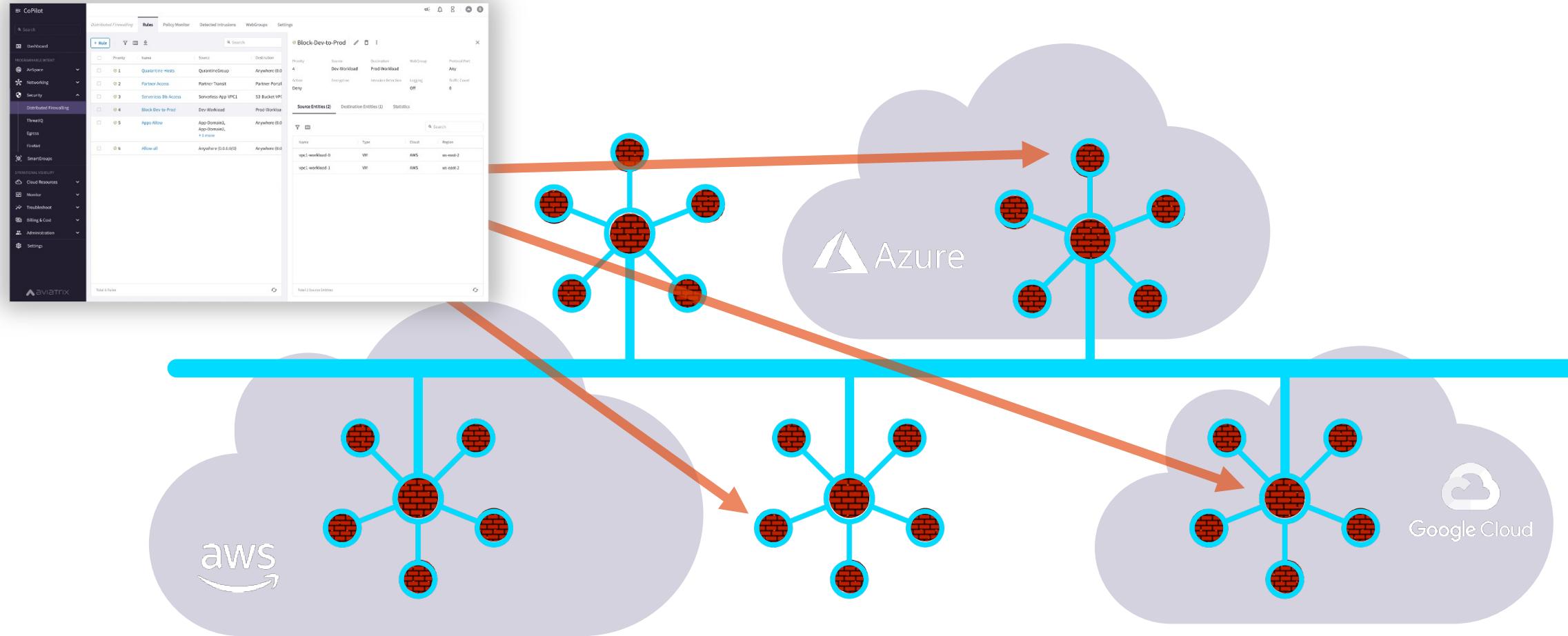
And, What If it was more than just firewalling...



Aviatrix Distributed Cloud Firewall



Policy Creation Looked Like One Big Firewall ... A Distributed Cloud Firewall...



Where and How Policies Are Enforced Is Abstracted...

SmartGroups: Definition

- A firewall rule consists of two important initial elements:
 - **Source**
 - **Destination**

- **What is a SmartGroup?**

A SmartGroup identifies a group of resources that have similar policy requirements and are associated to the same *logical container*.

- The members of a SmartGroup can be classified using *three* methods:

- CSP Tags
- Resource Attributes
- CIDR



SmartGroups: Classification Methods

CSP Tags (recommended)

- Tags are assigned to:
 - Instance
 - VPC/VNET
 - Subnet
- Tags are {Key, Value} pairs
- Eg: A VM hosting shopping cart application can be tagged with:
 - {Key: Type, Value: Shopping cart app}
 - {Key: Env, Value: Staging}

Instance: i-0380038ff7d66b66f (shopping cart app)

Select an instance above

Details	Security	Networking	Storage	Status checks	Monitoring	Tags						
Tags <input type="text" value="Search..."/> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Key</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Env</td> <td>Staging</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name</td> <td>shopping cart app</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							Key	Value	Env	Staging	Name	shopping cart app
Key	Value											
Env	Staging											
Name	shopping cart app											

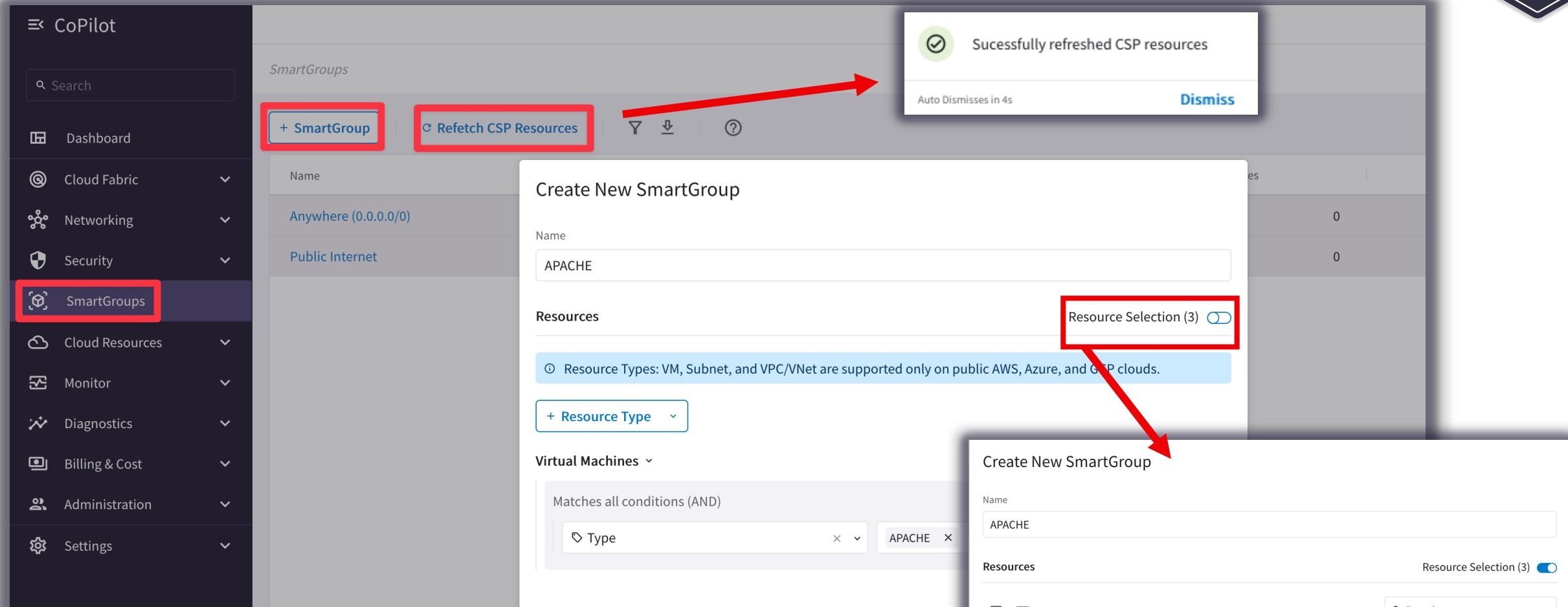
Resource attribute

- Region Name, Account Name

IP Prefixes

- CIDR

SmartGroups Creation



The screenshot shows the Aviatrix CoPilot interface with the 'SmartGroups' menu item highlighted. The 'Create New SmartGroup' dialog is open, showing the name 'APACHE' and three selected resources. A success message at the top right indicates 'Successfully refreshed CSP resources'.

SmartGroup Creation Steps:

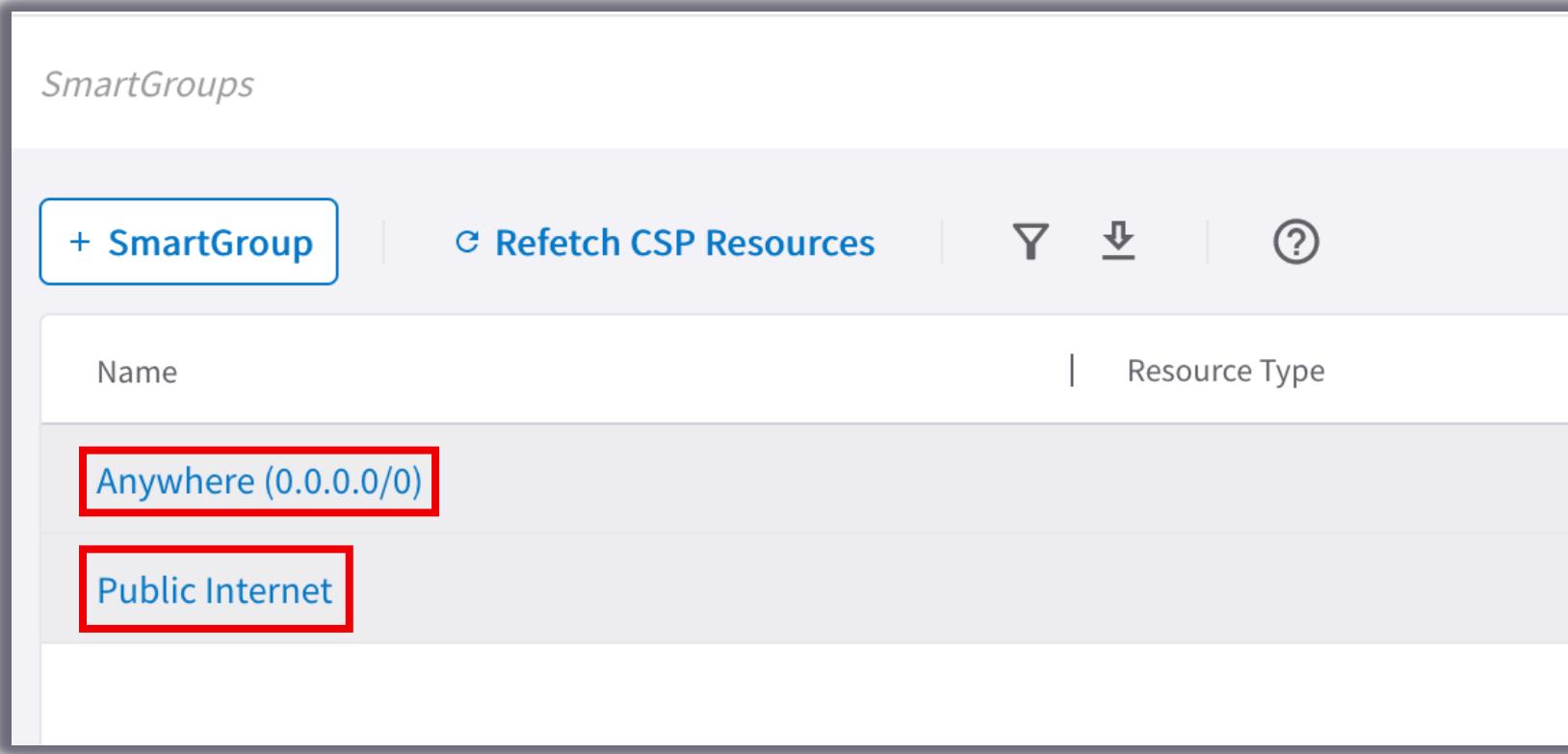
- Click on the '+ SmartGroup' button.
- Click on the 'Resource Selection (3)' toggle switch.

SmartGroup Details:

Name	Type	Cloud	Region
PROD1-APACHE	VM	AWS	eu-central-1
PROD2-APACHE	VM	AWS	eu-central-1
prod3-apache	VM	Azure ARM	westeurope

- Controller polls the CSPs to retrieve inventory (about VPCs, instances etc.) every **15 minutes** (can be modified)
- CoPilot queries Controller every **1 hour** (can be modified)
- On-demand refresh of tags is available

Pre-defined SmartGroups



The screenshot shows a user interface for managing SmartGroups. At the top left is a button labeled "+ SmartGroup". To its right are three icons: a circular arrow for "Refetch CSP Resources", a downward-pointing triangle for sorting, and a question mark for help. The main area has two columns: "Name" and "Resource Type". Two entries are listed: "Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)" and "Public Internet". Both entries are highlighted with a red rectangular border.

Name	Resource Type
Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)	
Public Internet	

- **Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0) → 0.0.0.0/0** (Type: CIDR)
- **Public Internet → 31 Public Internet Summary Routes** (Type: CIDR)

“Public Internet Summary” CIDRs

Name	IP/CIDRs	168.0.0.6	168.0.0.6	192.128.0.11	192.128.0.11	196.0.0.6	196.0.0.6
0.0.0.0/5	0.0.0.0/5	172.0.0.12	172.0.0.12	192.160.0.13	192.160.0.13	200.0.0.5	200.0.0.5
8.0.0.0/7	8.0.0.0/7	172.32.0.11	172.32.0.11	192.169.0.16	192.169.0.16	208.0.0.4	208.0.0.4
11.0.0.0/8	11.0.0.0/8	172.64.0.10	172.64.0.10	192.170.0.15	192.170.0.15	224.0.0.3	224.0.0.3
12.0.0.0/6	12.0.0.0/6	172.128.0.9	172.128.0.9	192.172.0.14	192.172.0.14		
16.0.0.0/4	16.0.0.0/4	173.0.0.8	173.0.0.8	192.176.0.12	192.176.0.12		
32.0.0.0/3	32.0.0.0/3	174.0.0.7	174.0.0.7	192.192.0.10	192.192.0.10		
64.0.0.0/2	64.0.0.0/2	176.0.0.4	176.0.0.4	193.0.0.8	193.0.0.8		
128.0.0.0/3	128.0.0.0/3	192.0.0.9	192.0.0.9	194.0.0.7	194.0.0.7		
160.0.0.0/5	160.0.0.0/5						

Enabling Distributed Cloud Firewall



Distributed Cloud Firewall provides granular network security controls for distributed applications in the cloud, with a zero-trust architecture and a centralized policy management across multiple clouds.

[Manage Add-on Features](#) [Enable Distributed Cloud Firewall](#)

- Enabling the Distributed Cloud Firewall without configured rules will deny all previously permitted traffic due to its implicit Deny All rule.
- To maintain consistency, a **Greenfield Rule** will be created to allow traffic that maintains the current state, facilitating the creation of custom rules for specific security needs.

Distributed Cloud Firewall		Rules	Monitor	Detected Intrusions	WebGroups	Settings	
+ Rule	Actions	Actions	Filter	Sort	Search		
Priority	Name	Source	Destination	WebGroup	Protocol	Ports	Action
<input type="checkbox"/>	21474...	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)		Any		Permit

The Greenfield-Rule Structure

Edit Rule: Greenfield-Rule

⚠ Rules will be applied only on AWS, AWS Gov, ARM, ARM Gov, and GCP

Name
Greenfield-Rule

Source SmartGroups
Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)

Destination SmartGroups
Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)

WebGroups

Protocol
Any

Port
All
Specify multiple ports (e.g. 80) and/or port ranges (e.g. 80-8080)

Rule Behavior

Action
Permit

SG Orchestration
Off

Ensure TLS
Off

TLS Decryption
Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS)
Off

Rule Priority

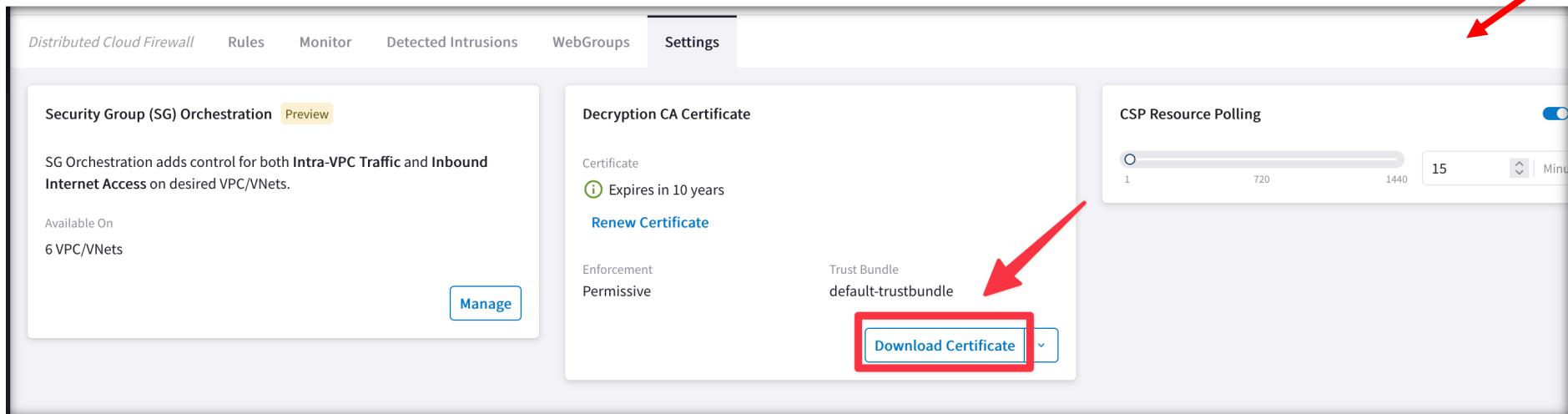
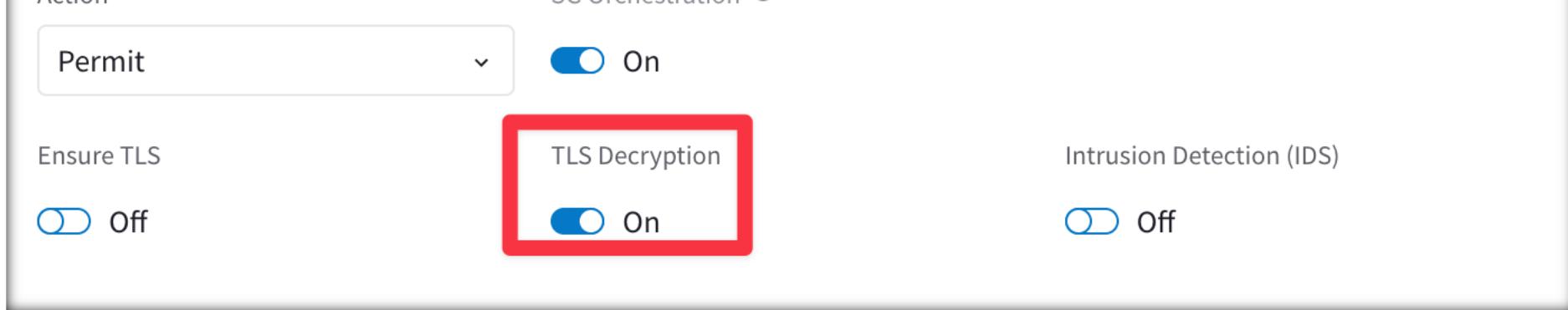
Enforcement Logging

Cancel **Save In Drafts**

- **Source SmartGroups:** Anywhere(0.0.0.0/0)
- **Destination SmartGroups:** Anywhere(0.0.0.0/0)
- **Protocol:** Any
- **Action:** Permit
- Can be **edited** and **deleted**
- It can be **moved** when new rules are created like any other rules
- If it is the only rule present in the rules base, it is allocated above the implicit deny-all rule

TLS Decryption: Decryption CA Cert

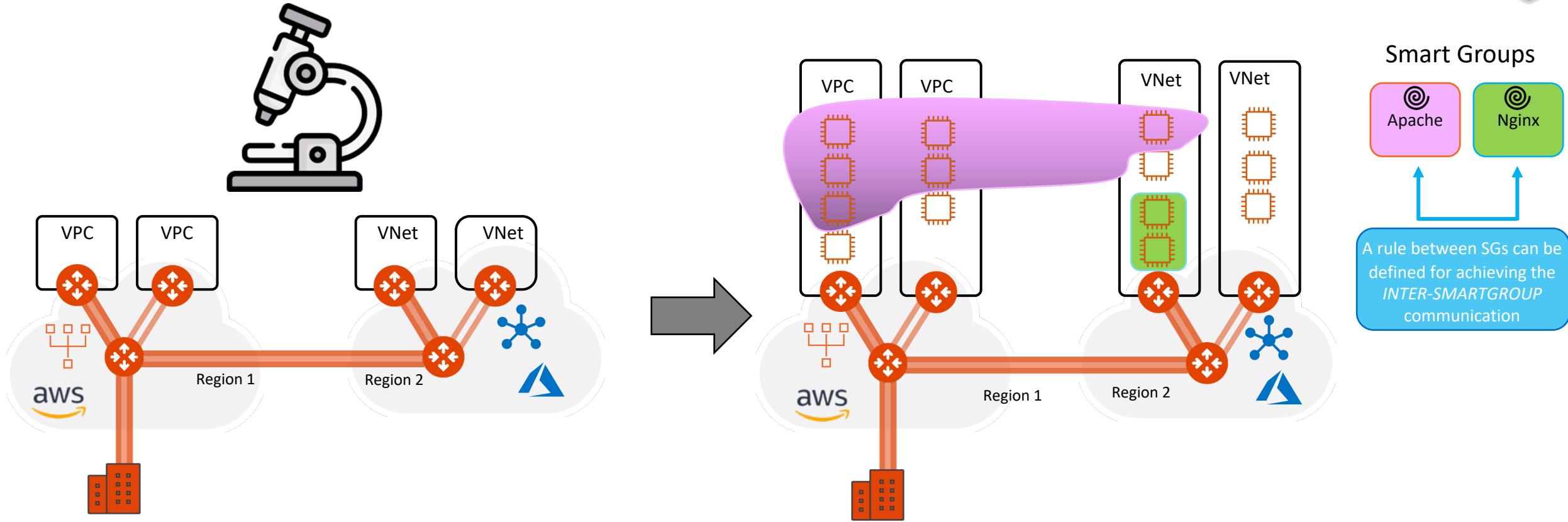
ⓘ Decrypt CA Certificates should be trusted by the Source SmartGroup virtual machines when TLS Decryption is enabled for proxy.



1. Download the Decryption CA Bundle.
2. Distribute the bundle across all the workloads.

Decrypt CA Certificates should be trusted by the **Source SmartGroup** virtual machines when TLS Decryption is enabled for proxy.

Distributed Cloud Firewall Rule Types: Intra-rule vs. Inter-rule



- **INTRA-RULE:** is defined within a Smart Group, for dictating what kind of traffic is allowed/prohibited among all the instances that belong to that Smart Group
- **INTER-RULE:** is defined among Smart Groups, for dictating what kind of traffic is allowed/prohibited among two or more Smart Groups.

Micro-Segmentation: SmartGroups, Intra-Rules and Inter-Rules

SmartGroup Apache

SmartGroup Nginx

SmartGroup Nginx → **SmartGroup Apache**

Create Rule

Rules will be applied only on AWS, AWS Gov, ARM, ARM Gov, and GCP

Name: INTRA-ICMP-APACHE

Source SmartGroups: APACHE

Destination SmartGroups: APACHE

Protocol: ICMP

Action: Permit (SG Orchestration On)

Ensure TLS: Off

TLS Decryption: Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS): Off

Rule Priority: Place Rule

Enforcement: Off

Logging: On

Cancel Save In Drafts

Create Rule

Rules will be applied only on AWS, AWS Gov, ARM, ARM Gov, and GCP

Name: INTRA-ICMP-NGINX

Source SmartGroups: NGINX

Destination SmartGroups: NGINX

Protocol: ICMP

Action: Permit (SG Orchestration On)

Ensure TLS: Off

TLS Decryption: Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS): Off

Rule Priority: Place Rule

Enforcement: Off

Logging: On

Cancel Save In Drafts

Create Rule

Rules will be applied only on AWS, AWS Gov, ARM, ARM Gov, and GCP

Name: INTER-ICMP-NGINX-APACHE

Source SmartGroups: NGINX

Destination SmartGroups: APACHE

Protocol: ICMP

Action: Permit (SG Orchestration On)

Ensure TLS: Off

TLS Decryption: Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS): Off

Rule Priority: Place Rule

Enforcement: On

Logging: On

Cancel Save In Drafts

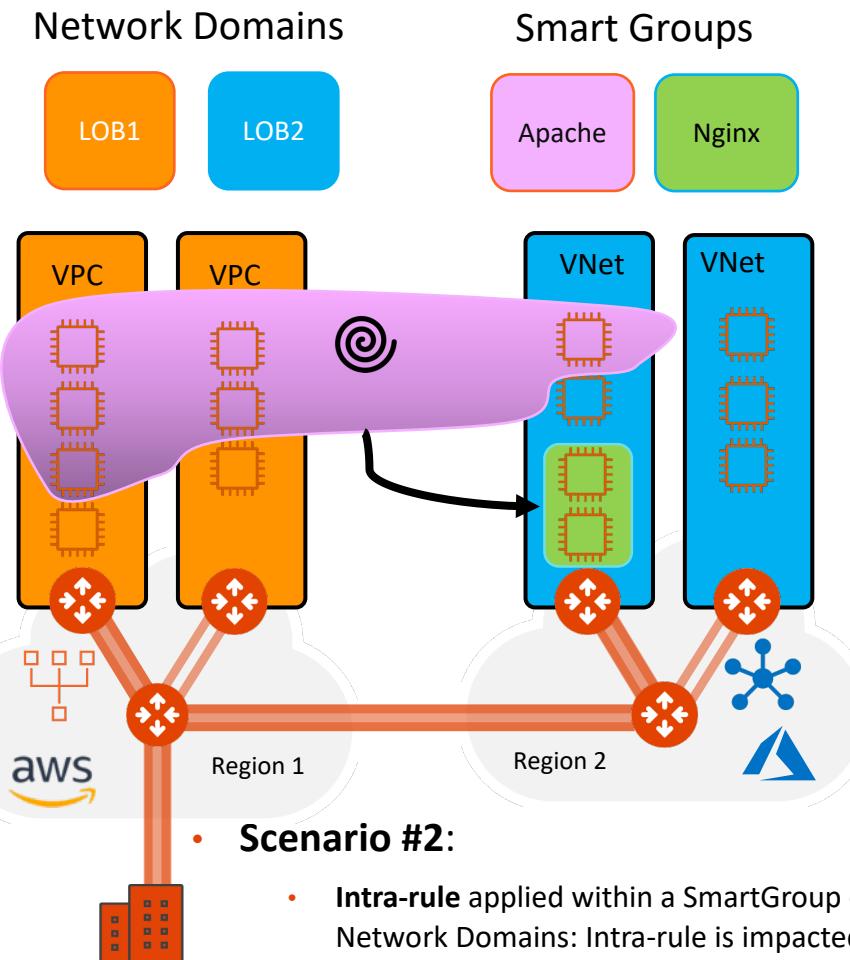
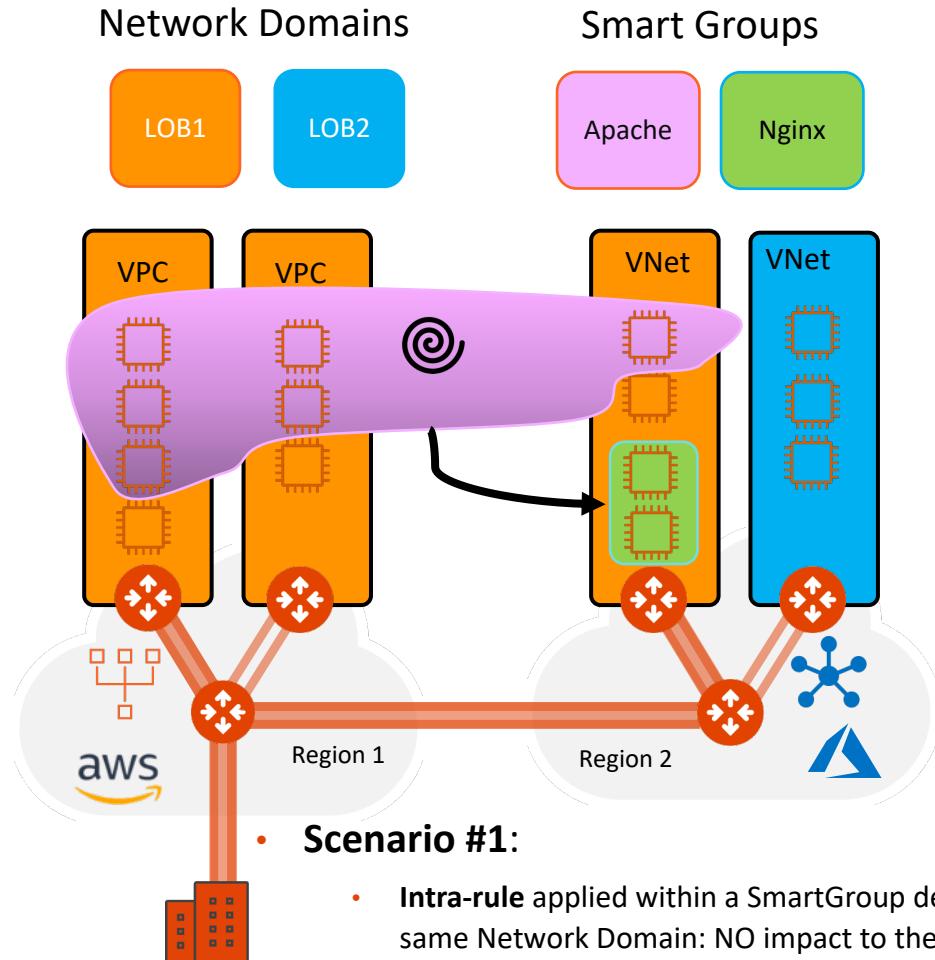
Priority	Name	Source	Destination	WebGroup	Protocol	Ports	Action	SG Orchestr.	Decryption
1	INTRA-ICMP-APACHE	APACHE	APACHE		ICMP		Permit	On	
2	INTRA-ICMP-NGINX	NGINX	NGINX		ICMP		Permit	On	
3	INTER-ICMP-NGINX-APA...	NGINX	APACHE		ICMP		Permit	On	
4	EXPLICIT-DENY	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)		Any		Deny		
21474...	Greenfield-Rule	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)		Any		Permit		

4 New 1 Modified
Discard
Commit

- **Micro-Segmentation:** Combination of SmartGroups and DCF Rules
- Rule changes are saved in **Draft** state.
- When you apply a rule to a SmartGroup, please keep in mind that there is an **Invisible Hidden Deny** at the very bottom.
- To save the changes click on “**Commit**”
- **Discard** will trash the changes
- Rule is **stateful**, this means that the return traffic is allowed automatically

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Network Segmentation & Distributed Cloud Firewall Rule together



- **Scenario #1:**

- **Intra-rule** applied within a SmartGroup defined within the same Network Domain: NO impact to the rule
- **Inter-rule** applied between SmartGroups defined within the same Network Domains: NO impact to the rule

Caveat:

- Network Segmentation and Distributed Firewalling are **NOT** mutually exclusive!
- Network Segmentation takes **precedence** over the extent of a SmartGroup

Security Group (SG) Orchestration: Intra VPC/VNet Traffic Control

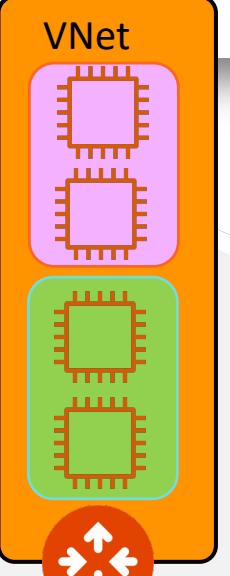
Enable the feature on the relevant VPC/VNet

Distributed Cloud Firewall Rules Monitor Detected Intrusions WebGroups **Settings**

Security Group (SG) Orchestration Preview

SG Orchestration adds control for both **Intra-VPC Traffic** and **Inbound Internet Access** on desired VPC/VNets.

Available On
7 VPC/VNets

VNet 

SmartGroup #1 

SmartGroup #2 

Manage

- If you enable the **Security Group (SG) Orchestration** (*aka Intra-VPC Traffic Control*), the SmartGroups defined within the same VPC/VNet will not be able to communicate with each other, unless an inter rule is applied between them.
- This is pure L4 separation, leveraging the Native Cloud Constructs (such as SG, NSG and ASG). This is not L7 inspection.

CAVEAT: Available in AWS/Azure

Manage Security Group (SG) Orchestration on VPC/VNets

- ⚠ Security Group Orchestration is in Preview. Preview features are not safe for deployment in production environments. [Learn More](#)
- ⚠ It is strongly recommended to not modify the Cloud Security Groups once SG Orchestration is enabled.

Network Impact of Changes

When Enabled

Existing Security Groups on the CSP entities associated with policies are backed-up and detached. As a result:

- All inbound traffic will be blocked.
- Outbound VPC/VNet traffic will be allowed.
- Intra-VPC/VNet traffic will be allowed.

unless specified otherwise in the Rules.

When Disabled

Security Group configuration on the CSP entities prior to enabling SG Orchestration will be restored when they are no longer associated with a policy.

Enable SG Orchestration to add control for both Intra-VPC Traffic and Inbound Internet Access on desired VPC/VNets.

Name	Region	VPC/VNet CIDR	SG Orchestration	Orchestratio...
aws-us-east-1-transit	us-east-1	10.0.20.0/23	<input type="checkbox"/> Disabled	
aws-us-east-2-spoke1	us-east-2	10.0.1.0/24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enabled	
aws-us-east-2-transit	us-east-2	10.0.10.0/23	<input type="checkbox"/> Disabled	
azure-west-us-spoke1	westus	192.168.1.0/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Disabled	

Total 7 VPC/VNets

I understand the network impact of the changes.

Save **Cancel**

Rule Enforcement

Create Rule

⚠ Rules will be applied only on AWS, AWS Gov, ARM, ARM Gov, and GCP

Name: Allow-HTTPS

Source SmartGroups: AVX-FRANKFURT-PROD1

Destination SmartGroups: Public Internet

WebGroups: Any-Web

Protocol: TCP Port: 443

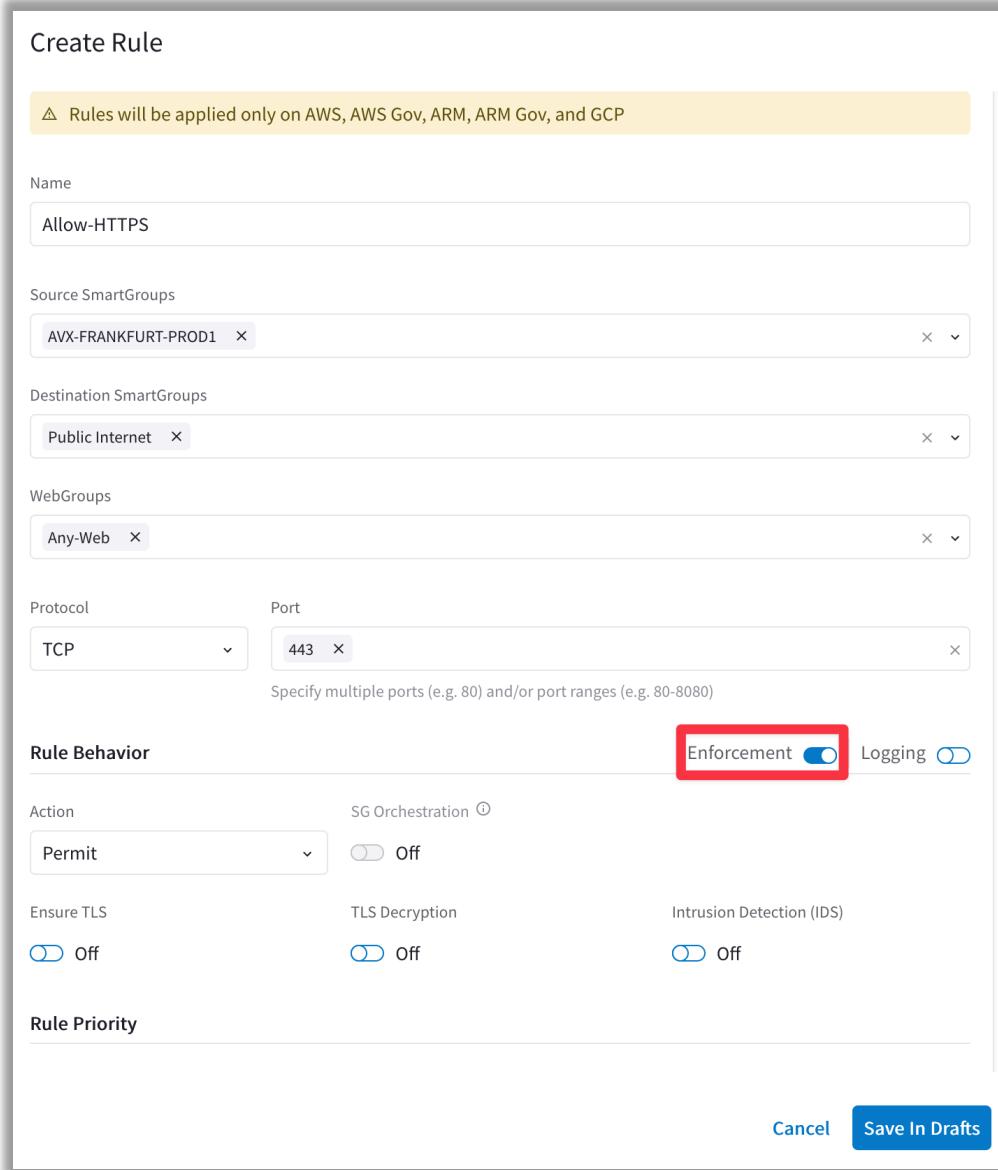
Rule Behavior: Enforcement Logging

Action: Permit SG Orchestration Off

Ensure TLS: Off TLS Decryption: Off Intrusion Detection (IDS): Off

Rule Priority

Cancel Save In Drafts



□ Enforcement ON

- Policy is enforced in the Data Plane

□ Enforcement OFF

- Policy is NOT enforced in the Data Plane
- The option provides a *Watch/Test* mode
- Common use case is with deny rule
- Watch what traffic hits the deny rule before enforcing the rule in the Data Plane.

Rule Logging

Create Rule

⚠ Rules will be applied only on AWS, AWS Gov, ARM, ARM Gov, and GCP

Name: Allow-HTTPS

Source SmartGroups: AVX-FRANKFURT-PROD1

Destination SmartGroups: Public Internet

WebGroups: Any-Web

Protocol: TCP Port: 443

Specify multiple ports (e.g. 80) and/or port ranges (e.g. 80-8080)

Rule Behavior

Action: Permit SG Orchestration: Off

Ensure TLS: Off TLS Decryption: Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS): Off

Enforcement: Logging:

Rule Priority

Cancel Save In Drafts

Policy Monitor

Auto Refresh

Timestamp Rule Source SmartGroup Destination SmartGroup Source IP Destination IP Protocol Source Port Destination Port Action Enforcing

Timestamp	Rule	Source SmartGroup	Destination SmartGroup	Source IP	Destination IP	Protocol	Source Port	Destination Port	Action	Enforcing
2023-04-14 09:16:16.006 PM	intra-ssh-bu1	bu1	bu1	192.168.1.100	10.0.1.100	TCP	22	52106	PERMIT	✓
2023-04-14 09:16:15.824 PM	allow-ssh-myip-bu1	bu1	local-machine	10.0.1.100	31.164.145.177	TCP	22	53342	PERMIT	✓
2023-04-14 09:16:15.584 PM	allow-ssh-myip-bu1	local-machine	bu1	31.164.145.177	10.0.1.100	TCP	53342	22	PERMIT	✓
2023-04-14 09:16:15.461 PM	allow-ssh-myip-bu1	bu1	local-machine	10.0.1.100	31.164.145.177	TCP	22	53342	PERMIT	✓
2023-04-14 09:16:15.378 PM	allow-ssh-myip-bu1	local-machine	bu1	31.164.145.177	10.0.1.100	TCP	53342	22	PERMIT	✓
2023-04-14 09:16:15.349 PM	intra-ssh-bu1	bu1	bu1	10.0.1.100	192.168.1.100	TCP	52106	22	PERMIT	✓
2023-04-14 09:14:50.602 PM	allow-ssh-myip-bu1	local-machine	bu1	31.164.145.177	10.0.1.100	TCP	53342	22	PERMIT	✓

Showing all 20 logs

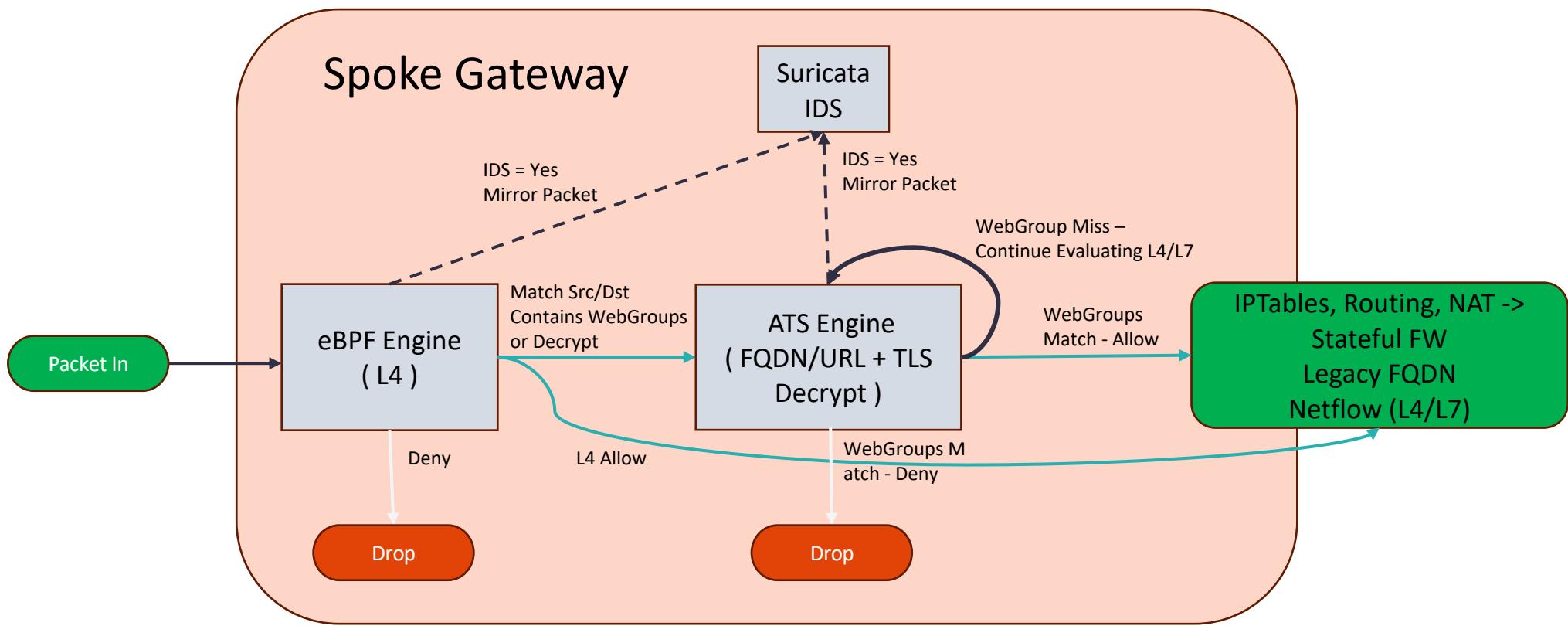
Close

☐ Logging can be turned ON/OFF per rule

☐ Configure Syslog to view the logs

DFW Engines At-a-Glance

- **eBPF** (extended Berkeley Packet Filter) Engine (L4) → Stateful Firewall Rule (forwarding path)
- WebProxy **ATS** (Apache Traffic Server) Engine (L7) → it is triggered whether WebGroups or TLS Decryption are required
- **Suricata** Engine (DPI) → Signature of the payload (only in IDS mode at the moment)





Supported Capabilities

Capability	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.1
Distributed Cloud Firewall is supported in the following cloud providers:	AWS, Azure	AWS, AWS GovCloud, Azure, Azure Government, and GCP	AWS, AWS GovCloud, Azure, Azure Government, and GCP	AWS, AWS GovCloud, Azure, Azure Government, and GCP	AWS, AWS GovCloud, Azure, Azure Government, and GCP
You can configure up to 500 SmartGroups	x	x	x	x	x
You can have up to 3000 CIDRs per SmartGroup	x	x	x	x	x
Number of rules per policy	64	2000	2000	2000	2000
Number of port ranges	1	64	64	64	64
Overlapping IPs are supported				x	x
<u>Security Group Orchestration</u> is supported				x (Azure)	x (AWS and Azure)

<https://docs.aviatrix.com/documentation/latest/network-security/secure-networking-configuring.html?expand=true#supported-capabilities>



Next: Lab 10 – Distributed Cloud Firewall