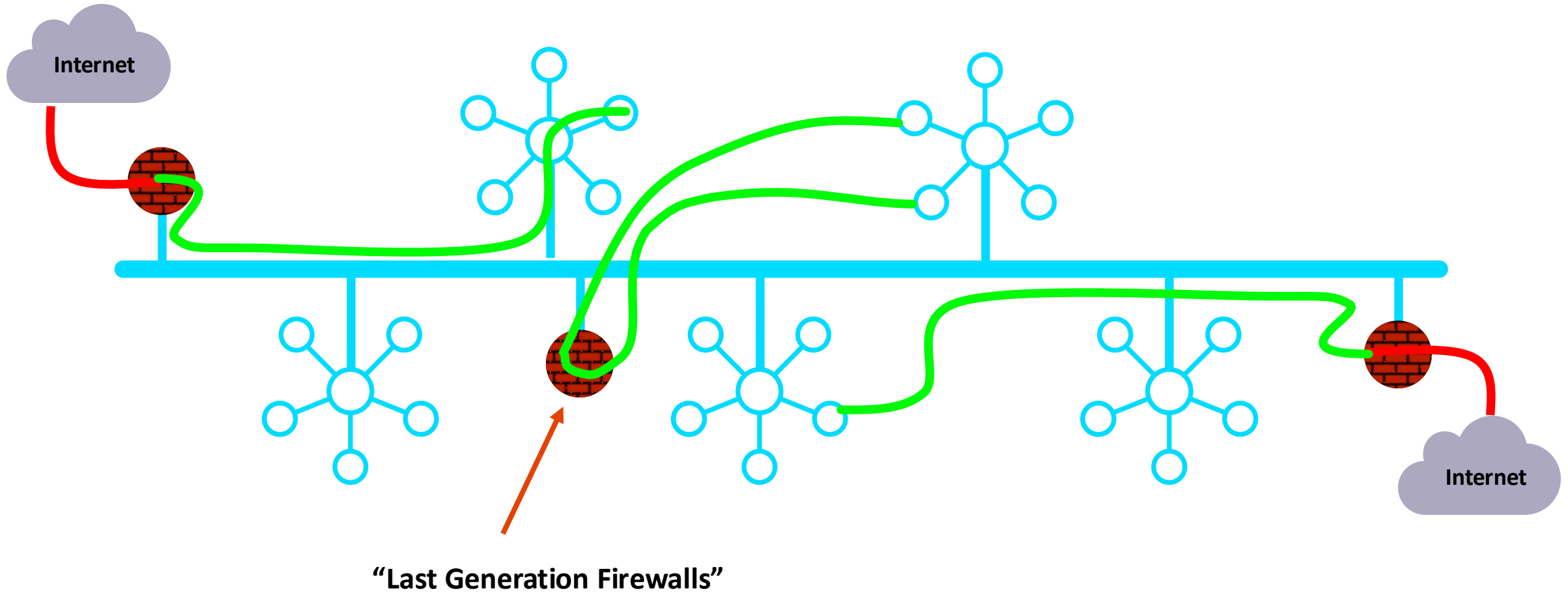




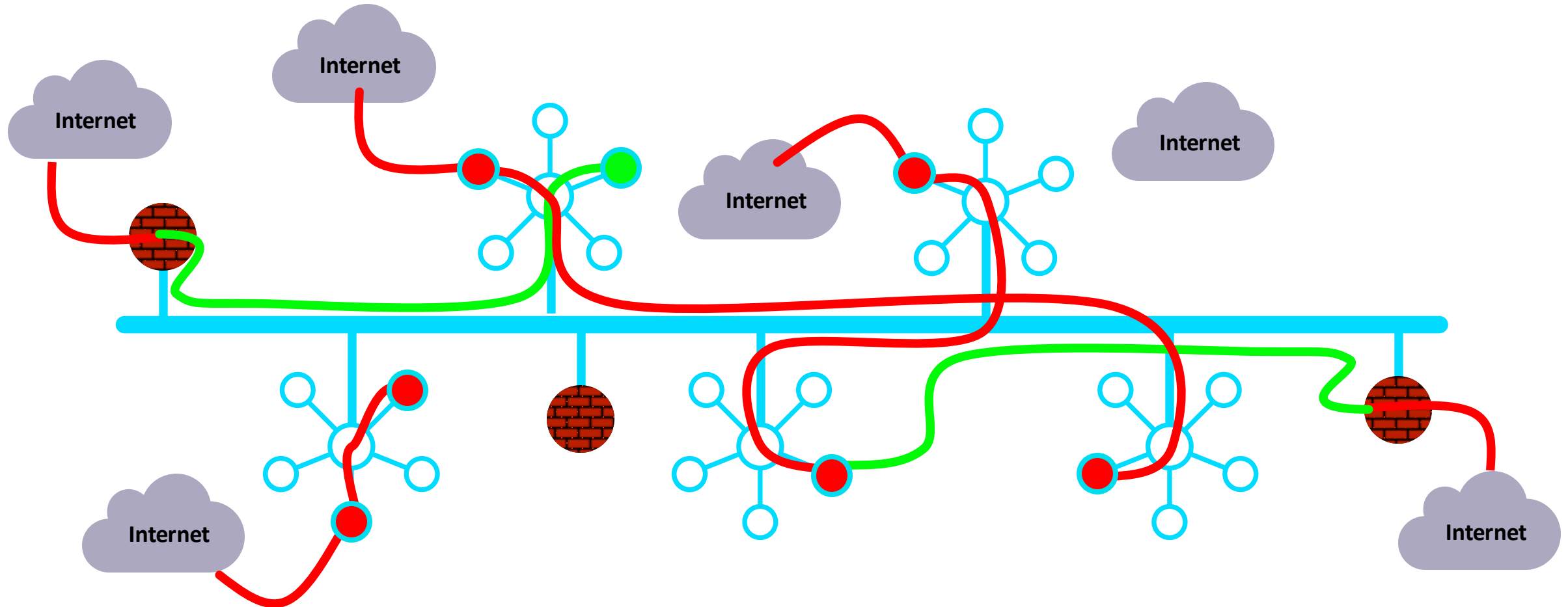
Distributed Cloud Firewall

ACE Team

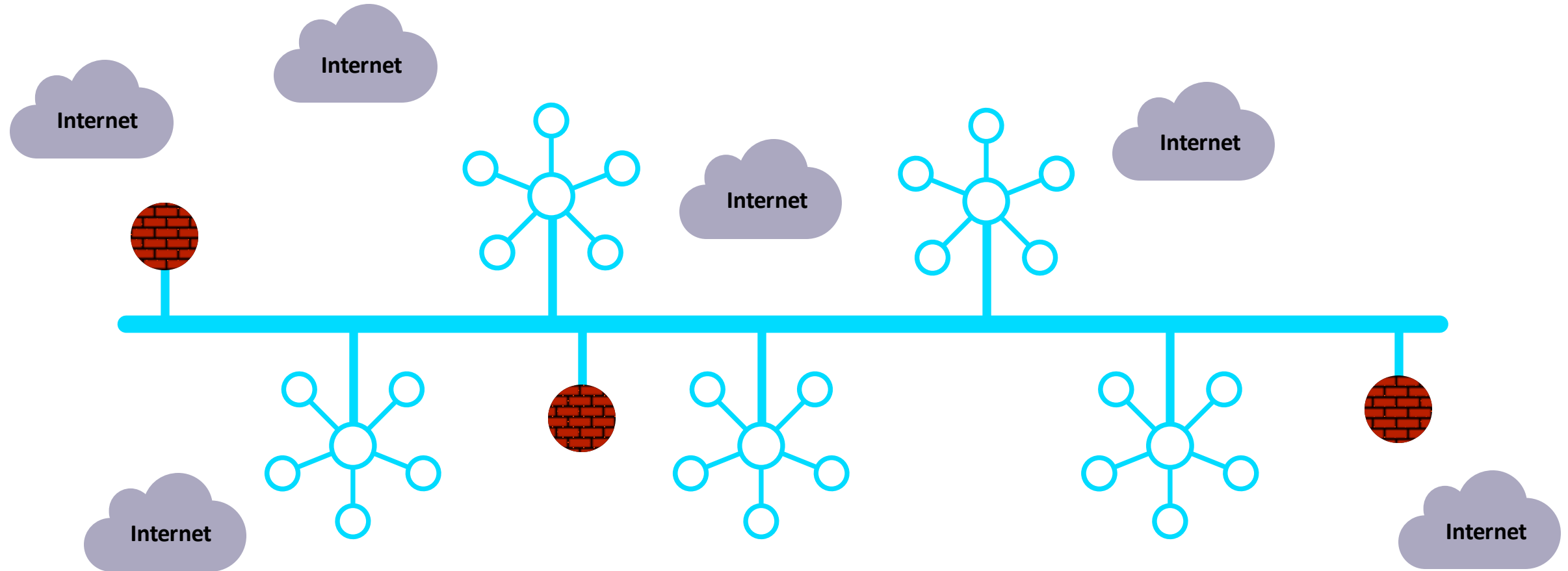
As Architected with Lift-and-Shift, Bolt-on, Data Center Era Products...



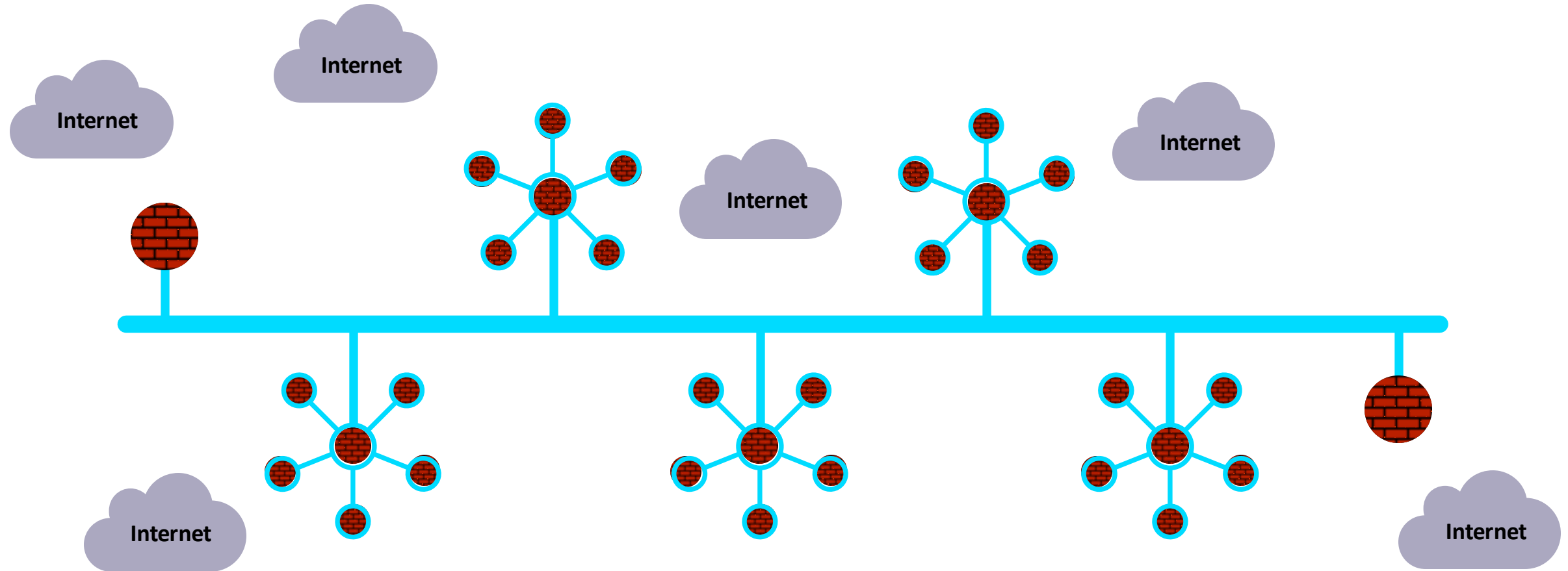
In Reality...



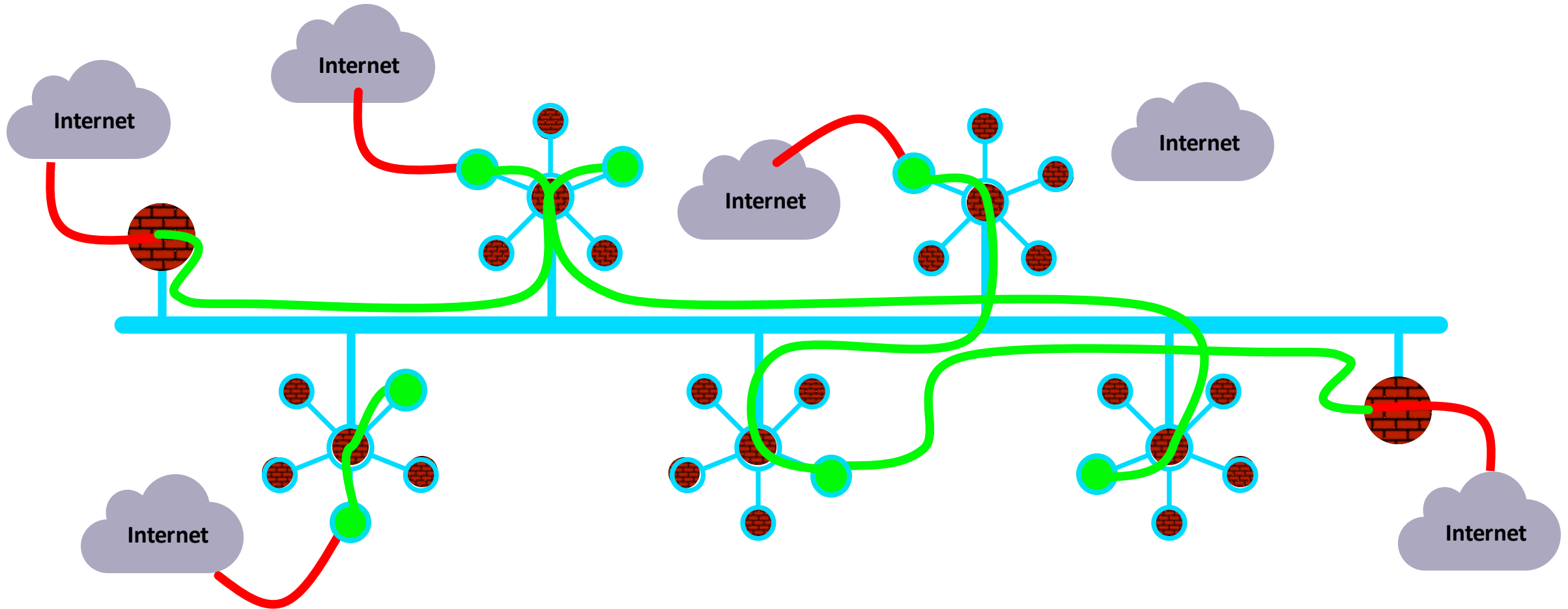
What If... the architecture was built for cloud



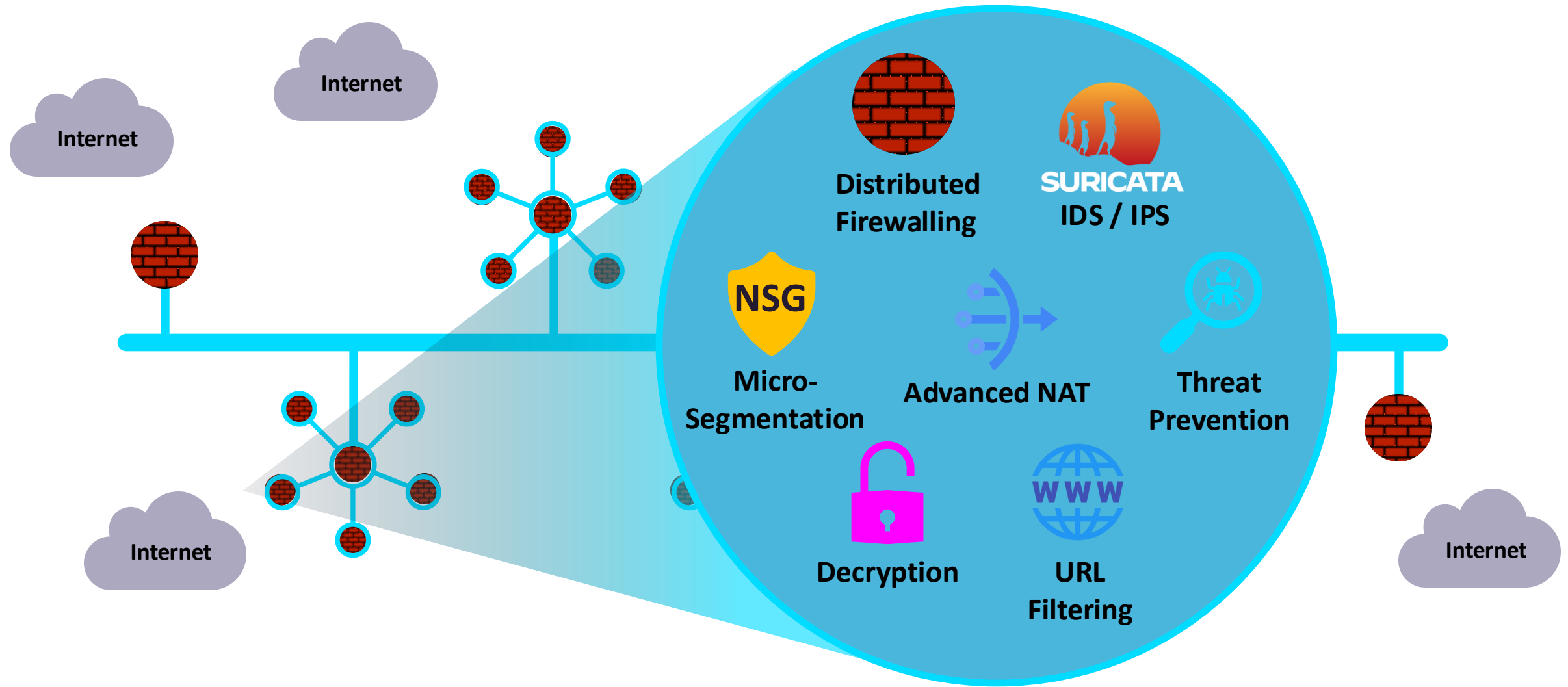
Firewalling Functions were Embedded in the Cloud Network Everywhere...



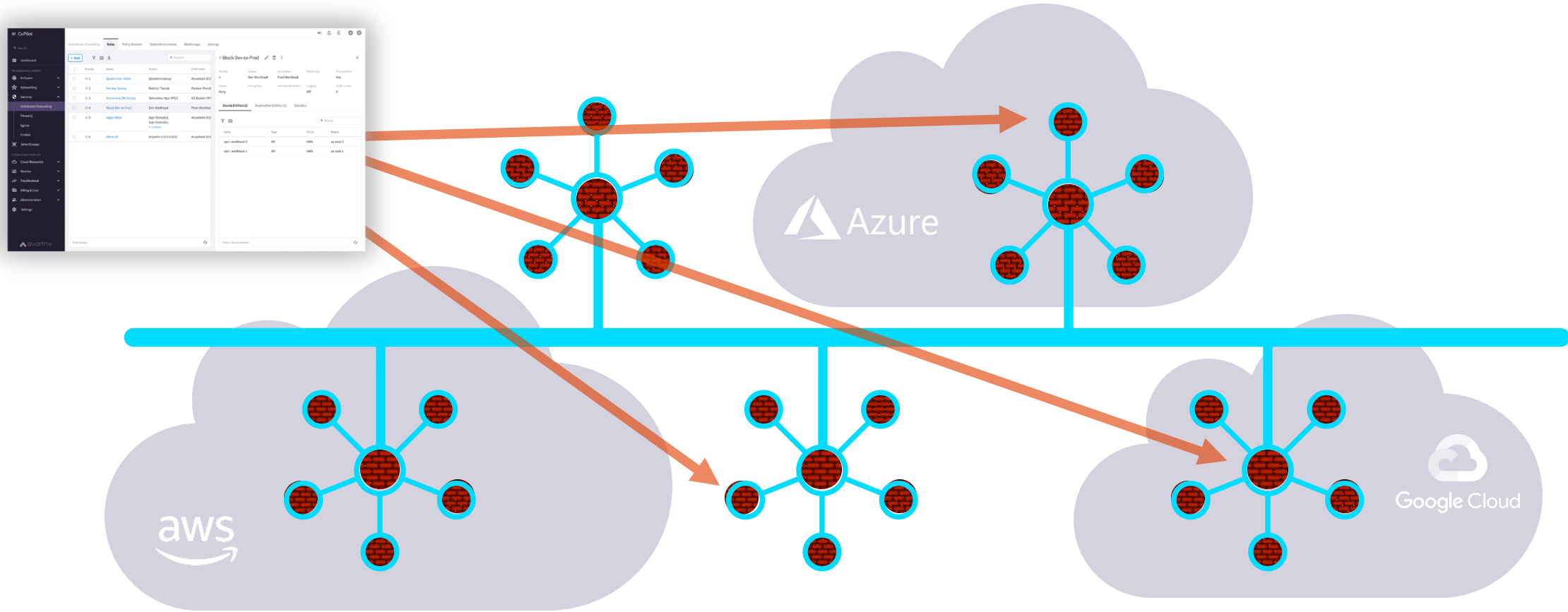
Centrally Managed, with Distributed Inspection & Enforcement...



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



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 (i.e. *L3 info*):

- Source
- Destination

- **What is a SmartGroup?**

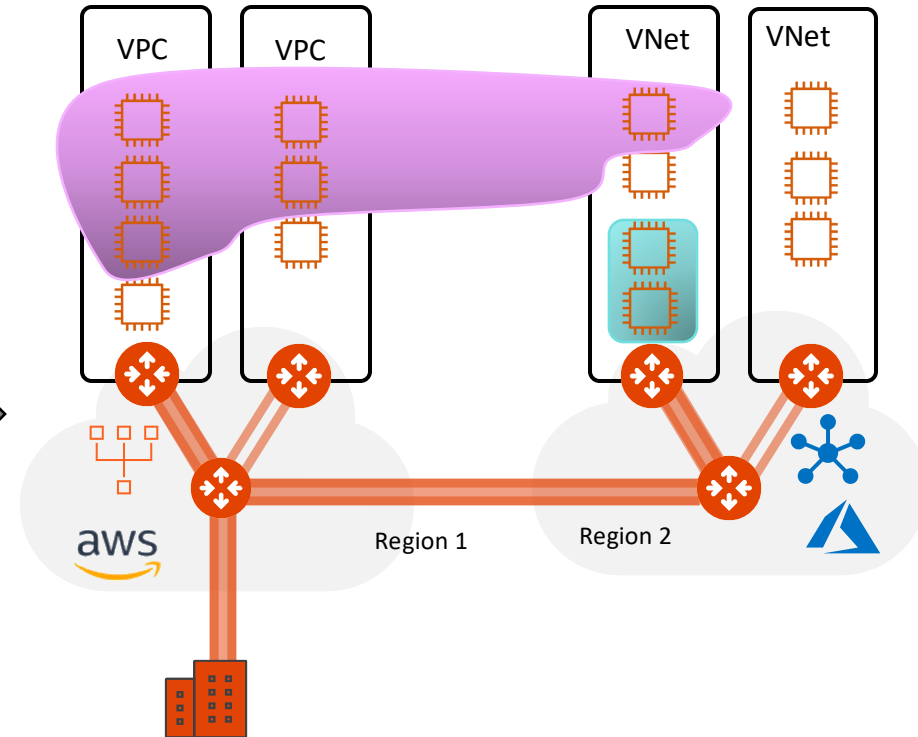
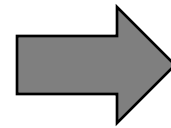
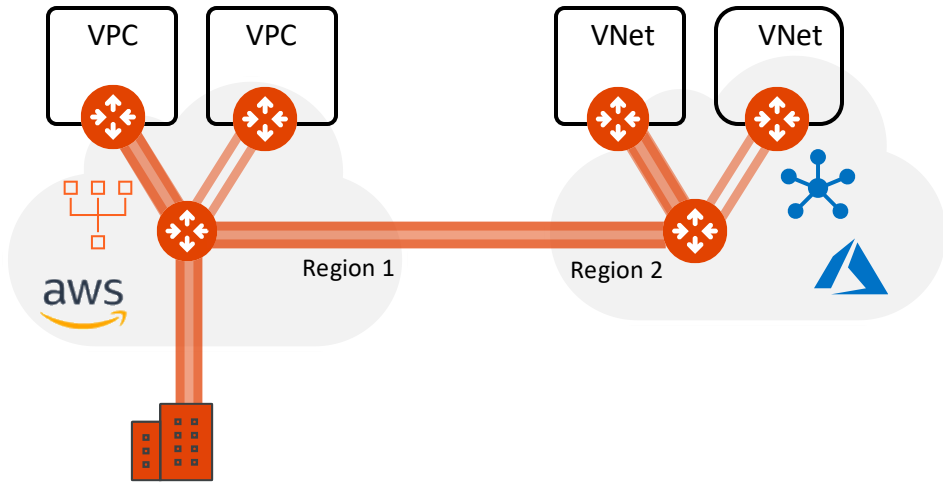
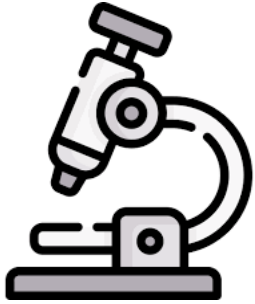
A SmartGroup identifies a group of resources that have similar policy requirements and are associated to the same *logical container*.

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

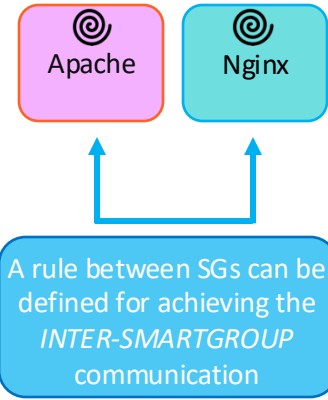
- Virtual Machines
- Subnets
- VPC/Vnets
- Kubernetes
- Hostnames
- External Connections (S2C)



Distributed Firewalling: Intra-rule vs. Inter-rule



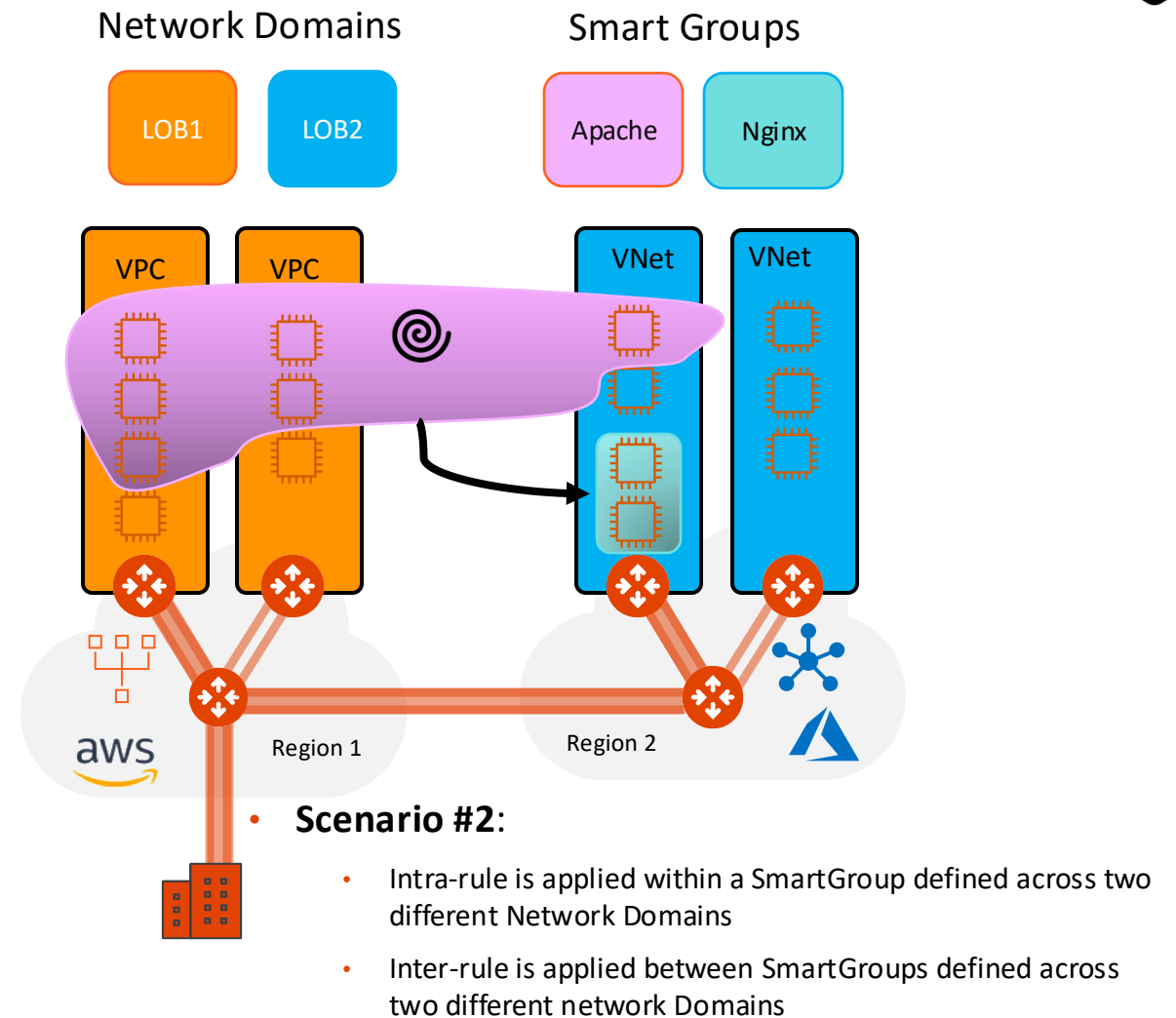
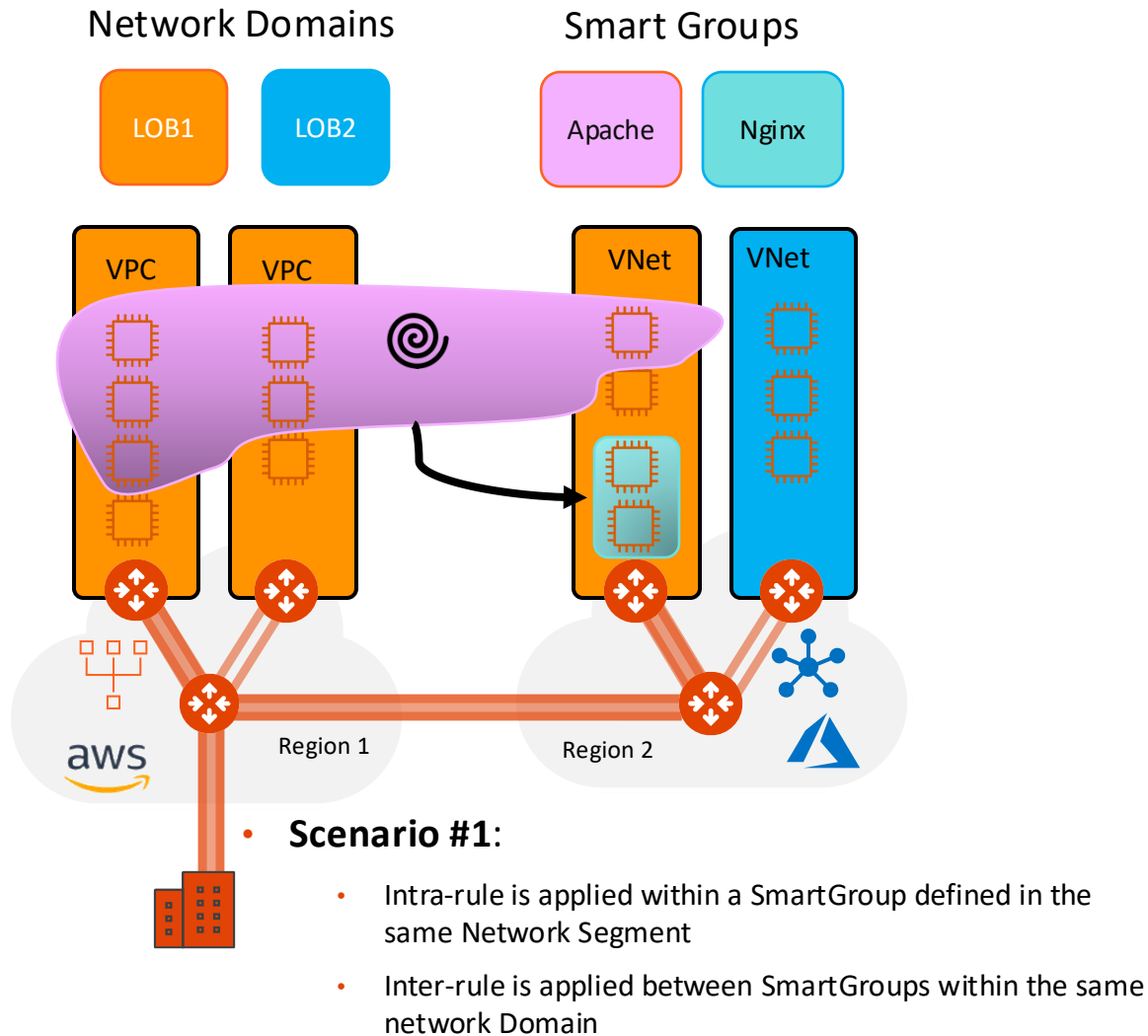
Smart Groups



- **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.

Network Segmentation & Distributed Cloud Firewall Rule



Caveat:

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

Smart Groups Creation



CoPilot

Groups

SmartGroups ExternalGroups WebGroups Settings

+ SmartGroup

Refetch CSP Resources

Name

Resource Type

Rule References

Accenture_Demo

VMs

App-Backend

App-Frontend

Huss-App-FE

Lab-1-Sao

Specific-Smartgroup

accounting-backend-api-dev

accounting-backend-api-prod

accounting-frontend-web-dev

accounting-frontend-web-prod

app

crm-app

crm-dev-db

Create SmartGroup

Name

BU1

Resource Selection

Preview (3)

Resource Types: VM, Subnet, and VPC/VNet are supported only on public AWS, Azure, and GCP clouds.

+ Resource Type

Virtual Machines

Matches all conditions (AND)

Environment dev

Cancel Save

Successfully refreshed CSP resources

Auto Dismisses in 4s

Dismiss

Create SmartGroup

Name

BU1

Resource Selection

Preview (3)

Name Type Cloud Region

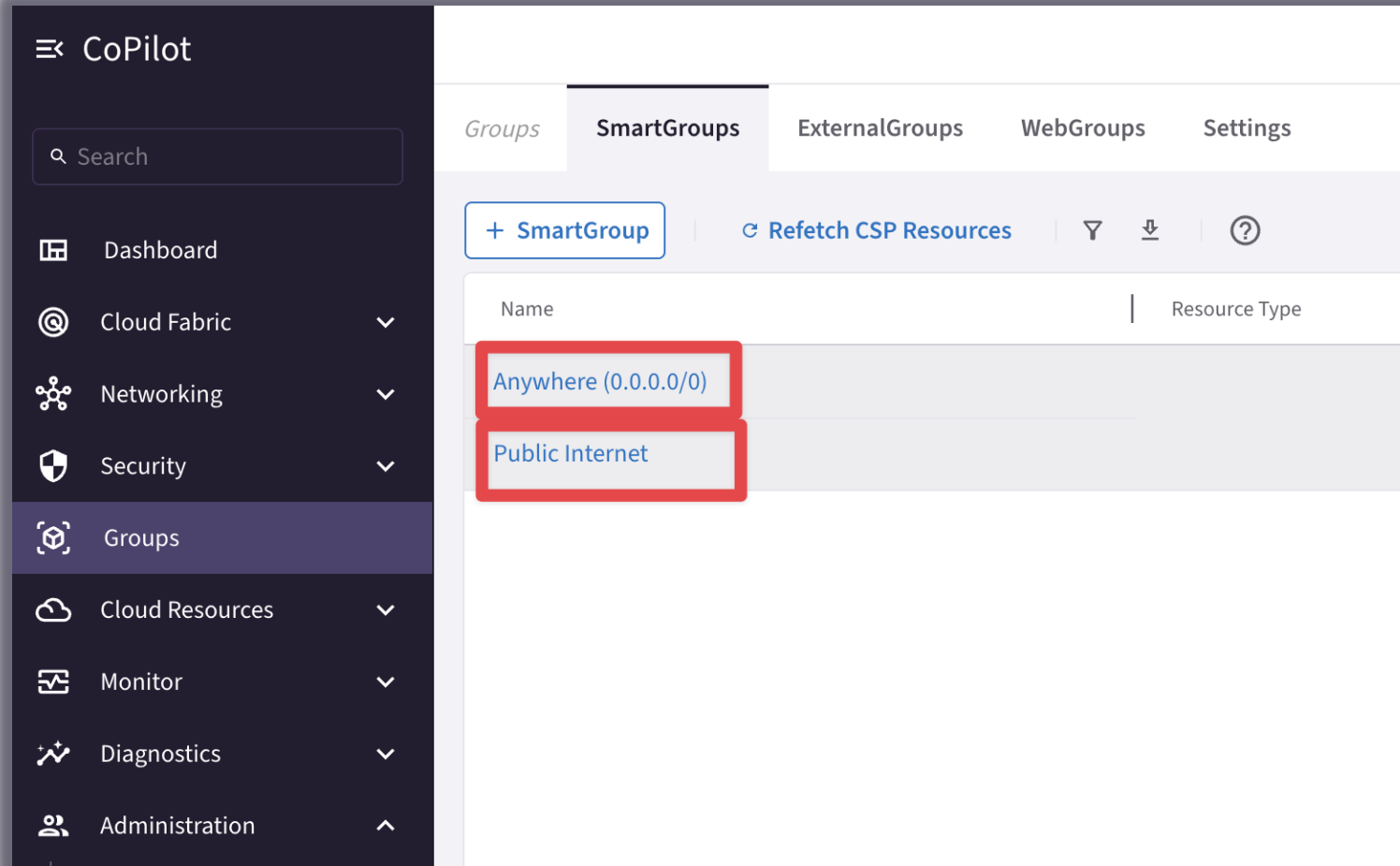
accounting-web-dev	VM	AWS	us-east-1
engineering-web-dev	VM	AWS	us-east-2
marketing-web-dev	VM	Azure ARM	northeurope

Total 3 Resources

Cancel Save

- 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 Smart Groups




The screenshot shows the AviaTriX CoPilot interface. On the left is a dark sidebar with a menu including CoPilot, Search, Dashboard, Cloud Fabric, Networking, Security, Groups (highlighted), Cloud Resources, Monitor, Diagnostics, and Administration. The main panel has tabs for Groups, SmartGroups (selected), ExternalGroups, WebGroups, and Settings. Below the tabs are buttons for '+ SmartGroup', 'Refresh CSP Resources', and icons for filter, download, and help. A table displays pre-defined SmartGroups:

Name	Resource Type
Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)	
Public Internet	

- **Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)** → RFC1918 routes + Default Route (IGW)
- **Public Internet** → Default Route (IGW)

Enabling Distributed Cloud Firewall



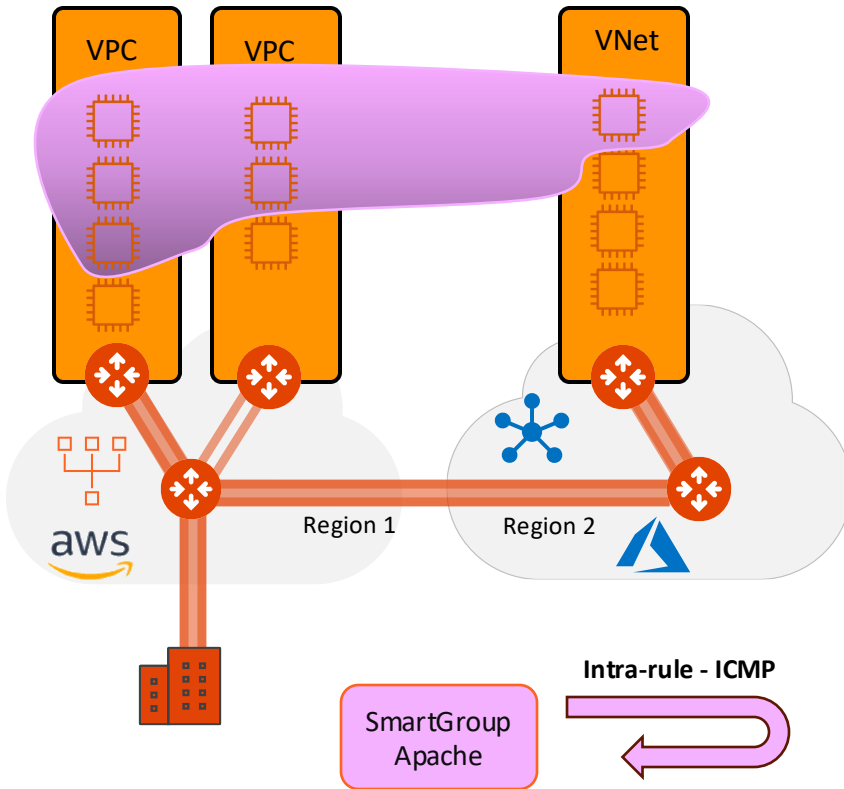
Distributed Cloud Firewall provides granular network security controls for distributed applications in the cloud, with a zero-trust architecture and a centralized policy management across multiple clouds.

[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 Settings									
+ Rule Actions <input type="text" value="Search"/>									
<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority	Name	Source	Destination	WebGroup	Protocol	Ports	Action	
<input type="checkbox"/>	214748...	Greenfield-Rule	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)	Anywhere (0.0.0.0...		Any		Permit	
<input type="checkbox"/>	214748...	DefaultDenyAll	Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)	Anywhere (0.0.0.0...		Any		Deny	

Micro-Segmentation: SmartGroups, Intra-Rules and Inter-Rules (1)



Scenario #1

- Create a DCF rule for the APACHE SmartGroup with the following requirements:

- Permit ICMP traffic internally
- Enable the Logging feature

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

WebGroups

Protocol
ICMP

Rule Behavior

Action
Permit

SG Orchestration
On

Ensure TLS
Off

TLS Decryption
Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS)
Off

Rule Priority

Place Rule

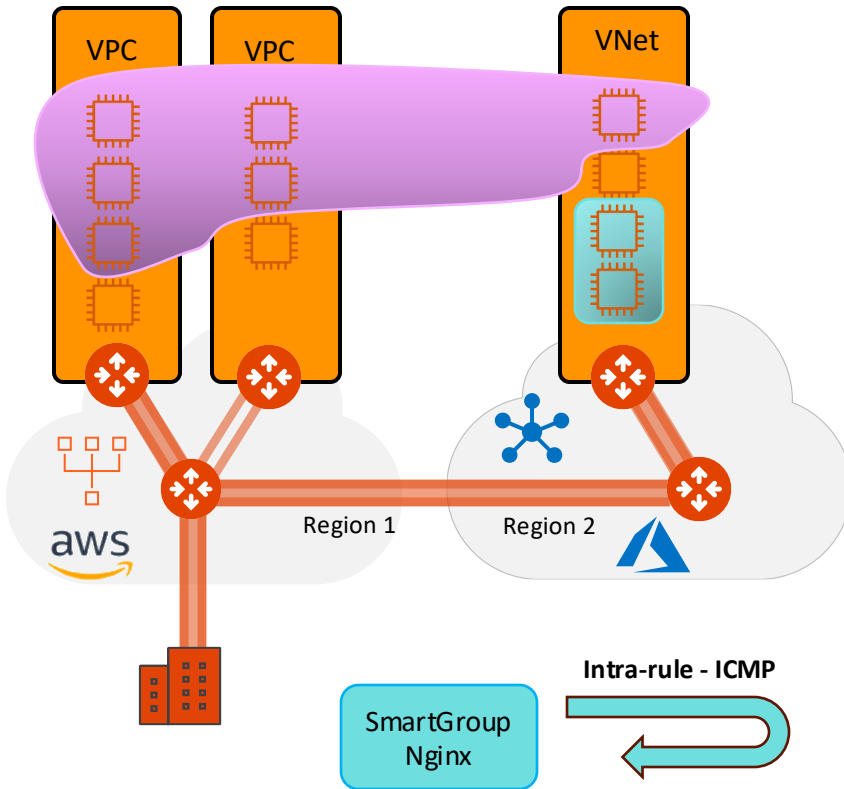
Enforcement
Logging

Cancel Save In Drafts

Intra-rule

Monitoring

Micro-Segmentation: SmartGroups, Intra-Rules and Inter-Rules (2)



Scenario #2

- ❑ Create a DCF rule for the NGINX SmartGroup with the following requirements:

- Permit ICMP traffic internally
- Enable the Logging feature

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

WebGroups:

Protocol: ICMP

Rule Behavior: Enforcement ☐ Logging ☒

Action: Permit

SG Orchestration: ☒ On

Ensure TLS: ☐ Off

TLS Decryption: ☐ Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS): ☐ Off

Rule Priority:

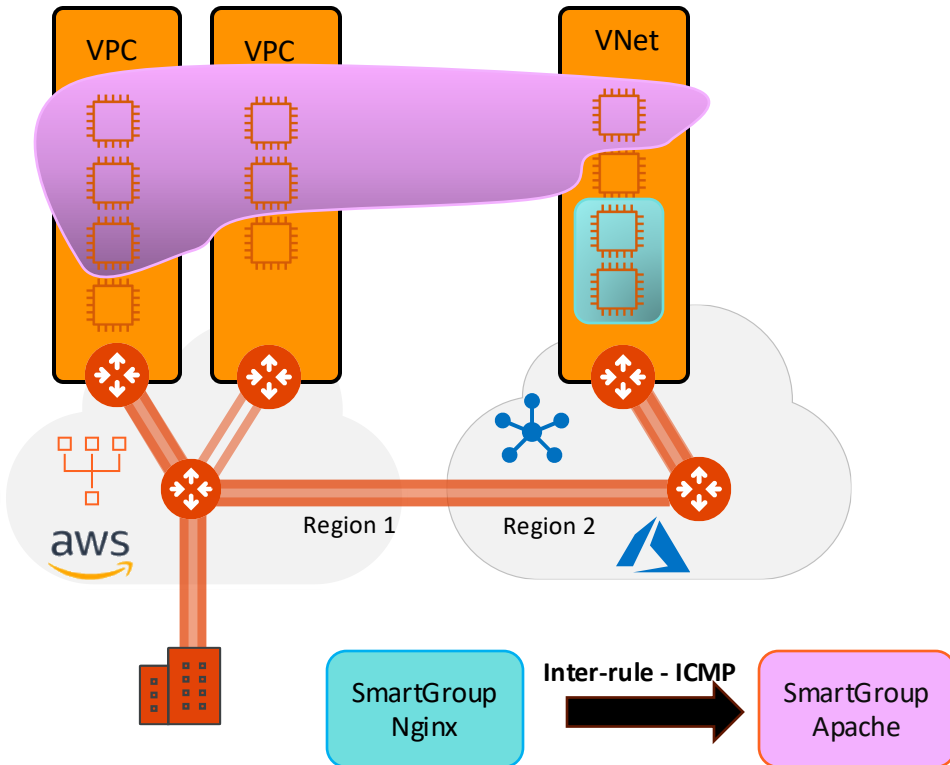
Place Rule: Existing Rule:

Cancel Save In Drafts

Intra-rule

Monitoring

Micro-Segmentation: SmartGroups, Intra-Rules and Inter-Rules (3)



Scenario #3

- ❑ Create a DCF rule from the NGINX SmartGroup towards the APACHE SmartGroup, solely, not the inverse (NO bidirectional!), with the following requirements:

- Allow ICMP traffic between the two SGs
- Enable the Logging feature

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

WebGroups:

Protocol: ICMP

Rule Behavior: Enforcement ☒ Logging ☒

Action: Permit

SG Orchestration: ☒ On

Ensure TLS: ☐ Off

TLS Decryption: ☐ Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS): ☐ Off

Rule Priority:

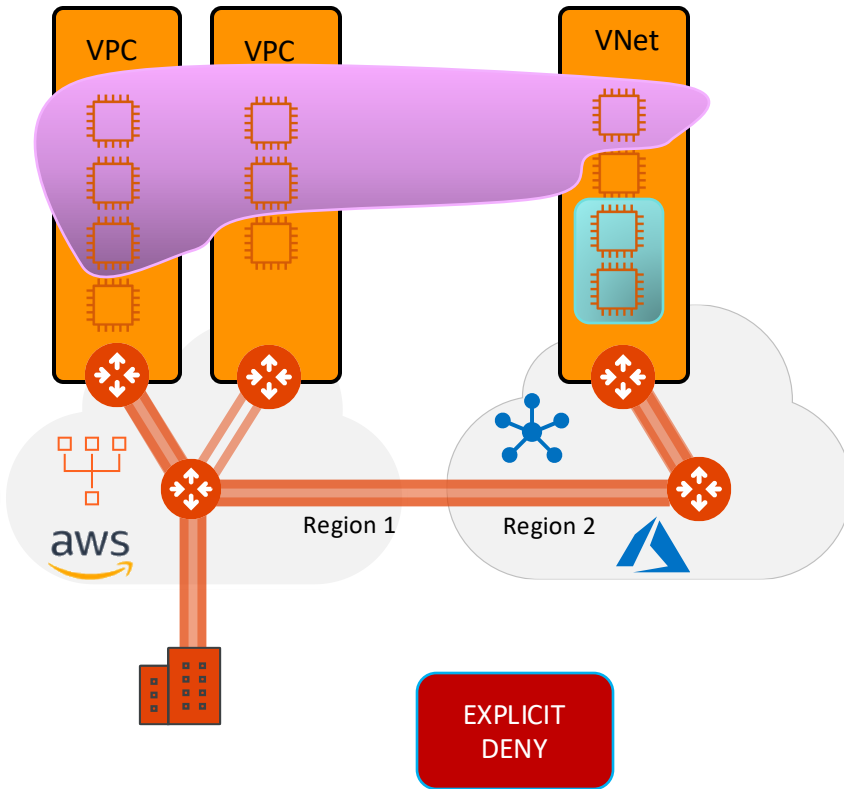
Place Rule:

Cancel Save In Drafts

Inter-rule

Monitoring

Micro-Segmentation: SmartGroups, Intra-Rules and Inter-Rules (4)



Scenario #4

- ❑ Create a DCF rule that explicitly deny any kind of traffic based on the following requirements:

- Insert the rule below the previous created rules and above the Greenfield-Rule
- Enable the Logging feature

Create Rule

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

Name: EXPLICIT-DENY-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: Enforcement: Logging

Action: Deny SG Orchestration: Off

TLS Decryption: Off

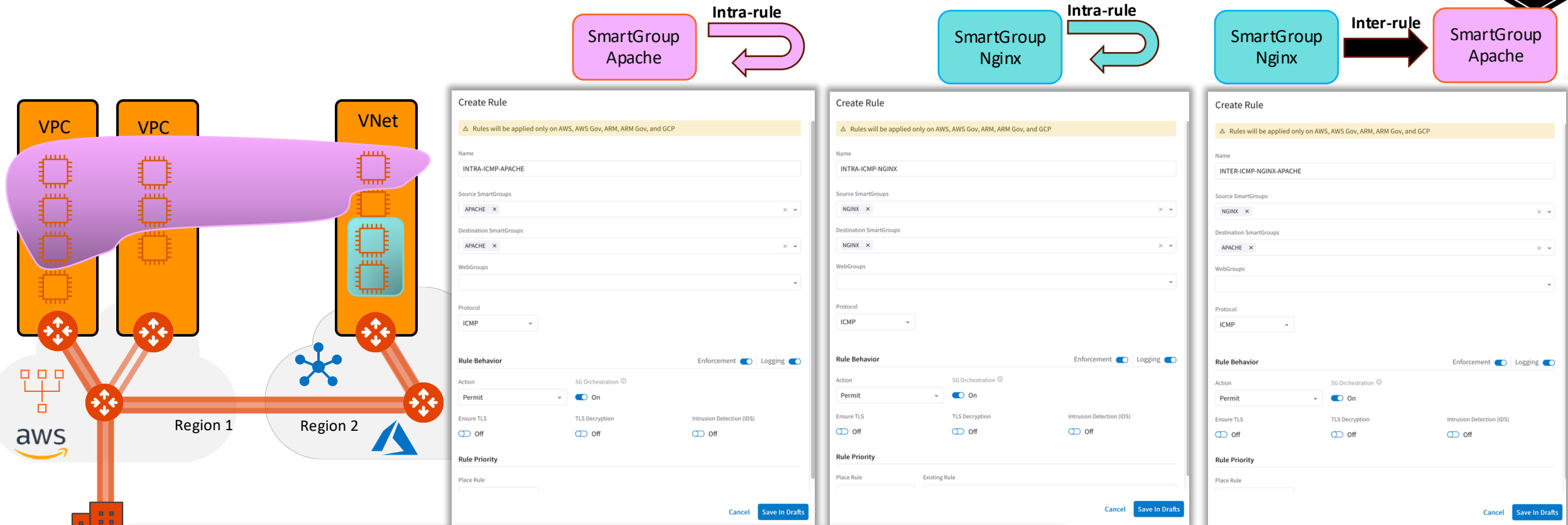
Rule Priority: Place Rule: Above Existing Rule: Greenfield-Rule

Cancel Save In Drafts

Monitoring

Rule Position

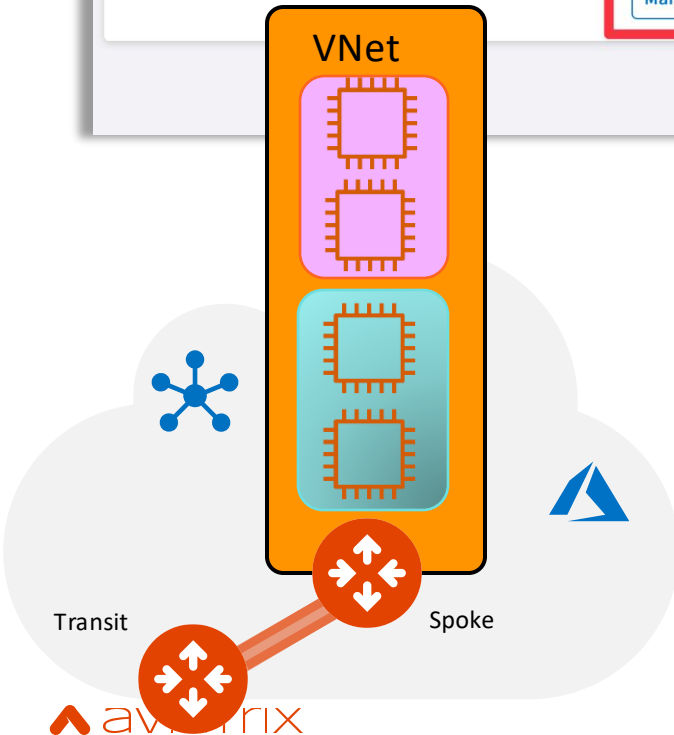
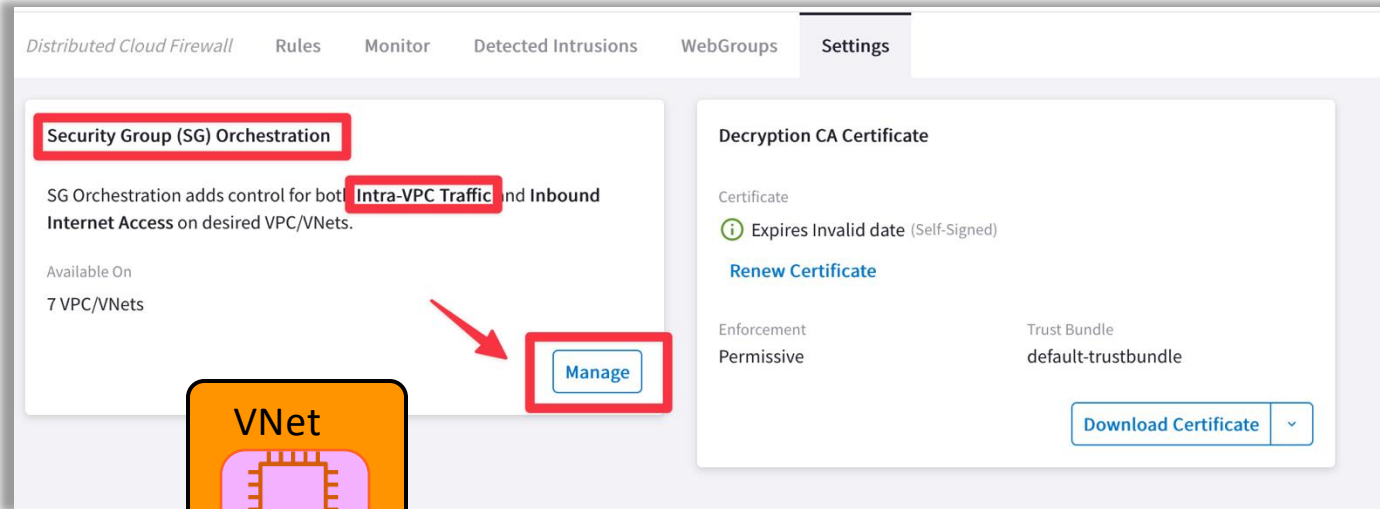
Micro-Segmentation: SmartGroups, Intra-Rules and Inter-Rules (5)



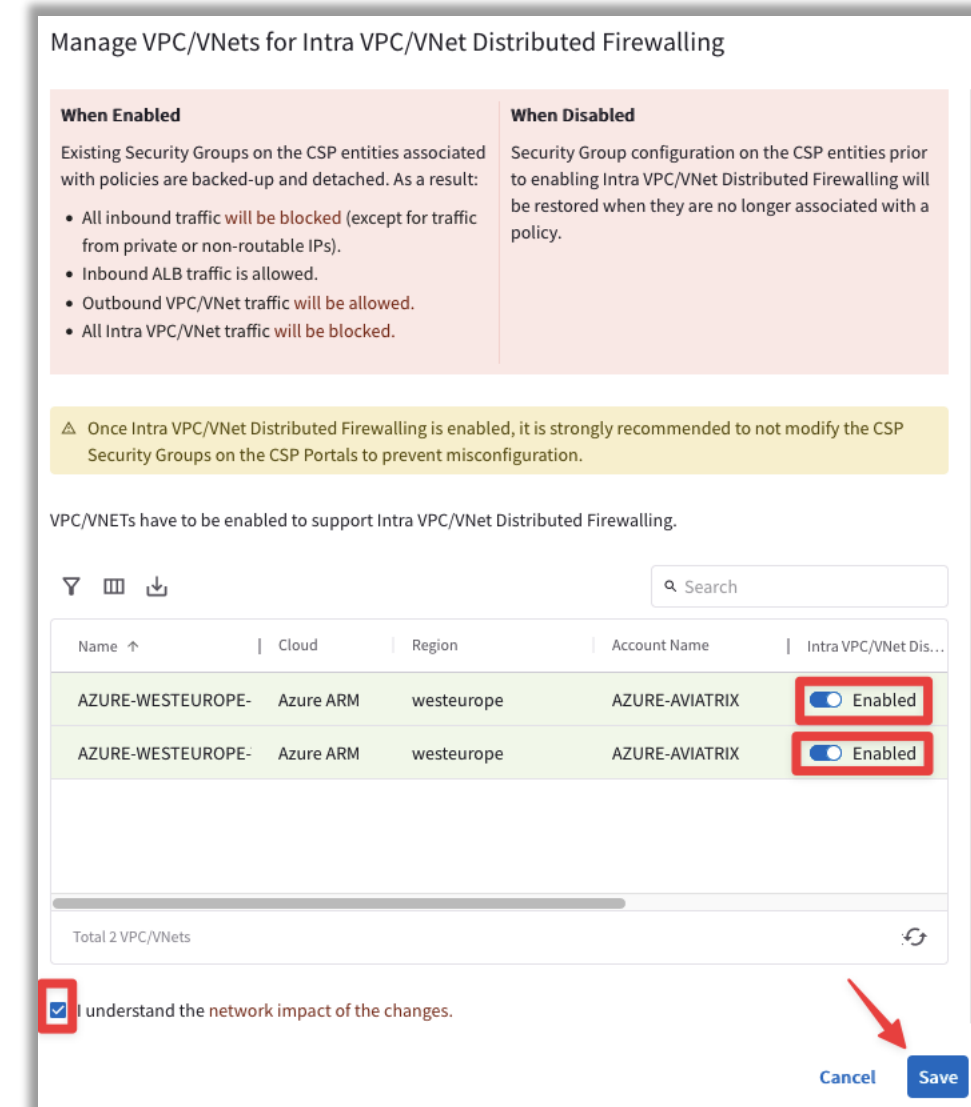
- **What is the Micro-Segmentation?** It's a combination of SmartGroups and DCF Rules
- Rule changes are saved in **Draft** state
- When you apply a rule to a SmartGroup, please keep in mind that there is an **Invisible Hidden Deny** at the very bottom.
- To save the changes click on **"Commit"**
- **Discard**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

Intra VPC/VNET Distributed Firewalling (available on AWS/Azure)

□ Enable the feature on the relevant VNets



- If you enable the Security Group orchestration (*aka Intra-VPC Traffic Control*), the SmartGroups will not be able to communicate with each other unless an inter rule is applied between them.
- This is pure L4 separation using the Native Cloud Constructs (such as SG, NSG and ASG). This is not L7 inspection.
- **Future Implementation:** traffic will be diverted to the nearby Spoke GW for the L7 inspection

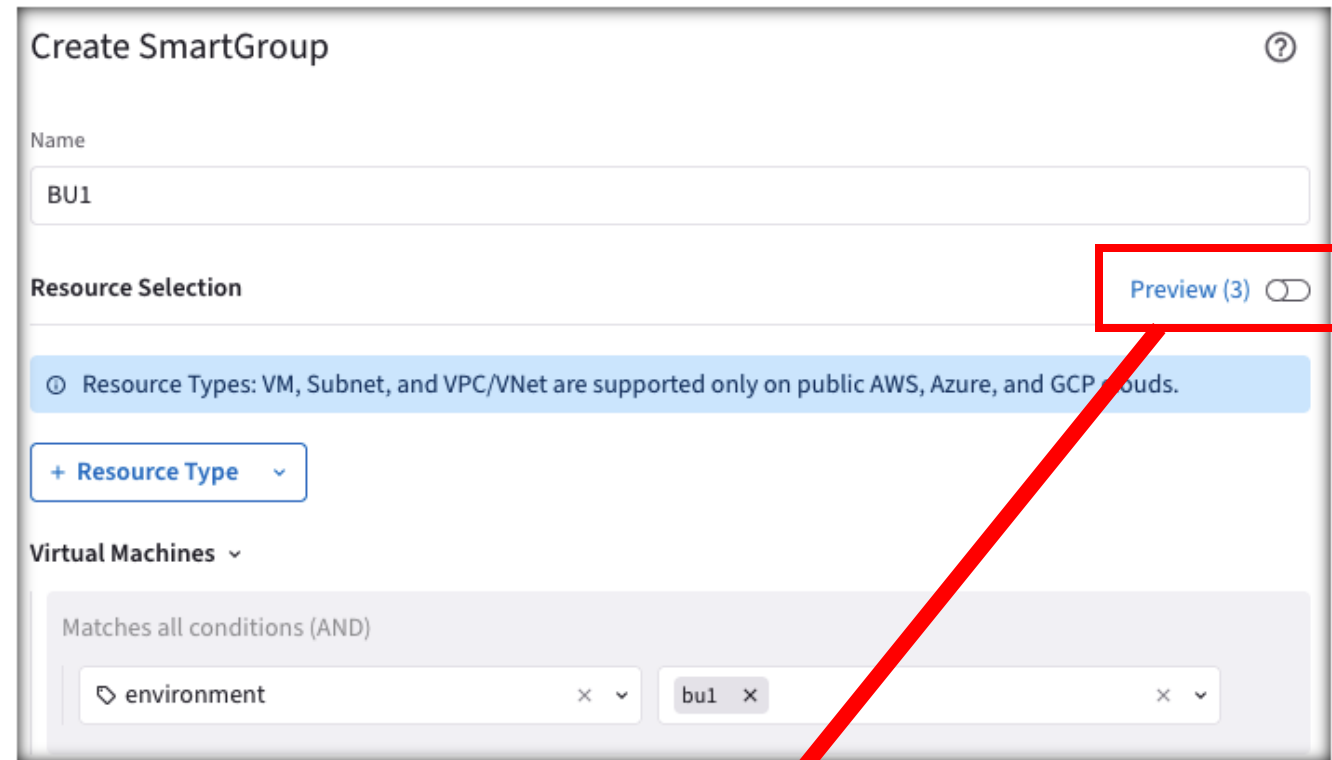
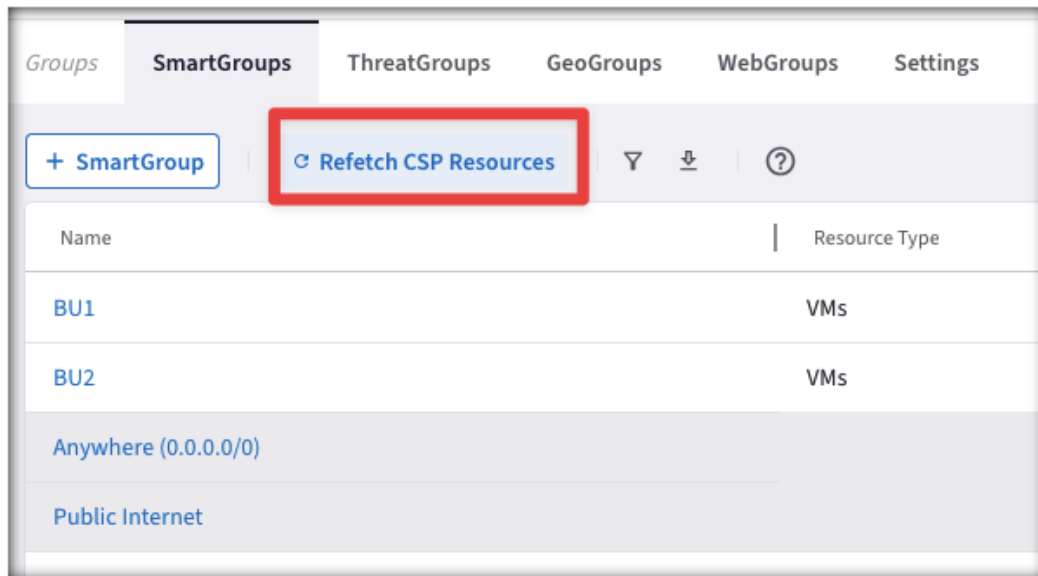




Tools for troubleshooting Distributed Cloud Firewall

Creation of the SmartGroup: the right matching criteria dilemma

- 1) Choose the right matching criteria for resources that you want to see assigned to a specific SmartGroup:
- 2) Use the **Preview Resources** toggle switch to verify the selected resources that have been mapped to the Smart Group
- 3) Use the On-Demand **Refetch CSP Resources** button to retrieve the most recent inventory



Name	Type	Cloud	Region
ace-aws-eu-west-1-spoke1...	VM	AWS	eu-west-1
ace-azure-east-us-spoke1...	VM	Azure ARM	eastus
ace-gcp-us-east1-spoke1-b...	VM	GCP	us-east1

Creation of the Rules: intra-rule vs. inter-rule

1) **Intra-rule** will affect the traffic WITHIN a Smart Group

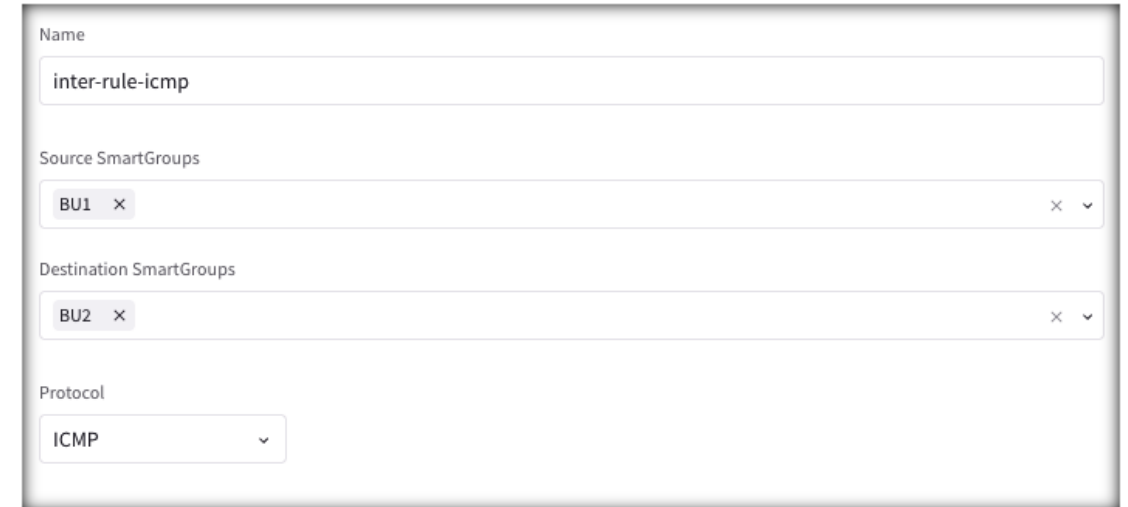
- ❑ Source Smart Group and Destination Smart Group must be the same



The screenshot shows the configuration for an intra-rule named 'intra-rule-icmp'. The 'Name' field contains 'intra-rule-icmp'. Under 'Source SmartGroups', 'BU1' is selected. Under 'Destination SmartGroups', 'BU1' is also selected. The 'Protocol' is set to 'ICMP'.

2) **Inter-rule** will affect the traffic BETWEEN SmartGroups

- ❑ Source Smart Group and Destination Smart Group must differ



The screenshot shows the configuration for an inter-rule named 'inter-rule-icmp'. The 'Name' field contains 'inter-rule-icmp'. Under 'Source SmartGroups', 'BU1' is selected. Under 'Destination SmartGroups', 'BU2' is selected. The 'Protocol' is set to 'ICMP'.

CAVEAT – The Invisible Implicit Deny: as soon as a Rule is committed (either intra-rule or inter-rule) a hidden deny is applied at the bottom of your Rules list. The implicit deny is really an “invisible deny”; you won’t see a “deny any” line automatically added! Since you don’t see it, it’s easy to forget about. Forgetting about the implicit deny is the #1 reason for Distributed Firewalling Rule not giving you the desired results.

Rule Enforcement



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

WebGroups

Protocol

ICMP

Rule Behavior

Enforcement



Logging



Action

Permit

SG Orchestration ⓘ

On

Ensure TLS

Off

TLS Decryption

Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS)

Off

Rule Priority

Place Rule

Cancel

Save In Drafts

☐ Enforcement ON (enabled by default)

- 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

INTRA-ICMP-APACHE

Source SmartGroups

APACHE

Destination SmartGroups

APACHE

WebGroups

Protocol

ICMP

Rule Behavior

Enforcement



Logging



Action

Permit

SG Orchestration

On

Ensure TLS

Off

TLS Decryption

Off

Intrusion Detection (IDS)

Off

Rule Priority

Place Rule

Cancel

Save In Drafts

- ❑ Logging can be turned ON/OFF per rule
- ❑ Configure Syslog to view the logs
- ❑ To configure how many days to keep your Distributed Cloud Firewall logs, in CoPilot navigate to Settings > Resources > Disk Utilization and scroll down to Distributed Cloud Firewall Logs. Use the slider to select the number of days to retain your logs (default is five days).

Policy Monitor

Auto Refresh



Search

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



Next:

Lab 8 Distributed Cloud Firewall