

# Azure Firewall

A fully managed, cloud-based firewall that protects your Azure resources

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# Demo Setup: Aug/9

**Tutorial: Deploy and configure Azure Firewall and policy using the Azure portal**

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/firewall/tutorial-firewall-deploy-portal-policy>

**Firewall and Application Gateway for virtual networks (Architecture recommendation)**

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/architecture/example-scenario/gateway/firewall-application-gateway>

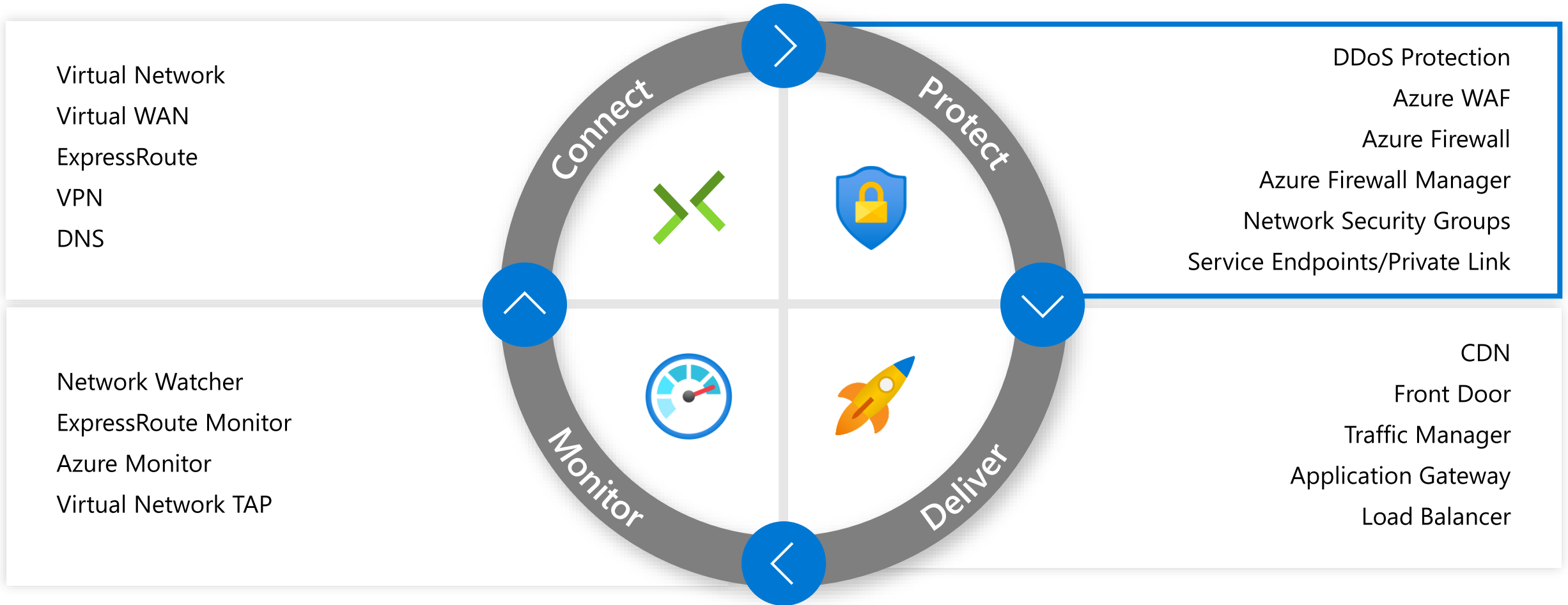
**Monitor Logs,**

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

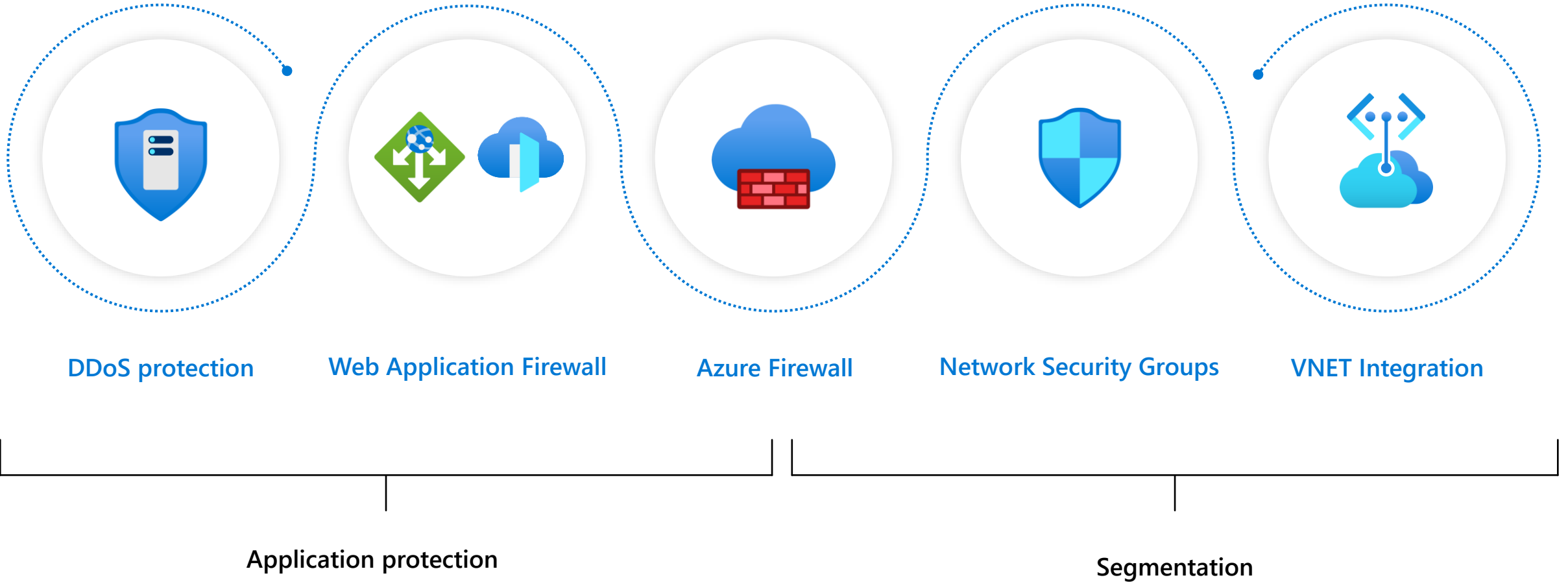
**Deep dive Video**

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

# Azure networking services



# Protection services enabling zero trust



# What is Azure Firewall?

## Cloud native stateful Firewall as a service

### Central governance of all traffic flows

Built-in high availability and auto-scale (30 Gbps)

Network, NAT, application traffic filtering (L3-L7)

### Complete Virtual Network protection

Filter Internet, spoke-spoke, and hybrid network traffic

Azure Security Center Integration for Just In Time access

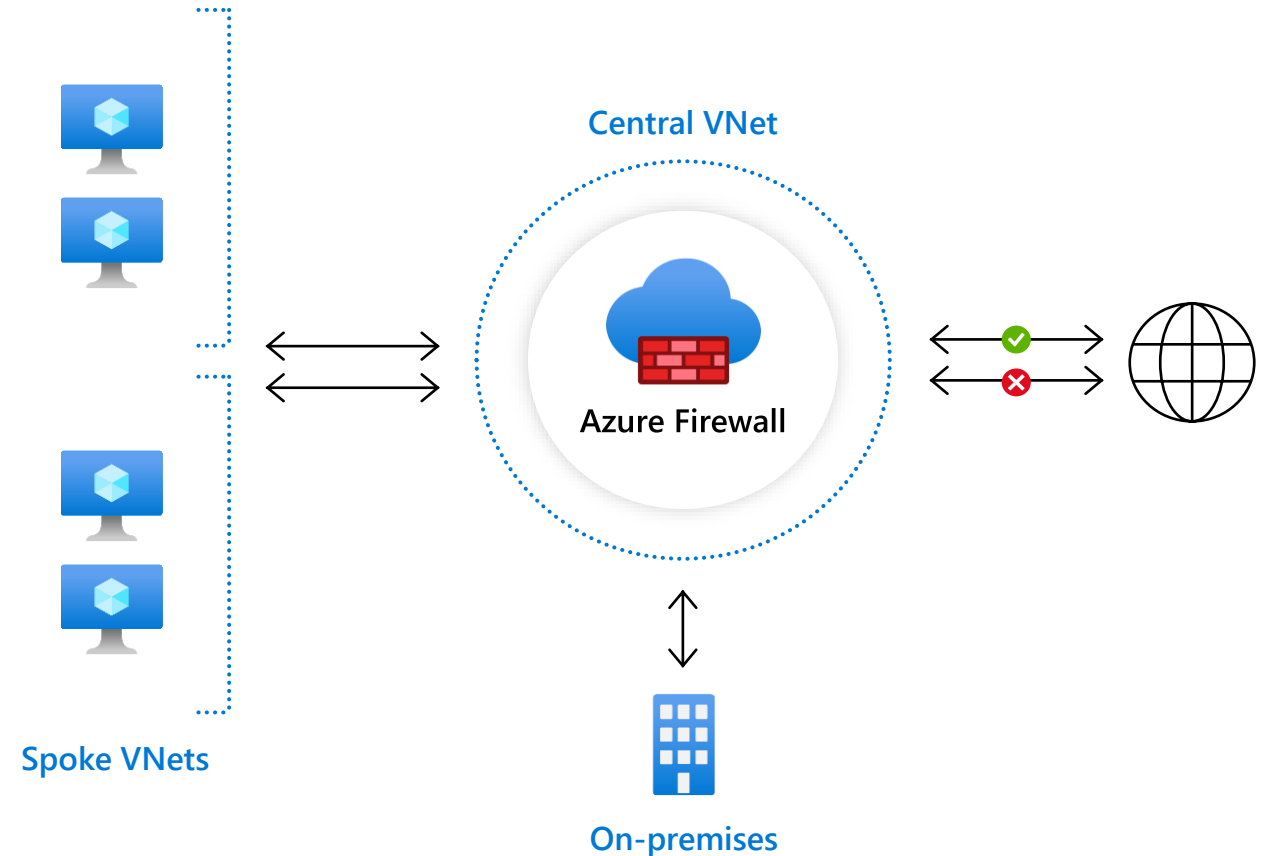
### Centralized logging + monitoring

Archive and analyze logs

Azure Sentinel Integration using built-in Connectors

### Best for Azure

DevOps integration, Microsoft Threat Intelligence, and other Azure services



# Azure Firewall Premium

## Cloud native Next-Gen Firewall as a service

### TLS Inspection

Built-in TLS Inspection for Outbound and East-West traffic

Inbound TLS termination is supported with Azure Application Gateway

Customer provided key pair via Azure Key Vault integration

### Intrusion Detection Prevention System (IDPS)

Detect alert and block inbound/outbound malicious traffic

Supported for both encrypted and plain text protocols

Signature-based detection that is continuously updated

### URL Filtering

Restrict user access to HTTP/HTTPS Web content

Support for URL wildcards

### Web Categories

Allow or deny user access to website categories such as gambling, social media and others

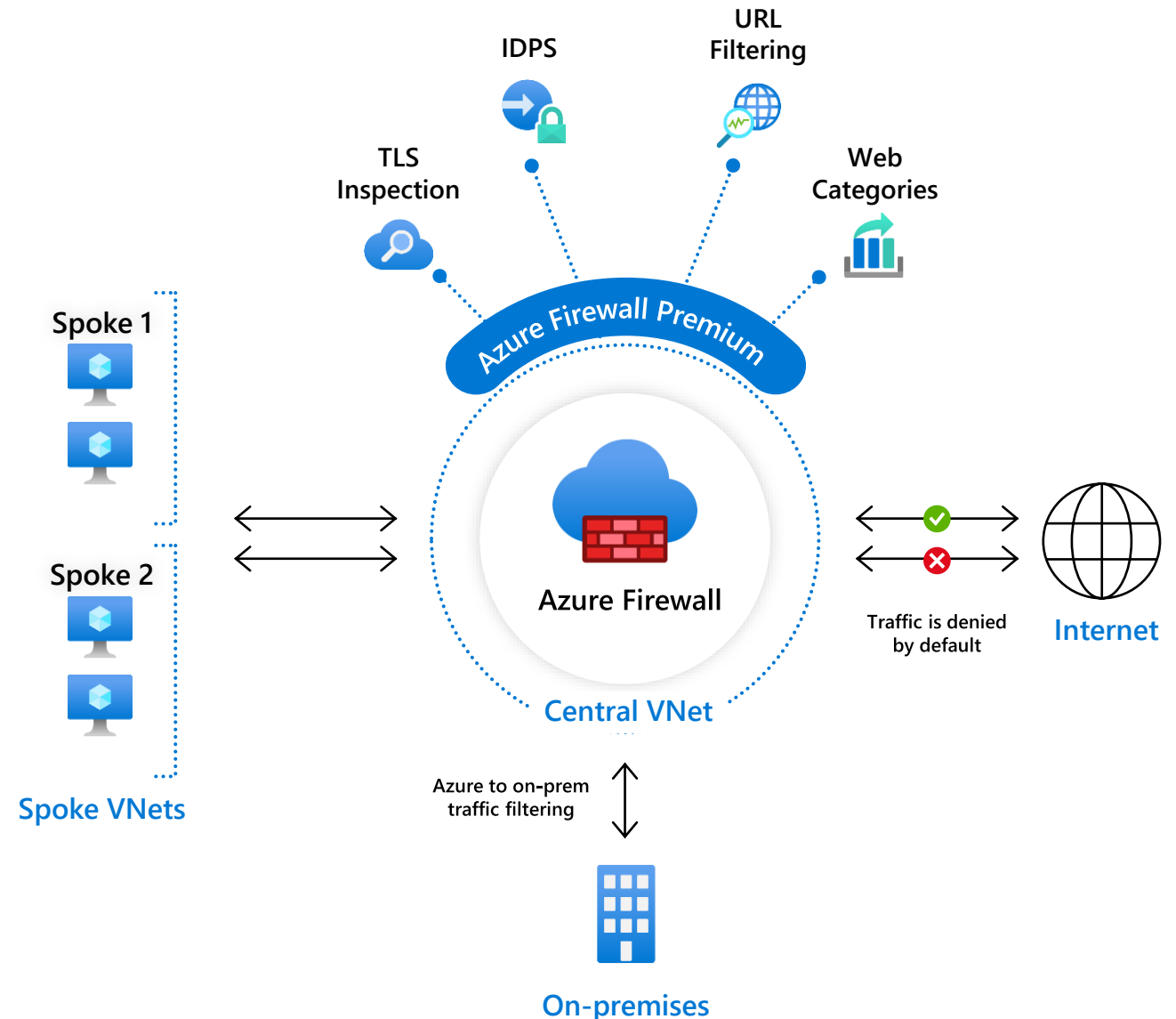
Web categories maintained and continuously updated

URL based category matching

### Azure Firewall Standard

Including all standard firewall capabilities

©Microsoft Corporation  
Azure



# Azure Firewall

## Key features



### Application rules

FQDN Filtering (HTTP/S, MSSQL)

FQDN Tags (e.g., Windows Update, Azure Backup, ASE, HDI)

### Fully stateful network rules

Service Tags

### NAT support

Default Source Network Address Translation (SNAT)

Destination Network Address Translation (DNAT)

### Threat Intel

Deny and Alert on known malicious IPs and domains

### Monitoring

Azure monitor logging

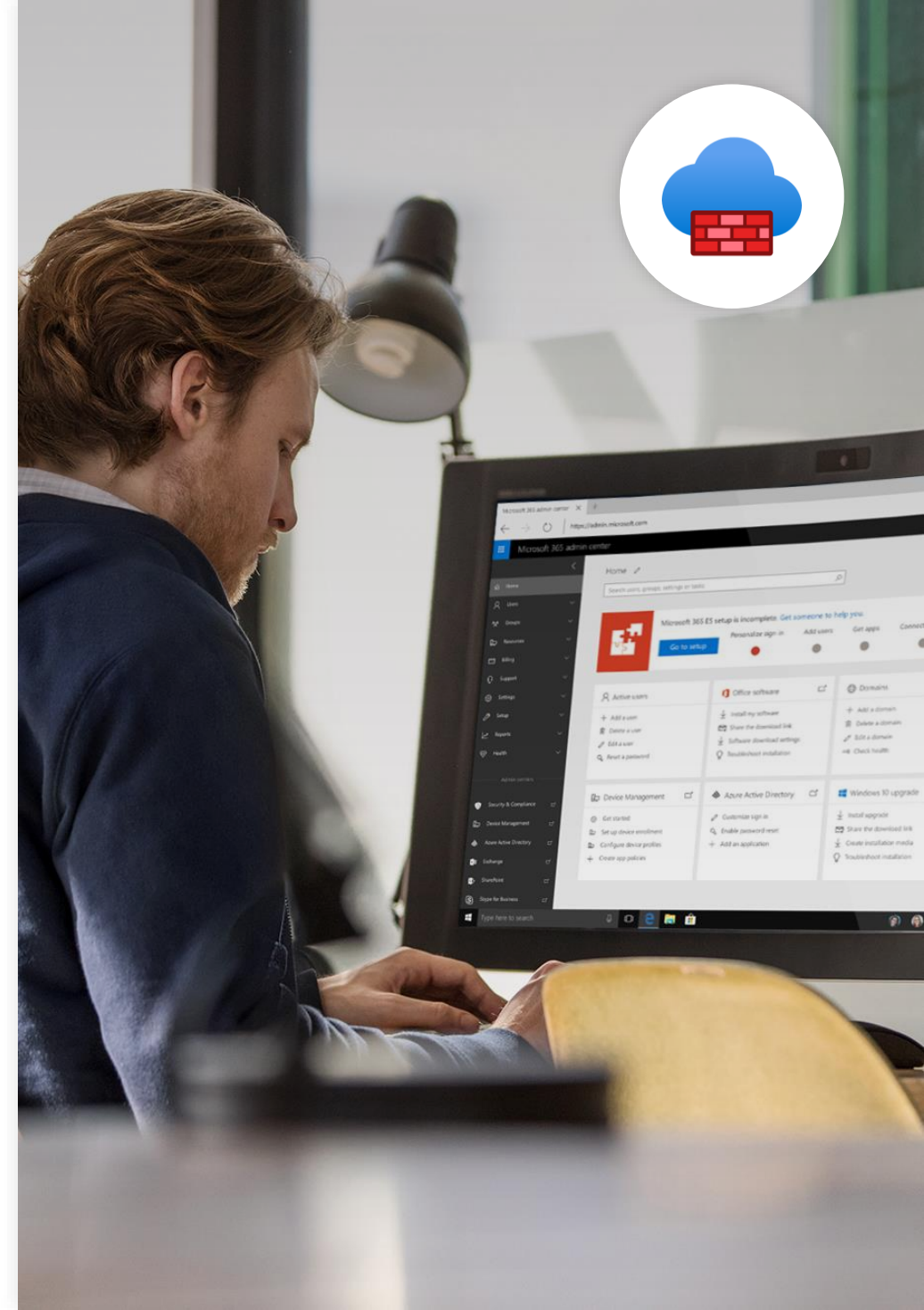
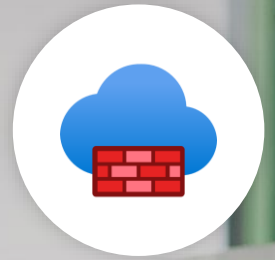
Azure monitor metrics

### Scale and availability

Built-in auto scale (30 Gbps) and HA

Multiple public IPs – up to 250

Availability Zones (99.99% SLA)



# Azure Firewall

## Recently Released Features



### New Scenarios

Windows Virtual Desktop Integration

Native forced tunneling support

Custom DNS + DNS Proxy (GA)



### Traffic Filtering

FQDNs in network rules (GA)



### Management

IP Groups

Auto SNAT configuration – customized private ranges



### Compliance + Certifications

HIPAA Compliance

ICSA Labs Certified



# Azure Firewall vs. NVAs

Feature	Azure Firewall	NVAs
FQDN filtering (no SSL termination)	✓	✓
Inbound/Outbound traffic filtering rules by IP address (source and destination), port, and protocol (5-tuple rules)	✓	✓
Network Address Translation (SNAT+DNAT)	✓	✓
Traffic filtering based on threat intelligence feed to identify high risk sources/destinations (e.g., C&C, botnet, etc.)	✓	✓
Full logging including SIEM integration	✓	✓
Built-in HA with unrestricted cloud scalability (auto scale as traffic grows)	✓	
Azure Service Tags and FQDN Tags for easy policy management	✓	
Integrated monitoring and management, zero maintenance—cloud service model	✓	
Easy DevOps integration using REST/PS/CLI/Templates	✓	Templates
SSL termination with Deep Packet Inspection (DPI) to identify known threats (e.g., viruses, spyware)	Roadmap	✓
Traffic filtering rules by target URI (full path - incl. SSL termination)	Roadmap	✓
Central management	Firewall Manager	✓
Application and user aware traffic filtering rules	Roadmap	✓
IPSEC and SSL VPN gateway	Azure VPN GW	✓
Advanced Next Generation Firewall features (e.g. Sandboxing)	Roadmap	Vendor Dependent

## Pros

Azure Firewall is auto scalable and highly available

Zero maintenance—service model

Azure specialization—Service Tags and FQDN tags

Best for Azure. Ideal fit for DevOps integration

Significant cost saving for most customers

## Cons

Limited Next Generation Firewall features—main gap is IDS/IPS

# Azure Firewall rule types

## Destination Network Address Translation (DNAT)

- Inbound traffic filtering is enabled by mapping of your firewall public IP and port to a private IP and port.
- DNAT rules are applied in priority before network rules.

## Network rules

- Network rules are created to control traffic for any protocol using FQDN's or IP addresses.
- Network rule collections are higher priority than application rule collections, and all rules are terminating.

## Application rules

- Application rules is used to allow HTTP/S traffic or Azure SQL traffic using fully qualified domain names (FQDNs) and FQDN tags e.g WVD, AKS, Windows update etc.

# Azure Firewall—FQDN tags (Application Rules)

- An FQDN tag represents a group of fully qualified domain names (FQDNs) associated with well known Microsoft services
- FQDN tags can be used in application rules to allow the required outbound network traffic through your firewall

## Supported tags:

Windows Update

Windows Diagnostics

Microsoft Active Protection Service (MAPS)

App Service Environment

Azure Backup

HDInsight

Azure Kubernetes Service

Windows Virtual Desktop

# Azure Firewall—Service tags (Network Rules)

- A service tag represents a group of IP address prefixes for a given Azure service.
- Azure Firewall service tags can be used in the network rules destination field.

Edit rule collection

Name

IntraVNETAccess

Rule collection type \*

Network

Priority \*

100

Rule collection action

Allow

Rule collection group \*

DefaultNetworkRuleCollectionGroup

Rules

Name *	Source type	Source	Protocol *	Destination Ports *	Destination Type *	Destination *	
SMB	IP Address	10.0.27.68,10.0.28.4,...	TCP	445	IP Address	10.0.27.68,10.0.28.4,...	...
RDP	IP Address	10.0.27.68,10.0.28.4,...	TCP	3389	IP Address	10.0.27.68,10.0.28.4,...	...
SSH	IP Address	10.0.27.68,10.0.28.4	TCP	22	IP Address	10.0.27.4	...
Service TAGs	IP Address	*, 192.168.10.1, 192...	0 selected	80,8000-9000	Service Tag	0 selected	...
	IP Address	*, 192.168.10.1, 192...	0 selected	80,8000-9000	IP	<div><div><div>ApiManagement</div><div>AppService</div><div>AppServiceManagement</div><div>ApplicationInsightsAvailability</div><div>AzureActiveDirectory</div><div>AzureAdvancedThreatProtection</div><div>AzureBackup</div><div>AzureCloud</div><div>AzureCognitiveSearch</div><div>AzureConnectors</div><div>AzureContainerRegistry</div><div>AzureCosmosDB</div><div>AzureDataExplorerManagement</div><div>AzureDataLake</div></div></div>	

# Azure Firewall—Threat Intel

- Microsoft Intelligent Security Graph powers Microsoft Threat Intelligence to create a high confidence list of known malicious IP addresses and domains
- Azure firewall can be configured to alert and deny traffic to and from known malicious IP addresses and domains in near real-time.
- Threat intel works on both inbound and outbound traffic through azure firewall

Threat intelligence

Threat intelligence based filtering can be enabled for your firewall to alert and block traffic to/from known malicious IP addresses and domains. The IP addresses and domains are during the preview only highest confidence records are included. You can choose between three settings:

- **Off** - This feature will not be enabled for your firewall
- **Alert only** - You will receive high confidence alerts for traffic going through your firewall to or from known malicious IP addresses and domains
- **Alert and deny** - Traffic will be blocked and you will receive high confidence alerts when traffic attempting to go through your firewall to or from known malicious IP addresses

[Learn more about threat intelligence](#)

Threat intelligence mode ⓘ

Alert and deny

Allow list addresses

Threat intelligence will not filter traffic to any of the IP addresses, ranges, and subnets you specify below, whether contained in uploaded files, pasted, or typed individually.

+ Add allow list addresses

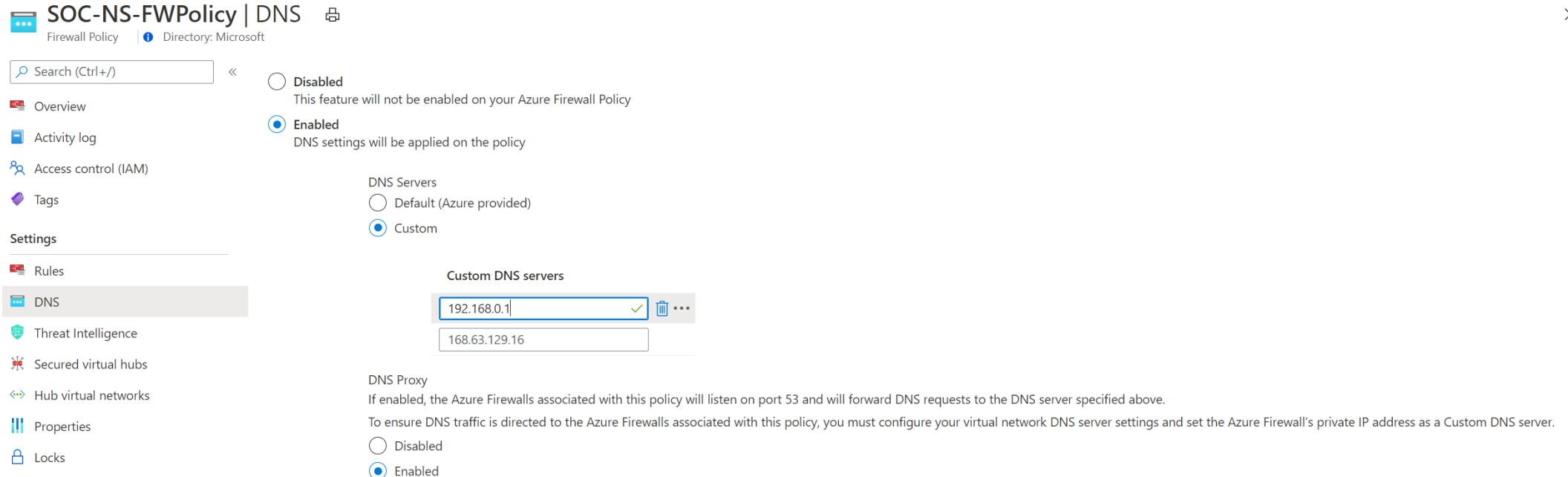
IP address, range, or subnet

Inherited from

IP address, range, or subnet

# Azure Firewall—Custom DNS and DNS Proxy


- By default Azure Firewall translates the FQDN to an IP address(es) using Azure DNS and does rule processing.
- Azure Firewall now supports Custom DNS which means you can use your corporate DNS to resolve both internal and external names.
- You can configure Azure Firewall to act as a DNS proxy.



The screenshot displays the Azure Firewall Policy configuration interface for 'SOC-NS-FWPolicy'. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Settings (expanded), Rules, DNS (selected), Threat Intelligence, Secured virtual hubs, Hub virtual networks, Properties, and Locks. The main content area shows the 'DNS' configuration. At the top, there's a search bar and a 'Directory: Microsoft' indicator. Below this, the 'DNS' section has two radio buttons: 'Disabled' (unselected) and 'Enabled' (selected). The 'Enabled' option is accompanied by the text 'DNS settings will be applied on the policy'. Underneath, the 'DNS Servers' section has two radio buttons: 'Default (Azure provided)' (unselected) and 'Custom' (selected). Below this, the 'Custom DNS servers' section shows a list of IP addresses: '192.168.0.1' (with a green checkmark) and '168.63.129.16'. At the bottom, the 'DNS Proxy' section has two radio buttons: 'Disabled' (unselected) and 'Enabled' (selected). Below this, there's a descriptive text: 'If enabled, the Azure Firewalls associated with this policy will listen on port 53 and will forward DNS requests to the DNS server specified above. To ensure DNS traffic is directed to the Azure Firewalls associated with this policy, you must configure your virtual network DNS server settings and set the Azure Firewall's private IP address as a Custom DNS server.'

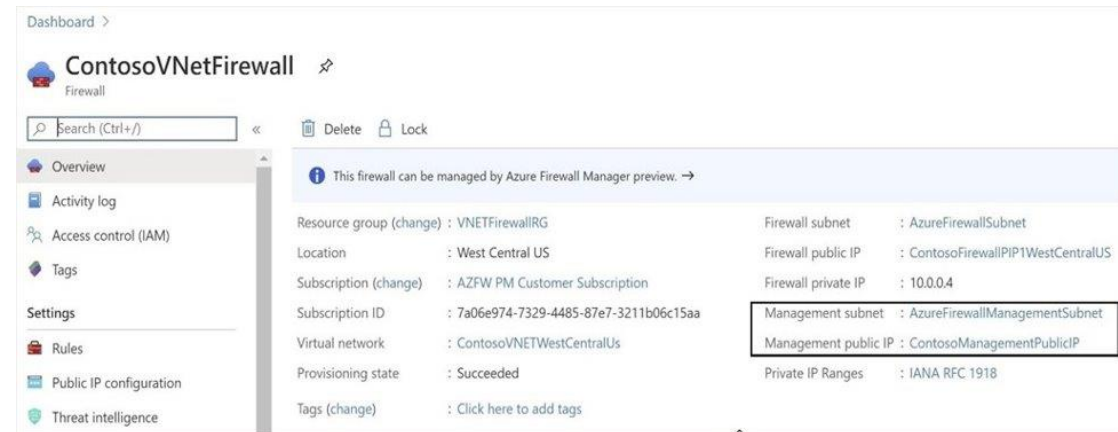
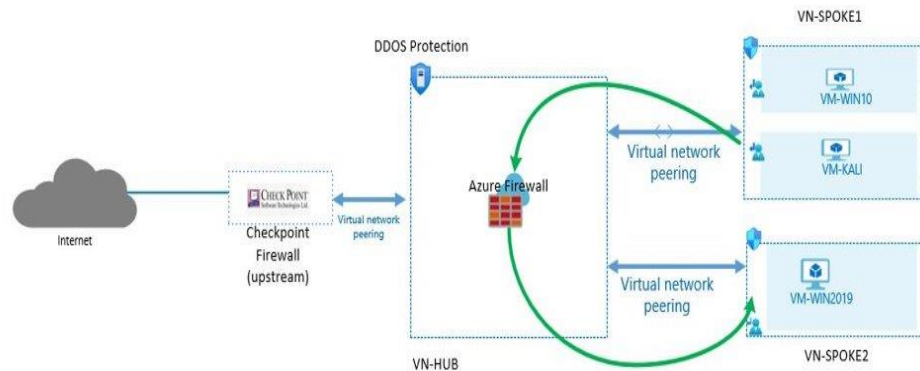
# Azure Firewall—FQDN Filtering in Network Rules

- FQDN filtering capability in network rules allows you to filter outbound traffic using FQDNs with any TCP/UDP protocol (including NTP, SSH, RDP, and more)
- DNS proxy on Azure firewall must be enabled to use FQDN's in network rules

name	Protocol	Source type	Source	Destination type	Destination Addr...	Destination Ports
Test ✓	UDP ▼	IP address ▼	192.168.0.1 ✓	Target FQDN ▼	time.windows.com ✓	123 ✓  ...

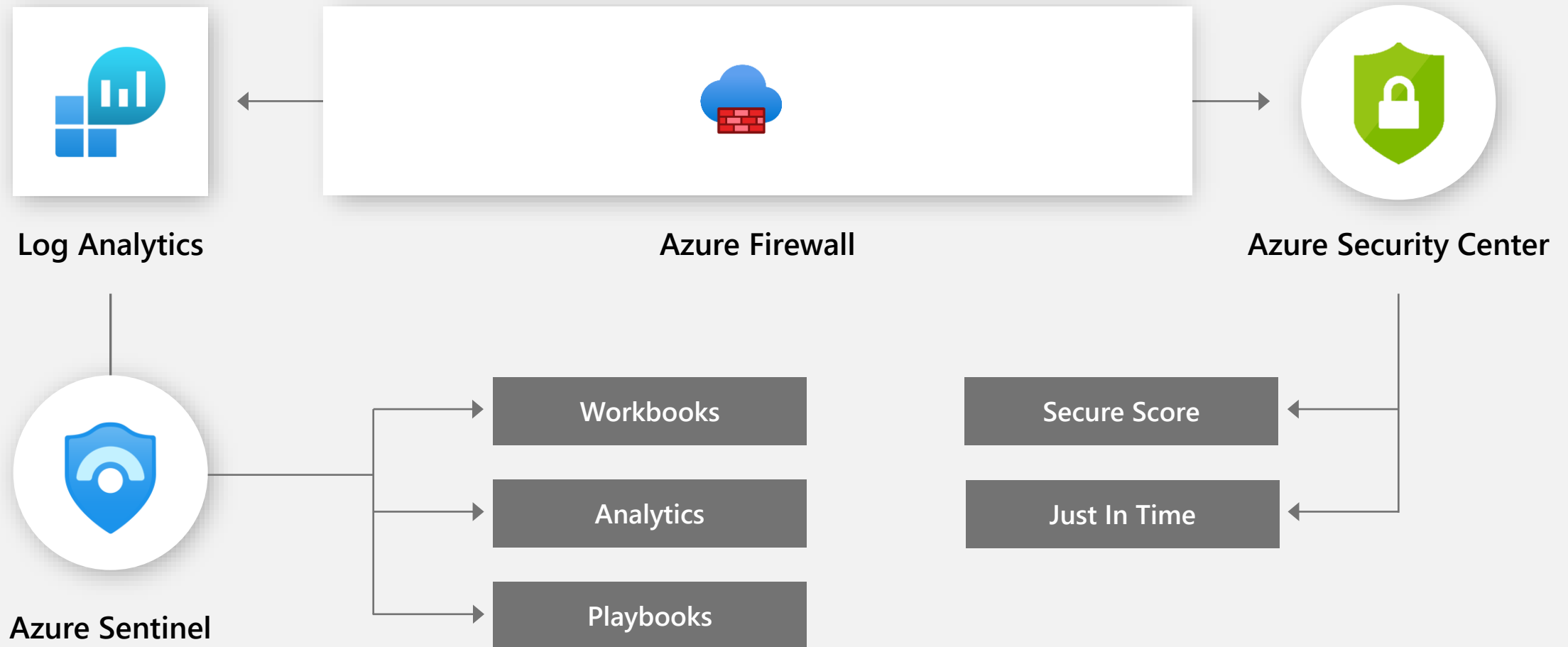
# Azure Firewall — Force Tunneling

- Forced tunneling redirect all internet bound traffic from Azure Firewall to your on-premises Firewall or to chain it to a nearby (NVA) for additional inspection.
- You cannot migrate an existing firewall deployment to a forced tunneling mode.



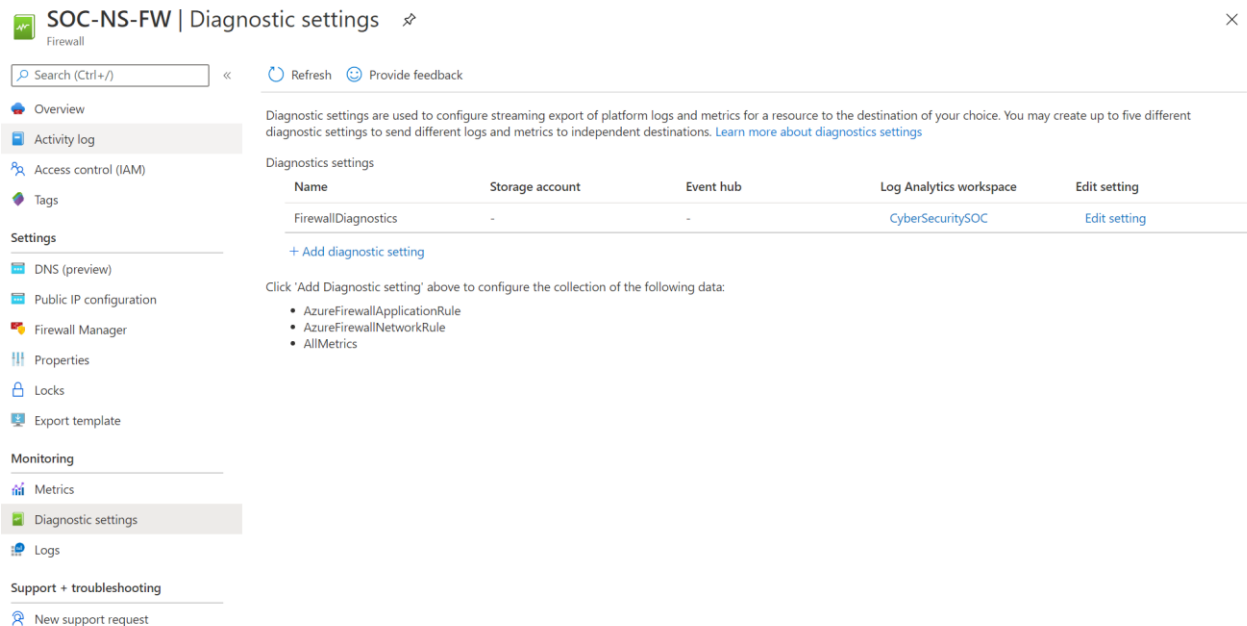


# Azure Firewall – Integration with ASC and Azure Sentinel



# Azure Firewall—Diagnostics and Monitoring

- Azure Firewall diagnostic logs can be saved to Storage Account, streamed to Event hubs and/or sent to Log Analytics Workspace.
- AzureFirewallApplicationRule category log each new connection that matches one of configured application rules results in a log for the accepted/denied connection.
- AzureFirewallNetworkRule category log each new connection that matches one of configured network rules results in a log for the accepted/denied connection including threat intel logs.



The screenshot shows the 'Diagnostic settings' page for an Azure Firewall resource named 'SOC-NS-FW'. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Settings (DNS, Public IP, Firewall Manager, Properties, Locks, Export template), Monitoring (Metrics, Diagnostic settings, Logs), and Support + troubleshooting. The main content area shows a table of diagnostic settings. One setting named 'FirewallDiagnostics' is configured to send logs to the 'CyberSecuritySOC' Log Analytics workspace. Below the table, a list of data categories that can be collected is shown: AzureFirewallApplicationRule, AzureFirewallNetworkRule, and AllMetrics.

SOC-NS-FW | Diagnostic settings

Search (Ctrl+/) Refresh Provide feedback

Overview

Activity log

Access control (IAM)

Tags

Settings

DNS (preview)

Public IP configuration

Firewall Manager

Properties

Locks

Export template

Monitoring

Metrics

Diagnostic settings

Logs

Support + troubleshooting

New support request

Diagnostic settings are used to configure streaming export of platform logs and metrics for a resource to the destination of your choice. You may create up to five different diagnostic settings to send different logs and metrics to independent destinations. [Learn more about diagnostics settings](#)

Diagnostics settings

Name	Storage account	Event hub	Log Analytics workspace	Edit setting
FirewallDiagnostics	-	-	CyberSecuritySOC	<a href="#">Edit setting</a>

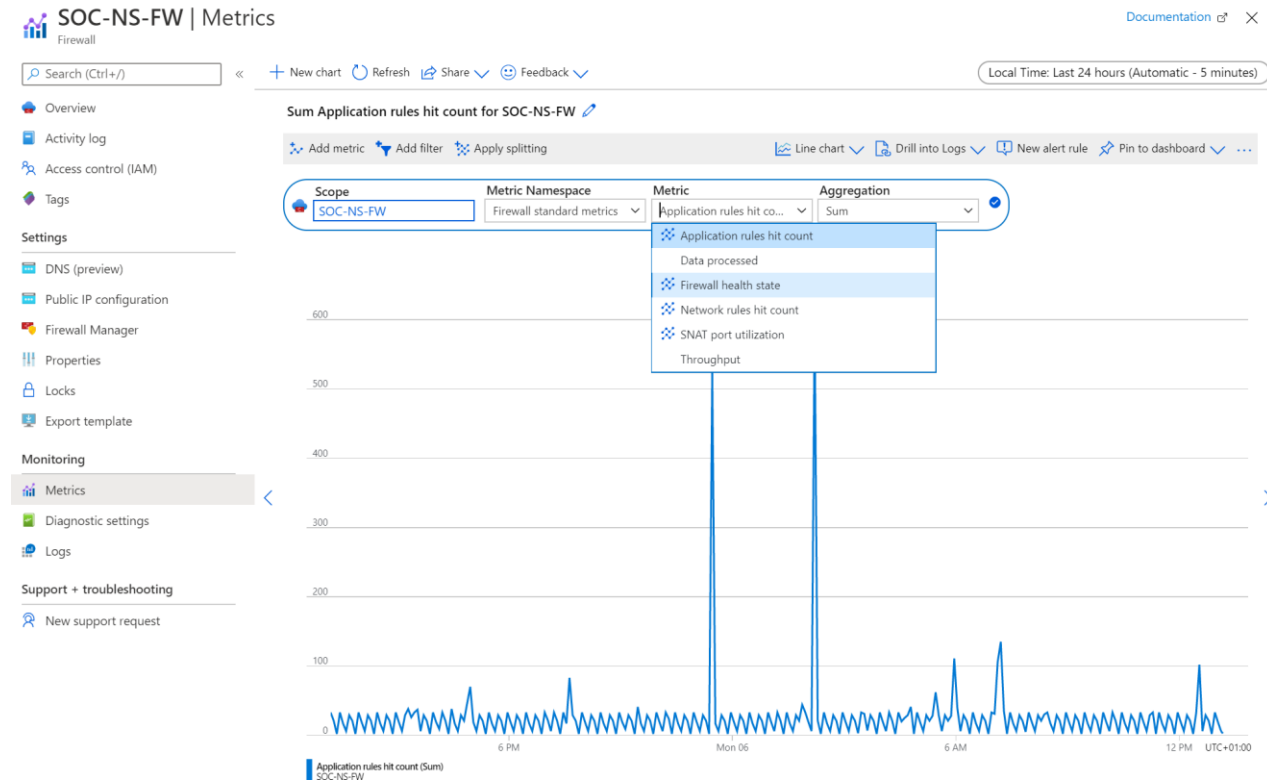
[+ Add diagnostic setting](#)

Click 'Add Diagnostic setting' above to configure the collection of the following data:

- AzureFirewallApplicationRule
- AzureFirewallNetworkRule
- AllMetrics

# Azure Firewall—Metrics

- Metrics are collected every minute and following metrics are available for Azure Firewall
  - Application rules hit count
  - Network rules hit count
  - Data processed
  - Firewall health state
  - SNAT port utilization
  - Throughput



# Azure Firewall—Workbook

- Workbooks in Azure Sentinel/Azure monitor allows for graphical visualization of Azure Firewall activity.
- You can download sample workbook to query data from log analytics workspace from github.  
<https://aka.ms/aznetsec>

## Azure Firewall Workbook

Azure Firewall Overview   Azure Firewall - Application rule log statistics   Azure Firewall - Network rule log statistics   Azure Firewall - DNS Proxy   Azure Firewall - Investigation

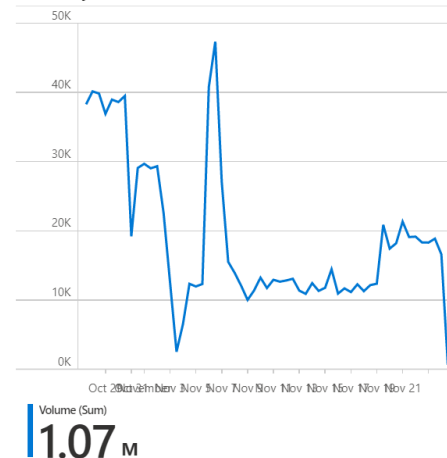
TimeRange: Last 28 days ▾

Workspaces: /subscriptions/d1d8779d-38d7-... ▾

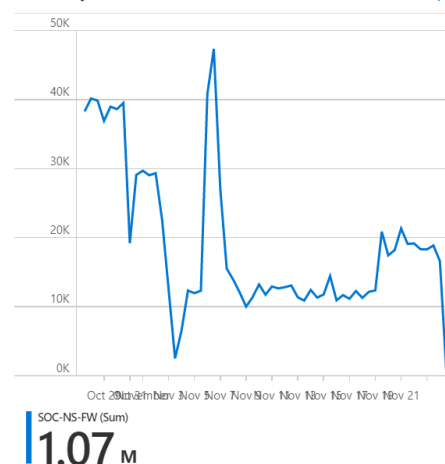
Azure Firewalls: All ▾

### Azure Firewall - overview

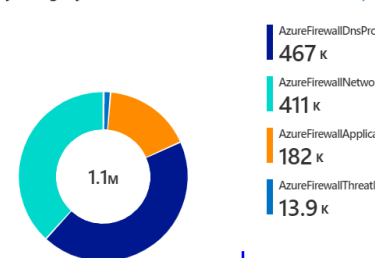
Events, by time



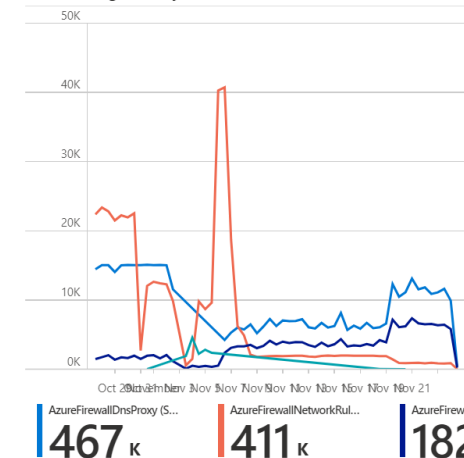
Events, by firewall over time



Events, by category

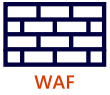


Events categories, by time



# Azure Firewall synergies and recommendations

## Application Gateway WAF



Provides inbound protection for web applications (L7)

Azure Firewall provides network level protection(L3) for all ports and protocols and application-level protection (L7) for outbound HTTP/S. Azure Firewall should be deployed alongside Azure WAF

Azure Firewall can be combined with 3<sup>rd</sup> party WAF/DDoS solutions

## Network Security Groups (NSG)



NSG and Azure Firewall are complementary, with both you have defense and in-depth

NSGs provides host based, distributed network layer traffic filtering to limit traffic to resources within virtual networks

Azure Firewall is a fully stateful centralized network firewall as-a-service, providing network and application-level protection across virtual networks and subscriptions

## Service endpoints



Recommended for secure access to Azure PaaS services

Can be leveraged with Azure Firewall for central logging for all traffic by enabling service endpoints in the Azure Firewall subnet and disabling it on the connected spoke VNETs

# Hybrid Hub & Spoke Architecture

