Policy Overlay Networks

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3 Introduction



Introduction

The Problem — Customer Perspectives

Current policy-centric systems are being forced to move to cloud environments and build much more open systems:

- "...It is imperative to effectively exchange information among components, Federal agencies, coalition partners, foreign governments and international organizations as a critical element of our efforts to defend the nation and execute national strategy..." [1]
- DoD Information Sharing Strategy
- "...The CIO of the National Security Agency is focusing on IT architecture and a cloud-centric approach to sharing information..." [3]
- Informationweek

- Are Not Private User data control in SaaS is lacking, causing
 policy concerns for agencies; Data owners have no technical control
 over secondary use; providers may use offshore development; data
 can be routed across sensitive countries or secondarily stored on
 CDNs; data privacy on bankruptcy is ill-defined
- Are Less Secure Data owners no longer completely control data access, data may not be wiped in all XaaS scenarios, availability and backup leads to possible data proliferation, lack of standardization in intercloud communication and data transfer, multi-tenancy exposure to side-channel attacks, difficulty with reliable logging and auditing
- Cannot Be Trusted Trust relationships, consumer trust

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Current Solutions

How are these problems being addressed by impacted organizations?

They're just starting to be actively addressed and are an open research question [2].

Cross-domain architectures are currently the standard for monitoring and information dissemination in an effort lead by the *Unified Cross Domain Management Office*, associated with the Department of Defense (DoD) and the National Security Agency (NSA).

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Current Solutions — NSA

Legacy cross-domain notional architecture [5]

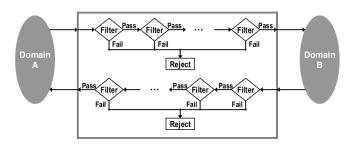


Figure: NSA Legacy Model

Domain A — Private cloud managed by the Air Force Domain B — A public operational network

Current Solutions — NSA (SoA)

Future cross-domain notional architecture [5]

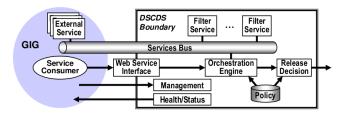


Figure: NSA Service-Oriented Model

GiG — Global Information Grid; a large public cloud operated by the DoD DSCDS — Distributed Service-oriented Cross Domain Solution

Current Solutions — Raytheon

Raytheon's notional architecture supporting cross-domain information flow [6]:

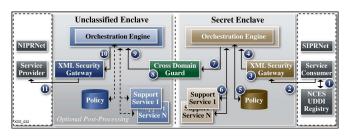


Figure: Raytheon Model

...still uses a single perimeter guard...

Current Solutions — BAH

Booz—Allen—Hamilton presented a service-centric cross domain solution in 2009 [4]:

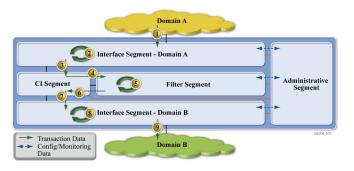


Figure: Booz—Allen—Hamilton Model

...still uses a single perimeter guard (called a filter segment)...



Future Solution

Organizations are falling back on what they know in the scope of new problems.

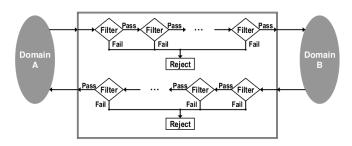


Figure: NSA Legacy Model

- Centralized Policy —
- Physical to Compartment Mapping —
- Perimeter Protection —

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- [1] DoD Information Sharing Strategy. http://cio-nii.defense.gov/docs/InfoSharingStrategy.pdf, May 2007.
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