Azure Networking deep dive

Azure User Group Iceland Virtual Meetup 10.11.2023





Haflidi Fridthjofsson

Principal Cloud Architect at Sopra Steria

- IT specialist since 2011.
- Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) since 2014.
- Microsoft MVP within Security since 2023.
- Co-founder of the Microsoft Security User Group.
 - Specialist within.
 - Azure Infrastructure.
 - Infrastructure as code.
 - Security.



- Free Time
 - Spending time with my family.
 - Check out and learn new technology
 - Bit of gaming, primarily FPS here and there when I got time.



Follow me on:











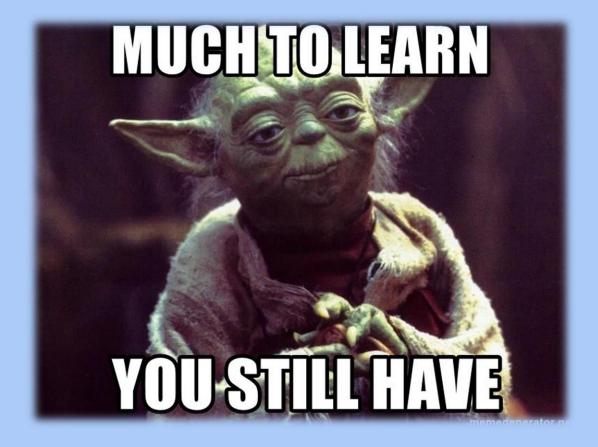




What do we want to achieve

Your takeaways from this session.

- Understand what Azure Network is built on.
- Get more insights on what's new in Azure Networking, especially on the newly announced Global Secure Access in preview.
- Get answers to the questions and concerns from the real-life experience that you posted on Facebook.





What is Azure Network?



Software-Defined Networking





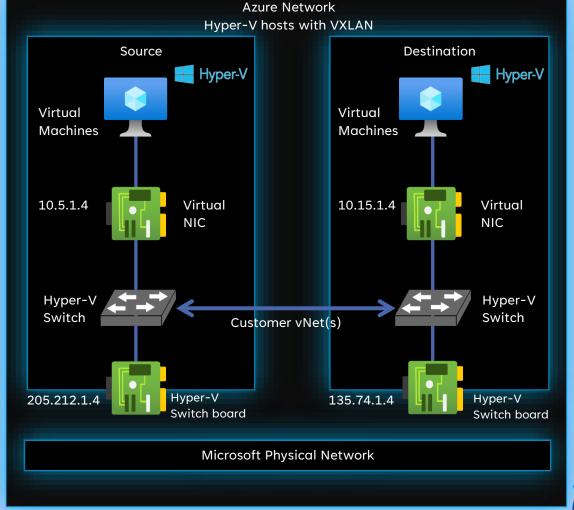
The rules are bit different

On-premises network

- Where packets flow are controlled by cables.
- Cut the cable or no cable = No connection.
- A + B = C
- Secure Network = Core Network Switch, Firewall and router between those cables.

Azure Network

- Where packets flow between source and destination.
- A + B ≠ C
- Everything is running on a Virtual Machine or within a Virtual Machine
- Secure network, then you need to think a bit differently.





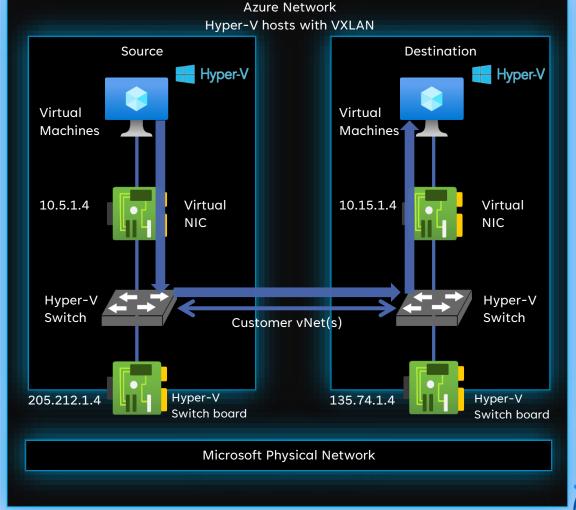
The rules are bit different

On-premises network

- Where packets flow are controlled by cables.
- Cut the cable or no cable = No connection.
- A + B = C
- Secure Network = Core Network Switch, Firewall and router between those cables.

Azure Network

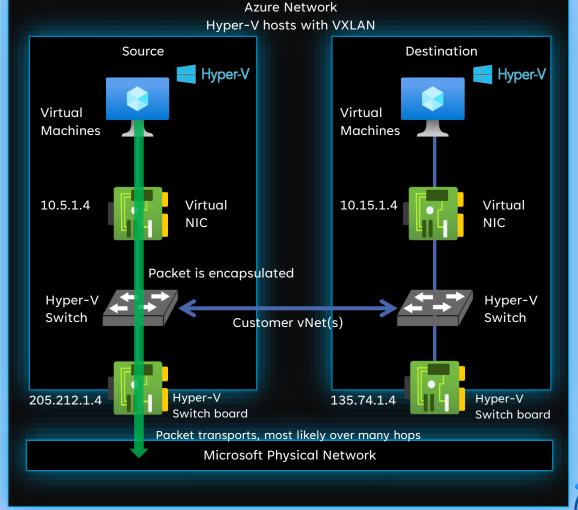
- Where packets flow between source and destination.
- A + B ≠ C
- Everything is running on a Virtual Machine or within a Virtual Machine
- Secure network, then you need to think a bit differently.





The rules are bit different

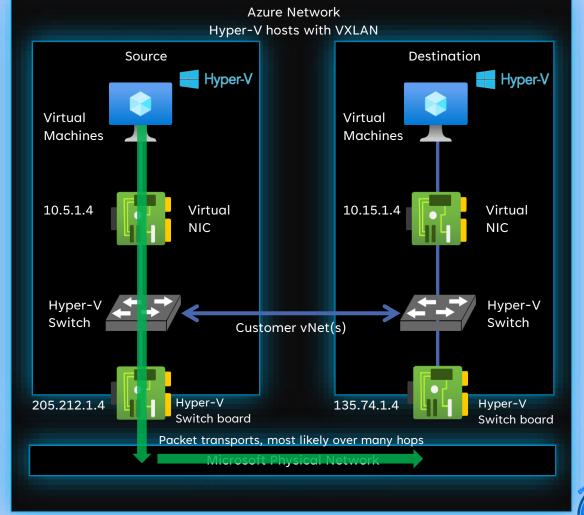
- On-premises network
 - Where packets flow are controlled by cables.
 - Cut the cable or no cable = No connection.
 - A + B = C
 - Secure Network = Core Network Switch, Firewall and router between those cables.
- Azure Network
 - Where packets flow between source and destination.
 - A + B ≠ C
 - Everything is running on a Virtual Machine or within a Virtual Machine
 - Secure network, then you need to think a bit differently.





The rules are bit different

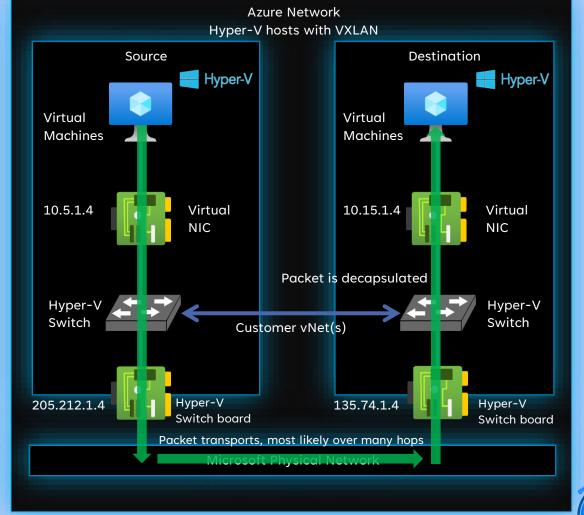
- On-premises network
 - Where packets flow are controlled by cables.
 - Cut the cable or no cable = No connection.
 - A + B = C
 - Secure Network = Core Network Switch, Firewall and router between those cables.
- Azure Network
 - Where packets flow between source and destination.
 - A + B ≠ C
 - Everything is running on a Virtual Machine or within a Virtual Machine
 - Secure network, then you need to think a bit differently.





The rules are bit different

- On-premises network
 - Where packets flow are controlled by cables.
 - Cut the cable or no cable = No connection.
 - A + B = C
 - Secure Network = Core Network Switch, Firewall and router between those cables.
- Azure Network
 - Where packets flow between source and destination.
 - A + B ≠ C
 - Everything is running on a Virtual Machine or within a Virtual Machine
 - Secure network, then you need to think a bit differently.





Latest technology within Azure Networking



Global Secure Access

Microsoft's solution for SASE (Secure Access Service Edge)



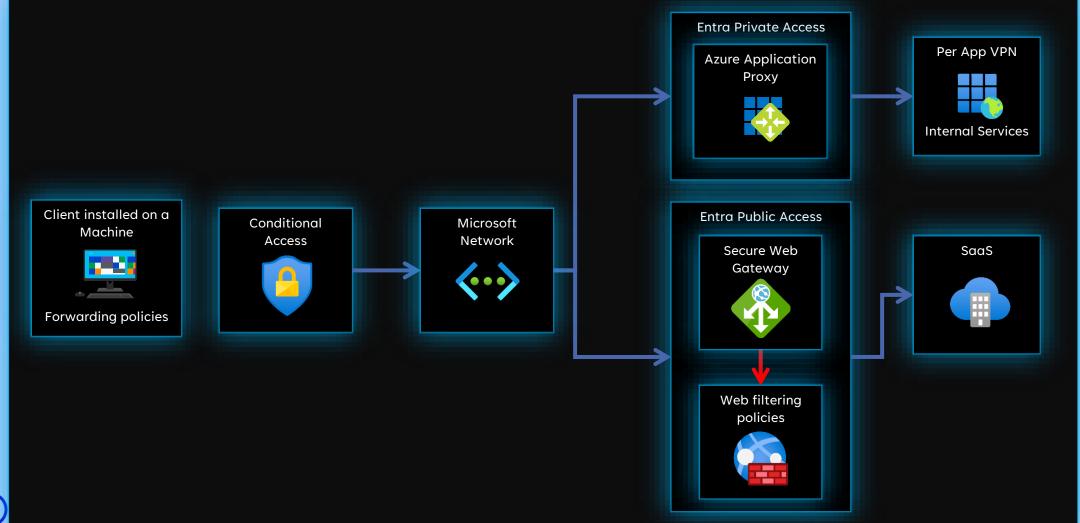


Global Secure Access (Preview)

- Global Secure Access is Microsoft's Security Service Edge Solution (SASE)
- Was announced and made available in Preview in July.
 - Microsoft Entra Private Access (Public Preview)
 - Microsoft Entra Internet Access (Private Preview)
- Think about it as providing security on the network layer
- Price? No clue will probably get more information about it at Ignite.
- Windows 10/11 Supported (MAC, iOS and Android to follow)
- Built on Entra ID, Conditional Access and Application Proxy.
- Connect either using client or office network (S2S VPN)

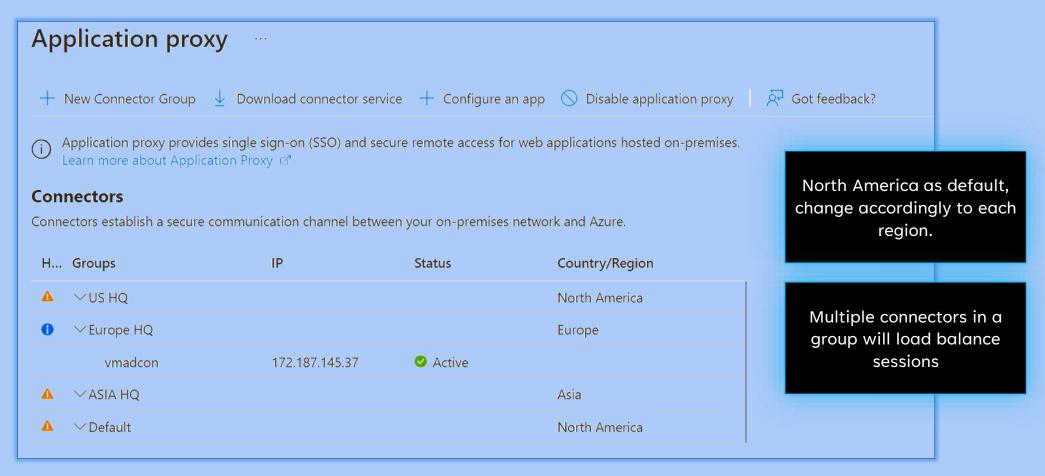


Global Secure Access (Preview) overview





Global Secure Access (Preview) – Microsoft Entra Private Access – Application Proxy





Global Secure Access (Preview) – Forwarding policies

Microsoft 365 access profile

Enabled

Last modified on 07/11/2023, 07:34 PM

☐ Applies to

All Microsoft 365 traffic

Microsoft 365 traffic policies

3 policies View

None

Assignments

All client devices
0 assigned remote networks

Add assignments

Private access profile

Enabled

Last modified on 08/15/2023, 08:55 AM

Applies to

Private resources

Private access policies

Quick Access, 1 Application View

None

Assignments

All client devices

Add assignments

Policies that define what kind of traffic should be routed

Services / Networks that are not defined will not be routed via the service

Can be viewed as a splittunnelling mechanism.

Note: Currently only, the agent can use private access.





Global Secure Access (Preview) – Quick Access vs per app access.

- Quick Access
 - Used to define access to larger subset of resources, such as IPs, IP Ranges or FQDN + Ports that you want to allow access to.
 - Only one conditional access policy can be assigned to that scope.

- Per app Access
 - Used to define access to subset of private services.
 - Allows for more granular conditional policies for specific applications.



Global Secure Access (Preview) – Other usable features to be aware of.

- Tenant Restriction
 - Restrict users from other Entra ID directories to access services using our devices.
- Adaptive Access
 - Provides Network signals to conditional access.

Session Management



If this is not enabled your outgoing IP address will be the Global Secure access one and not the actual public IP that the client uses.







Global Secure Access (Preview) – Microsoft Entra Private Access



Traffic tunnelled over R-TCP

Access either on network or on application level

Requires Windows Server for App Proxy



Global Secure Access (Preview) – Some limitations to be aware of

- Does not support DoH (DNS-Over-HTTPS)
- Does not (yet..) support UDP for internal service
 - For instance, QUIC protocol needs to be blocked
- Does not fully support IPv6
- Can support Entra ID B2B If the device home is the main Entra ID Tenant.
- Single label domains are not supported
 - e.g. https://yourserver01
- Tunneling traffic by IP Address requires that the IP Range are outside of the end-user device local subnet.
 - e.g. If your local subnet has the same address range as the resource you are trying to connect to then that will be a problem.



Demo

Global Secure Access



Questions and concerns.

From real life experience



Questions and concerns

From real life experience

- What is your take on Network restrictions in complex Azure Environments.
 - Azure Firewall or 3rd party Network Virtual Appliances (NVA)
 - Network Security Groups (VNET, Subnet, NIC)
- What is your take on Web Application Firewalls (WAF)
 - Azure Front Door with WAF
 - Web Application Gateway with WAF
 - Web Application Firewall in NVAs
- What is your take on Standard approach to simplify management and monitoring of Network Rules in complex Azure Environments.
- What is your take on Azure VPN Gateway when comparing it with other solutions that focus on Networking Solutions such as (Cisco, SonicWall, FortiGate etc)

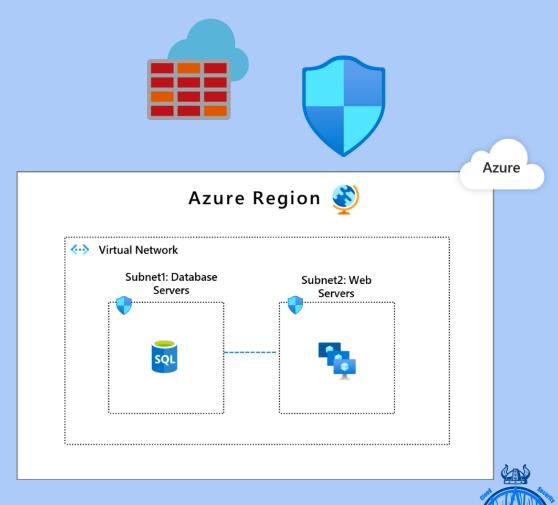
- Azure Landing Zone Deny Policies and using Terraform to deploy Subnets.
 - This has been a problem for a long long time.
 - Workarounds to run exceptions on the policies.
 - Or simply disable the policies.



Questions and concerns

What is your take on Network restrictions in complex Azure Environments.

- Azure Firewall or 3rd party Network Virtual Appliances (NVA)
 - Used mostly in Traditional Hub/Spoke architectures.
 - Used to inspect and control North-South network traffic.
 - Azure Firewall is a layer 7 firewall, capable of filtering traffic based on specific application-layer data.
- Network Security Groups (VNET, Subnet, NIC)
 - Used mostly to protect internal network between VNETs or even in environments that are depending on Zero Trust and are required to have micro segmentation on their network.
 - Used to filter east-west network traffic.





Questions and concerns

What is your take on Web Application Firewalls (WAF)

- Azure Front Door with WAF
 - Designed for multi-region deployments
 - Is an Edge Security Solution.
 - Rules are applied and filtered before the traffic hits the Data center / VNet.
 - Designed for Web-based attacks and has built in DDoS protection.
 - Way more costly than WAG w/WAF.
 - Offers variety of solutions such as
 - SSL Offloading
 - Load Balancing
 - Routing
- Web Application Gateway with WAF
 - Designed for single region.
 - Rules are applied and filtered when the traffic hits your VNET.
 - Doesn't have built in DDoS protection, may come as additional cost.
 - Cost way less then Azure Front Door, so that might be a decision factor when it comes to finding the right solution.







Demo

Mitigating Azure deny policies when deploying subnets with Terraform.



Haflidi Fridthjofsson

Principal Cloud Architect at Sopra Steria



Takk fyrir mig.



Follow me on:











