

VPN

Virtual Private Network

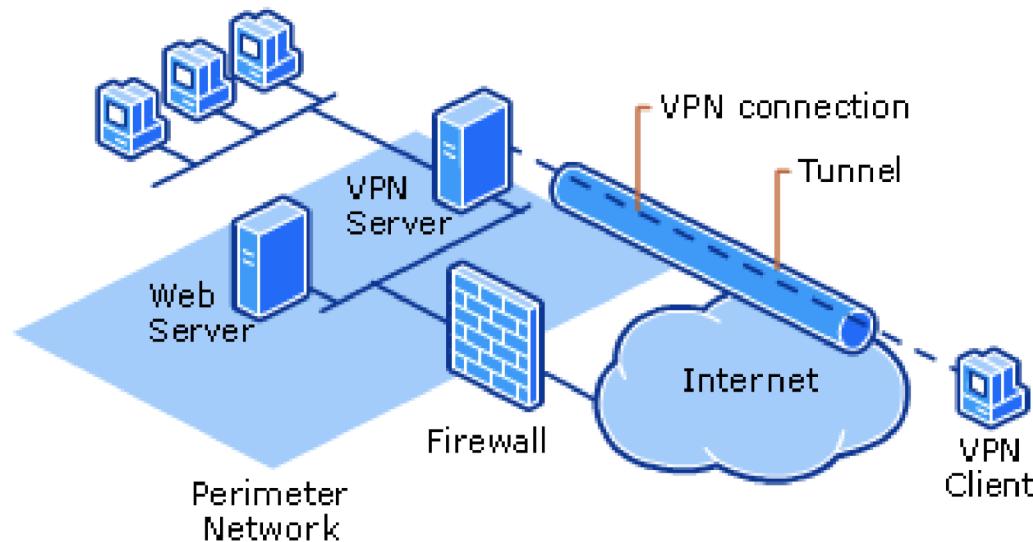
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Introduction

- Uses public telecommunication channels, such as the Internet or other network service, instead of leased lines channels.
- Described as Virtual because it is distant connection using private connections.
- Used to widely now because of today's globalization.
- Connects users or branches.
- Used to use dial-up or Leased communication, now using IP-VPN's

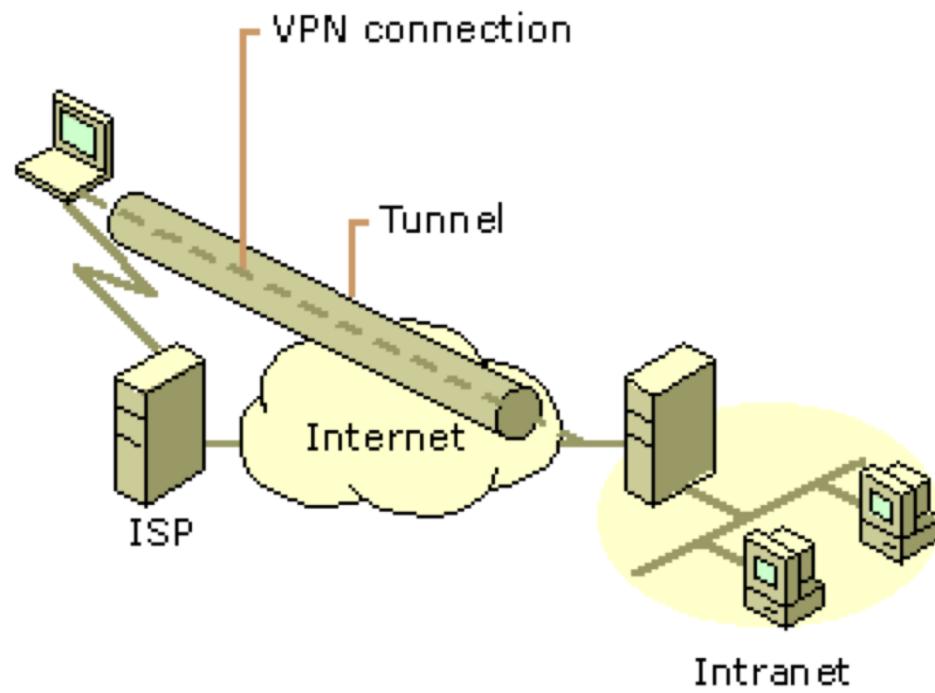
What is VPN

- Extension of a private network that encompasses links across shared or public networks like the Internet.
- Enable to send data between two computers across a shared or public internetwork in a manner that emulates the properties of a point-to-point private link.



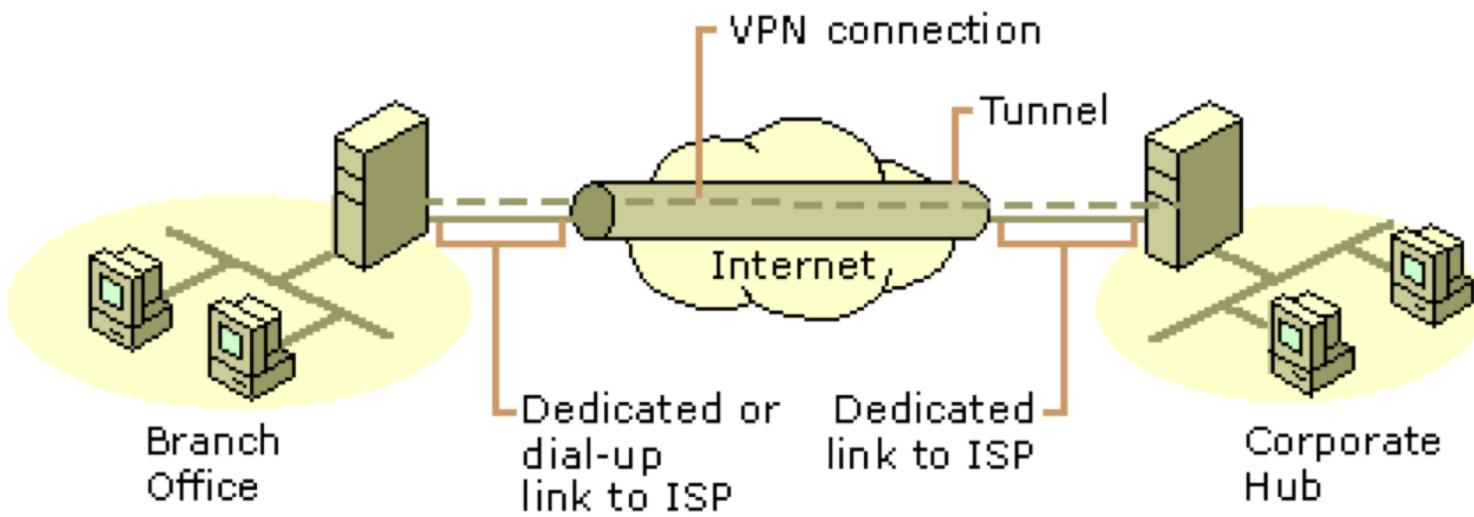
Common Uses of VPNs (1/3)

1. Remote Access Over the Internet



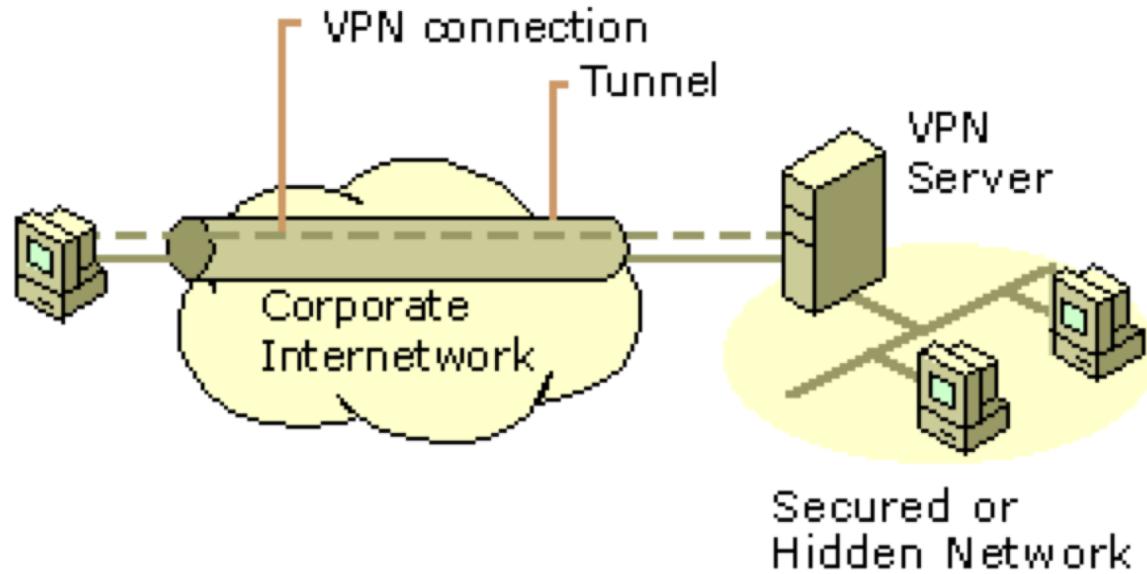
Common Uses of VPNs (2/3)

2. Connecting Networks Over the Internet (Site to Site VPN)



Common Uses of VPNs (3/3)

3. Connecting Computers over an Intranet (similar to 1.)

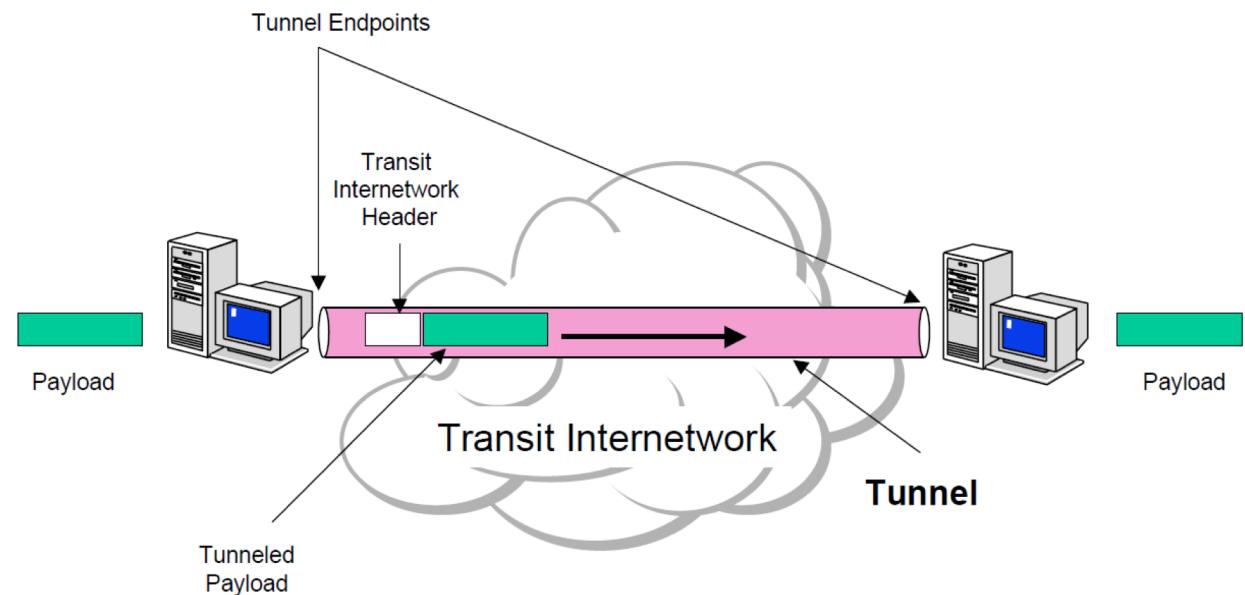


Why Use VPN?

- Cheap
 - Legacy private network uses remote connectivity through dial-up modems or through leased line connections, it's expensive.
- Scalable
 - Extending a leased line connection is complex.
 - Easy to administer.
- Security
 - Provide encryption and file integrity.

VPN Key Concept - Tunneling

- VPN consists of a set of point to point connections tunneled over the Internet.
- In order to achieve tunneling, the packets are encapsulated as the payload of packets.
 - Payloads, to and from addresses, port numbers and other standard protocol packet headers
 - As seen by the external routers carrying the connection



Basic VPN Requirements

- User Authentication
- Key Management
- Address Management
- Data Encryption

Basic VPN Requirements (1/2)

□ User Authentication

- Verify the VPN client's identity and restrict VPN access to authorized users only.
- Provide audit and accounting records to show who accessed what information and when.
- X.509, pre-shared key, etc.

□ Key Management

- Generate and refresh encryption keys for the client and the server.
- Simple Key Management for IP: ISAKMP/Oakley, etc.

Basic VPN Requirements (2/2)

□ Address Management

- Assign a VPN client's address on the intranet and ensure that private addresses are kept private

□ Data Encryption

- No one outside the VPN can alter the VPN.
- Data carried on the public network must be rendered unreadable to unauthorized clients on the network.

VPN Security

Authentication

- Ensuring that the data originates at the source that it claims.

Access Control

- Restricting unauthorized users from gaining admission to the network.

Confidentiality

- Preventing anyone from reading or copying data as it travels across the Internet.

Data Integrity

- Ensuring that no one tampers with data as it travels across the Internet.

Common Implementations

- Based on PPP
 - Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol (PPTP) (PPP + encryption + GRE)
 - Layer Two Tunneling Protocol (L2TP) (PPTP + L2F)
- Based on TCP/IP
 - L2TP/IPsec
 - IPsec Tunnel mode [[RFC 4301](#)]
 - BGP/MPLS IP VPN [[RFC 4364](#)]
- SSL/TLS
 - Secure Socket Tunneling Protocol ([SSTP](#)) (PPTP + SSL)
 - SSL VPN
 - OpenVPN

PPP - Point-to-Point Protocol

- PPP [[RFC 1661](#)] provides a standard method for transporting multi-protocol datagrams over point-to-point (direct) links.
=> Data link layer (layer 2) protocol
- Three components
 - Encapsulation (for transporting purpose)
 - Link Control Protocol (for data-link connectability)
 - Network Control Protocols (NCP) family (L3 management support)
- Extra Options
 - Authentication: [PAP](#), [CHAP](#), [EAP](#), [MS-CHAP](#), [MS-CHAPv2](#), etc.
 - Link Quality and error detection
 - Compression
 - Encryption: [MPPC](#) + [MPPE](#), etc.
 - Multilink ([MP](#), The PPP Multilink Protocol)

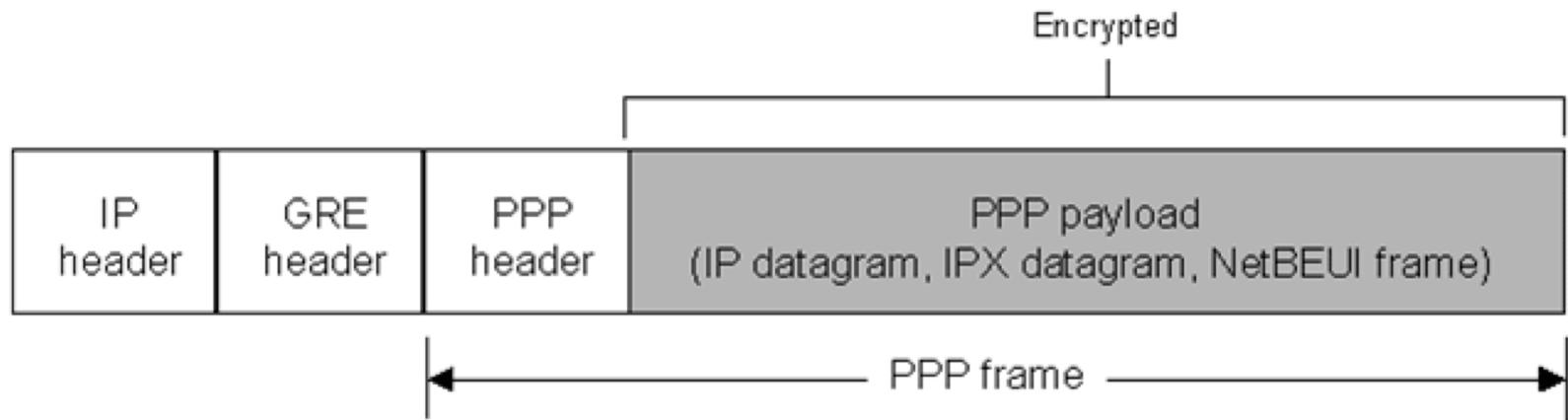
Tunneling Protocol

Allows a network user to access or provide a network service that the underlying network does not support or provide directly. ([Wikipedia](#))

- GRE** (Generic Routing Encapsulation): Establish a virtual point-to-point connection between two networks.
 - IP as a delivery protocol
 - Virtual Tunnel: (Tunnel) IP header + GRE packet header
 - Encapsulation, *not* encryption
- PPTP / L2TP
- IPsec
- OpenVPN (with SSL/TLS)
- etc.

PPTP - Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol

- PPTP [RFC 2637] uses an enhanced GRE mechanism to provide a flow-and congestion-controlled (TCP) encapsulated datagram service for carrying PPP packets.
- PPTP creates a GRE tunnel through which the PPTP GRE packets are sent.

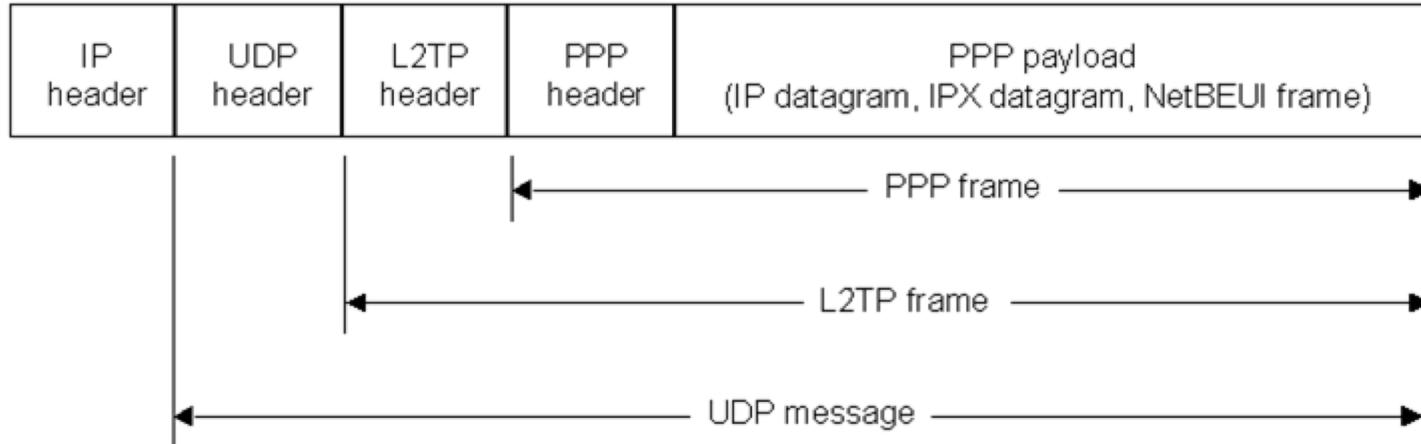


Security of PPTP

- PPTP has been the subject of many security analyses and
- serious security vulnerabilities have been found
 - MS-CHAP is fundamentally insecure.
 - MS-CHAPv2 is vulnerable to dictionary attack on the captured challenge response packets.
- The PPP payload can be encrypted by using Microsoft Point to Point Encryption (MPPE) when using MS-CHAPv1/v2
- **EAP-TLS** (Extensible Authentication Protocol – TLS) is the superior authentication choice for PPTP.

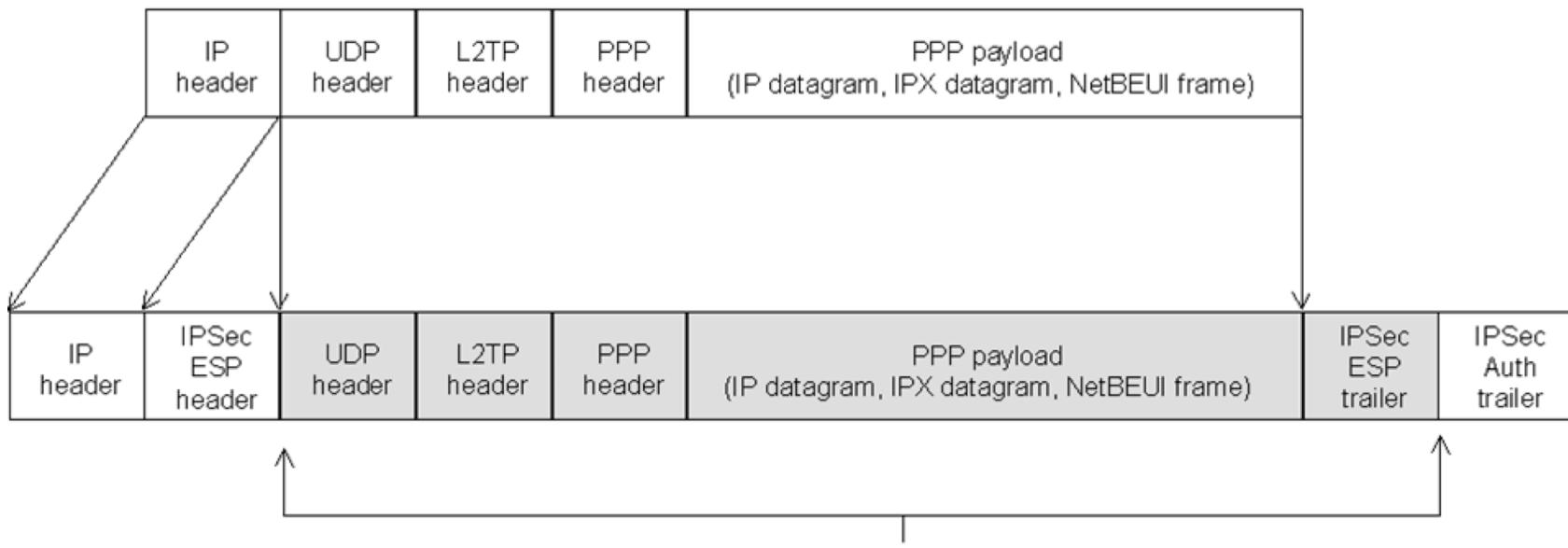
L2TP - Layer Two Tunneling Protocol

- L2TP [[RFC 2661](#)]: PPTP + [L2F](#) (Layer Two Forwarding)
- High level protocols (e.g., PPP) establish L2TP session (“call”) within the L2TP tunnel, and traffic for each session is isolated.
- A tunnel can contains multiple connections at once.
- L2TP over IP internetworks uses UDP and a series of L2TP messages for tunnel maintenance.
- [L2TPv3](#) provides additional security features, improved encapsulation, and the ability to carry data links other than simply PPP over an IP network. ([Wikipedia](#))



L2TP/IPsec

- L2TP does not provide confidentiality or strong authentication.
- Usually use **IPsec ESP** (Encapsulating Security Payload) to encrypt the L2TP packet.
 - Data encryption begins before the PPP connection process by negotiating an IPSec security association.
 - Require computer-level authentication using computer certificates.



IPsec

- IPsec [[RFC 4301](#)] is a secure network protocol suite provides authentication and encryption ability over IPv4 network.
- Two modes in IPsec
 - **Transport mode:** Insert IPsec header (AH/ESP) between IP and TCP header, then modify original IP header.
 - **Tunnel mode:** Encapsulate original packet, and prepend new IP and IPsec header.
- Two functions that ensure confidentiality:
 - Authentication Header (AH)
 - Provide source authentication and integrity *without* encryption.
 - Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)
 - Provide both data authentication, data integrity and data encryption.
- Security Associations (SA) provides the parameters necessary for AH and/or ESP operations.
 - [IKE](#) (Internet Key Exchange): Provide authentication and key exchange.
e.g., ISAKMP, OAKLEY

IPsec Modes

Authentication Header (AH)



Transport Mode



Tunnel Mode

Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)



Transport Mode



Tunnel Mode

SSL VPN

- A form of VPN that can be used with a standard Web browser.
 - Also can be used to tunnel traffic via SSL or TLS protocol
- The traffic is encrypted with the SSL protocol or Transport Layer Security (TLS) protocol.
- Proprietary software
 - Cisco AnyConnect
 - Juniper Networks Pulse Secure
 - Fortigate
- Open Source
 - OpenVPN

Appendix

- [I Am Anonymous When I Use a VPN – 10 Myths Debunked](#)
- [Virtual Private Networking: An Overview](#)
- [BeyondCorp](#) by Google: Protected connection from untrusted networks without the use of a VPN.
 - See also: Role-Based Access Control ([RBAC](#))
- Protocol reference
 - [VPN](#)
 - [PPP / GRE / PPTP / L2TP](#)
 - [IPsec / IKE](#)
 - [IP protocol numbers](#)