



SD-WAN

What is it and how does
it work?



What is SD-WAN?



As networks have grown, they have become increasingly complex, especially to manage. SD-WAN is an important step in the evolution of networking as it helps simplify WAN management. A WAN connects your office to your other locations, and the wider world via the Internet. So essentially without

a WAN your office wouldn't be able to connect to do business. SD-WAN or software defined Wide Area Network, uses software to manage and make your network connections work smarter and faster, which helps improve resiliency.

It provides a better way to build networks by monitoring connectivity to manage traffic. As we continue to move more and more data and applications to the cloud, one connection is no longer viable to provide the up time & performance levels required. SD-WAN provides the ability to decide what traffic is connected to what network, so you can better prioritise data such as voice.

How does it work?

SD-WAN allows organisations to route & prioritise traffic, while also simplifying deployment and reducing the cost of hardware expenses typically associated with traditional WAN solutions. Configuring new or existing network infrastructure is much easier than the

old way of fragile command line and manual updates, with changes simultaneously and easily managed across the entire WAN.

What can SD-WAN do?



COST-EFFECTIVE

Being able to centrally assign business policies that control & secure the WAN traffic provides added simplicity that makes it easier to take advantage of different types of connections instead of relying solely on expensive private MPLS networks. Since it is software based, the configuration of this solution into your current infrastructure is also quick and easy, so change requires minimal disruption or cost.

SECURITY

As always security is high on everyone's agenda and with SD-WAN security is assured through the encryption of network traffic, a central provisioning system with increased visibility and control, and the segmentation of traffic that helps with regulatory compliance including PCI.

INCREASED RESILIENCY

SD-WAN provides the integration and management of multiple connections, prioritising traffic & fail over. It provides a level of control when it comes to prioritisation which is a key element for businesses running VoIP phones alongside other connectivity-dependent & cloud-based services. Essentially employees will always be able to access the right systems at the right time.

FLEXIBLE CONNECTIVITY

SD-WAN helps manage diverse connections for different locations under a unified management plan. Additionally, for telecoms, SD-WAN can help to prioritise voice traffic & avoid dropped calls that result from congested broadband.

To determine if SD-WAN is right for you, we recommend you start by analysing your current IT issues and see if any of the above benefits would help solve these. For more information on our SD-WAN solutions, contact our team on 028 9078 6868.

Contact our team for more information

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