Connect and Secure Multiple Sites Faster with Hughes and Fortinet

Cloud applications and digital transformation initiatives can pay huge dividends, as higher technology usage among Small and Medium-sized Businesses (SMBs) correlates to incremental growth in revenue and profits.[1] SMBs are already often users of the public cloud, averaging 61% of their workload in the public cloud today compared to less than half of enterprise workloads.[2] However, many legacy networking solutions were not designed to work with public clouds or the latest digital technologies and may not meet the performance demands of modern business.

As your business continues to grow and transform, each change to your network topology can be a slow and complex process. A new physical location requires networking equipment, management software, and security tools, as well as connecting to one or more Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to support the performance you may need. Then comes the configuration—from network and security policies to route tables and firewall access lists. Even connecting to a new cloud provider can be complex, from hosting virtualized networking tools to managing the unique processes for each provider.

You may also need to tie new sites into your existing management and monitoring tools, and if you are using a customized solution, that may also be a complex process. Expansion can have a compounding effect on your Day two operations and troubleshooting abilities due to multiple tools and consoles or a growing number of configurations that need frequent updates. This not only creates more effort for your staff but it may demand the need for additional skilled workers or entirely new skillsets. However, 64% of global tech leaders say that candidates for their IT and tech roles lack the necessary skills or experience, making those positions tough to fill.[3]

Modern secure networking does not have to be complicated. If you are struggling to find the IT skills that you need, or require a solution that better aligns with your digital transformation goals, consider looking to a managed service for the right combination of technology and support.

Next-Gen Networking Technology

Software-Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN) adoption is growing rapidly among the SMB segment.4 Its virtual architecture allows you to leverage a combination of transport services, such as broadband, LTE, and MPLS, and scale quickly to offer higher performance and lower costs compared to traditional networking solutions. SD-WAN also provides centralized management and built-in security to simplify operations.

Of course, your new site still needs networking hardware, such as switches, routers, and access points. With the ability to use off-the-shelf networking hardware, SD-WAN makes it both easier and faster to set up networking in a new location. Its compatibility with multiple technologies reduces integration challenges, enabling greater consistency across a distributed network and streamlining future expansion.

Management and Support

Modern networking technology reduces some of the challenges of building a traditional network, but your new site still requires significant effort to plan, install, configure, and maintain the network. An experienced managed services provider can handle the end-to-end lifecycle, from design to ongoing maintenance and upgrades.

With a trusted partner, you can overcome resource limitations and reduce the time that your internal teams spend to manage and secure your entire network. A turnkey solution implies that all devices will be under the same management control with zero-touch configuration to ensure consistency and security. Your entire network will be more reliable with 24/7 WAN management and industry-leading security. Whether your new site requires wired or wireless coverage, an experienced MSP can help you quickly build a secure network without monopolizing your IT team's time.

Trust Hughes Managed Networking Services

With over 50 years of experience, Hughes has the knowledge and expertise to build and manage a reliable, high-performance network that will grow with your business. Hughes has three network operations centers for redundancy and a high first-contact resolution rate to ensure satisfaction. Reduce complexity, meet compliance requirements, and respond to technology or market changes faster with Hughes.

Powered by Fortinet converged security and networking technology, Hughes Managed Networking Services encompass broadband, SD-WAN, switching, and Wi-Fi for simplified secure networking. As the 2022 Fortinet SD-WAN Partner of the Year, Hughes has completed 136 Fortinet NSE certifications, demonstrating expertise in this technology. Hughes and Fortinet have partnered for over 16 years and have deployed over 100,000 devices.

Managed services from Hughes powered by Fortinet technology allow you to focus on growing your business. Visit us to learn how Hughes and Fortinet can power your digital transformation journey.

Sources:

1. "The Impact of Technology on U.S. Small Business," U.S. Chamber of Commerce Technology Engagement Center, 2023.
2. "2024 State of the Cloud Report," Flexera, Mar 2024.
3. "New approaches to the tech talent shortage," MIT Technology Review, Sep 2023.
4. "Software-Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN) Market," Markets and Markets, Nov 2022.