

## SOLUTION BRIEF

# Improve Hybrid Workforce Security with FortiSASE

## Executive Summary

The hybrid workforce is here to stay. Therefore, organizations must continue to improve legacy remote access methods, enhance user experiences, and provide better secure access to private applications when users are not on-site. For efficiency, most organizations want to streamline their security and networking capabilities into a unified platform, especially as users in the work-from-anywhere (WFA) model remain a significant portion of their staff. Fortunately, IT teams now have a great opportunity to upgrade their remote access capabilities with FortiSASE.

FortiSASE is a cloud-delivered security service edge (SSE) solution that provides always-on secure access to private applications. It enhances resiliency and user experience from any remote location. Integrating native SD-WAN functionalities inside each SSE point of presence (POP) with an existing FortiGate SD-WAN hub or next-generation firewall (NGFW) ensures secure, reliable, high-performance connectivity for remote users.

Fortinet Unified SASE is our single-vendor SASE solution. It reduces complexity and provides simplified management and consistent security policies across on-premises and remote locations. According to the Gartner® Magic Quadrant™ for Single-Vendor SASE, this market is experiencing rapid growth and significant transformation.<sup>1</sup>

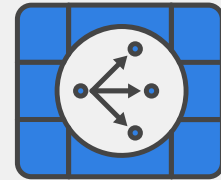
## The Need for Integrated Hybrid Security

Many organizations experience significant challenges with remote access solutions, including poor user experience and performance issues. Additionally, there is often inconsistent user experience and security level between always on-premises personnel and WFA employees, complicating management and increasing vulnerability. Another critical pain point is the inability to enforce security policies for remote users accessing the internet and Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) applications, which can expose the organization to potential threats.

The rise of WFA models, the proliferation of distributed applications, and the acceleration of digital transformation are key trends driving the need for robust and secure remote access solutions. Organizations seek solutions that provide consistent security and optimal performance for their distributed workforce while ensuring seamless access to critical business applications.

The FortiSASE solution offers several key benefits. It provides faster transaction speeds and lower application response times by enabling secure remote access to corporate applications through reliable SD-WAN connectivity. This integration allows for optimized paths to business-critical applications, significantly enhancing performance and user experience.

Additionally, bidirectional secure private access (SPA) traffic enables administrators to remotely manage user desktops, simplifying IT management and ensuring secure, reliable connectivity for remote users. The solution also extends consistent security for remote users through AI-powered, cloud-delivered security, ensuring a unified security experience for both on-premises and remote employees.



Gartner predicts that by 2025, 50% of new SD-WAN purchases will be integrated into single-vendor SASE offerings. Furthermore, one-third of new SASE deployments are expected to be based on single-vendor solutions.<sup>2</sup>

## Fortinet Unified SASE

Fortinet Unified SASE offers many advantages. It provides investment protection for organizations that have already invested in FortiGate infrastructure for their data center or campus environments, ensuring that these investments continue to yield high value by securing the hybrid workforce.

Fortinet Unified SASE delivers improved user experience and comprehensive security inspection, outperforming traditional remote access methods. The solution also enables native SD-WAN functionalities within each POP, which can be integrated with existing FortiGate SD-WAN hubs or NGFWs in as few as five minutes, facilitating simple deployment and always-on security.

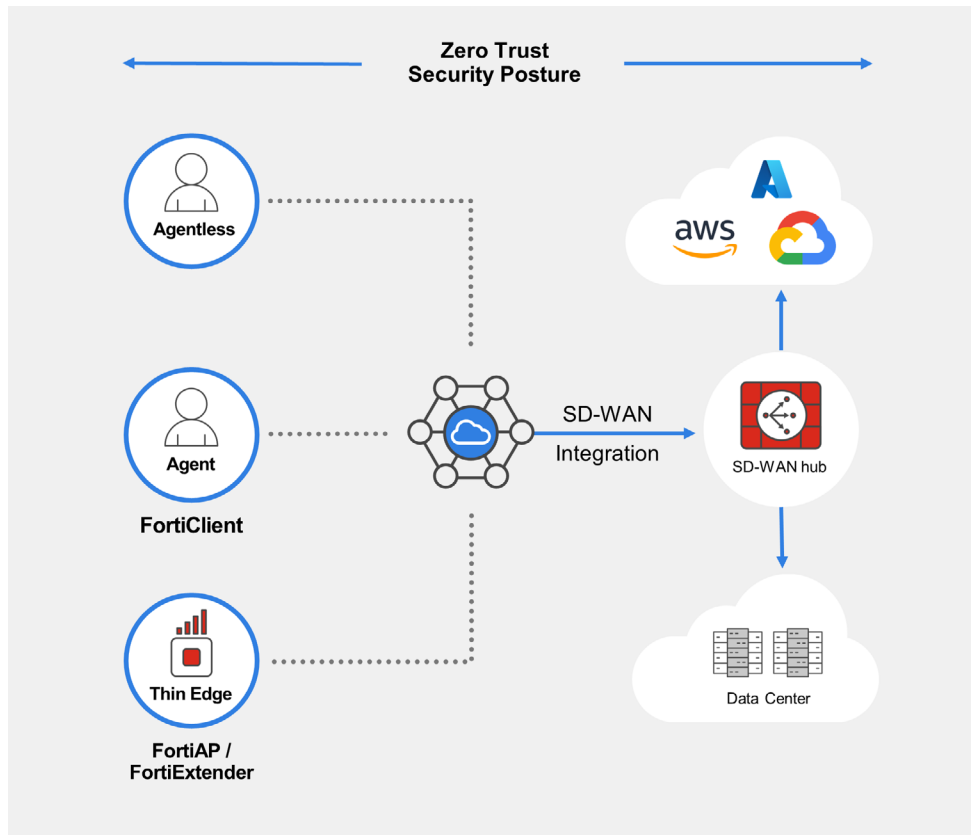


Figure 1: Seamless FortiSASE integration with SD-WAN and FortiGate NGFW

## Key Features and Benefits

### 1. Improved user experience and performance

By leveraging reliable connectivity through SD-WAN, FortiSASE offers faster transaction speeds and lower application response times. This native integration with FortiGate SD-WAN hubs optimizes remote access to corporate applications, providing an enhanced user experience. The solution automatically finds the most efficient path to each application, reducing latency and improving overall network performance.

### 2. Seamless integration with existing infrastructure

Integrating FortiSASE with existing FortiGate SD-WAN and NGFW infrastructures is straightforward and can be completed in as few as five minutes. This ease of deployment allows organizations to quickly enhance their remote access capabilities without significant disruptions or complex configurations. FortiSASE has native SD-WAN functionalities within each POP to ensure safe, private access to applications is consistently available.

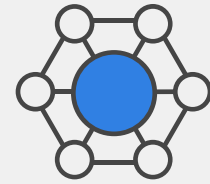


### 3. Comprehensive security

FortiSASE extends consistent security to remote users through AI-powered, cloud-delivered security features. This ensures that on-premises and remote users experience a unified security environment. The solution offers advanced threat protection and comprehensive security inspection, safeguarding remote access to private applications, the internet, and SaaS applications. This consistency in security policies and enforcement reduces vulnerabilities and enhances overall organizational security.

### 4. Enhanced management and support for remote users

The bidirectional SPA traffic capability of FortiSASE allows security and network administrators to remotely manage user desktops. This functionality simplifies IT remote desktop and mobile device management, making supporting and managing remote users and devices easier. Administrators can ensure safe, reliable connectivity, enhancing the productivity and security of WFA users.



By 2026, 85% of organizations seeking to secure their web, SaaS, and private applications will obtain security capabilities from an SSE offering.<sup>3</sup>

## Conclusion

FortiSASE provides faster transaction speeds and lower application response times by enabling secure remote access to corporate applications through reliable SD-WAN connectivity. This integration allows for optimized paths to business-critical applications, significantly enhancing performance and user experience. The solution also extends consistent security for remote users via AI-powered, cloud-delivered security, ensuring a unified security experience for on-premises and remote workers.

FortiSASE provides secure, reliable, high-performance connectivity for remote users. Its comprehensive security features, improved user experience, and ease of deployment make it an ideal choice for organizations seeking to support their WFA users and ensure consistent security across their entire network.

<sup>1</sup> Andrew Lerner, Neil MacDonald, Jonathan Forest, Charlie Winckless, [Gartner Magic Quadrant for Single-Vendor SASE](#), Gartner, July 3, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> John Watts, Andrew Lerner, Neil MacDonald, [2024 Strategic Roadmap for SASE Convergence](#), Gartner, December 15, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Charlie Winckless, Thomas Lintemuth, Dale Koeppen, [Magic Quadrant for Security Service Edge](#), Gartner, April 15, 2024.