

How Cisco Uses VPN Solutions to Extend the WAN

WAN VPNs provide cost-effective remote site and disaster recovery connectivity.

BUSINESS BENEFITS

- Eliminates cost of WAN circuits for extranet connectivity
- Removes hardware costs for internal clients
- Accelerates implementation
- Facilitates fast moves
- Supports partner telecommuters
- Provides disaster recovery along critical WAN routes

“Companies can cut costs by up to 60 percent by utilizing Virtual Private Networks.”

– Forrester Research

Cisco IT uses wide-area network (WAN) virtual private networks (VPNs) to provide secure connectivity to remote Cisco sites, for extranet connectivity to partner sites, and to increase reliability for disaster recovery.

Primary and backup connectivity using traditional dedicated circuits can be cost prohibitive. For example, a single T1 circuit from the Cisco Anchorage, Alaska, office to the nearest regional site in San Jose, California, could cost from US\$8000 to \$9000 per month. A similar circuit from Costa Rica could cost up to US\$25,000. With more than 250 company sites worldwide and a large extranet, Cisco needed a cost-effective and dependable alternative to running dedicated circuits between its sites.

The challenge was to identify the right technical solution at the best price for each location. A VPN connection across the Internet quickly became the solution of choice. Versatility and use of existing infrastructure make VPNs extremely cost-effective.

For sites that already have Internet access, IT can add a VPN connection without additional circuit cost. For extranet connectivity, IT can use the partners' existing Internet infrastructures to implement VPNs quickly. Where leased lines are cost prohibitive, VPNs can back up critical WAN circuits.

A reliable WAN VPN solution can help a company to be truly global, provide an additional safeguard in the event of a network disaster, and contribute to reduced circuit and hardware costs.

Cisco Relies on WAN VPNs for Remote Access, Extranet Connections, and Disaster Recovery.

Case Study: http://www.cisco.com/en/US/about/ciscoitwork/case_studies/routing_d17.html

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To read the entire case study or for additional Cisco IT case studies on a variety of business solutions, visit Cisco on Cisco: Inside Cisco IT www.cisco.com/go/ciscoit

NOTE

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