

Unlocking Segmentation: How Cisco Delivers With ISE, TrustSec, Firewalls, Secure Workload & ACI

Jacob Schneider
Segmentation SE

Chase Abrams
Segmentation Advisor

March 24, 2026



Cisco Segmentation Specialists



Chase Abrams –
Principal Advisor, Segmentation

- 11 years @ Cisco, 19 years in Enterprise Security & Networking Sales
- Deep experience across US Commercial, Global Enterprise, & Service Provider
- Specializes in Zero Trust, Segmentation, and Unified Security Architecture
- Background in Security & DC solutions
- Based in Boulder, CO



Jacob Schnieder–
Segmentation Solutions Architect

- 22+ years of experience designing & deploying Cisco Security & Networking solutions
- 12 years @ Cisco
- Cisco Live Distinguished Speaker
- Deep Background in Service Provider, Enterprise Networking and Security
- CCIE (#24940)
- Based in Miami, FL

Cisco Live 2025 *Pre-Event Customer Survey*

Top Business Priorities

1. Improving Cybersecurity
2. Automation
3. Cost Reduction & Efficiency
4. Customer Experience
5. Digital Transformation

Cisco Value Proposition Familiarity

81%

are somewhat-not at all familiar with Cisco's strategy around **AI-ready data centers**.

68%

are somewhat-not at all familiar with Cisco's strategy around **future-proofed workplaces**.

60%

are somewhat-not at all familiar with Cisco's strategy around **digital resilience**.

IT Strategy & Roadmap Focus Areas

Security

Automation

AI

Wireless & Mobility

Campus Networking Infrastructure

Data Center Infrastructure



Security is a patchwork



The World Has Changed

New Applications, Infrastructures, and Work Styles are changing the rules!



IoT is coming of age

IoT devices might be smart, but they are not secure. How do I protect them?



Cyber attacks are on the rise

Attackers somehow find a way. How do I limit the threat radius?



Applications are cloud-powered

Perimeter is gone. It's not your data center, but it's your problem. How do I implement end to end segmentation across domains?

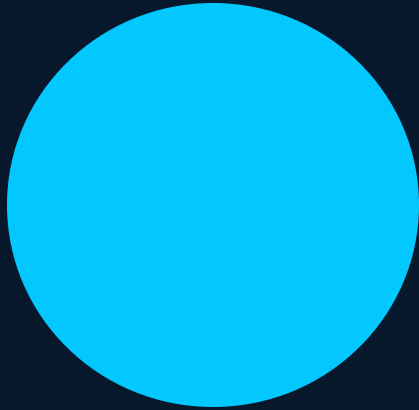


The workplace has gone hybrid

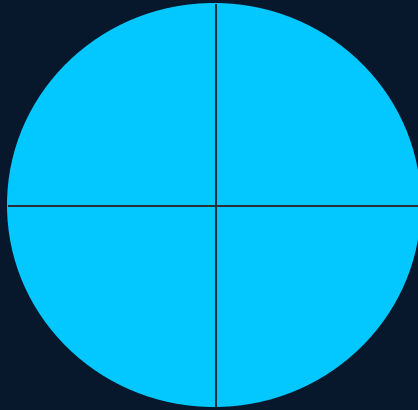
Users need to connect from anywhere on anything. How do I enforce consistent Access Policy?

What is Segmentation?

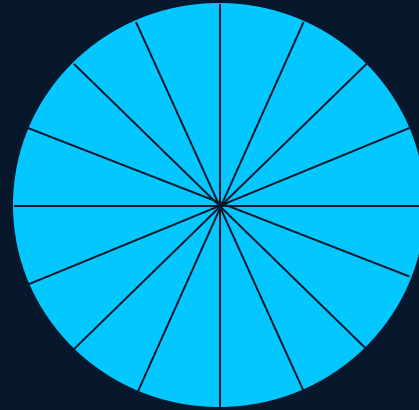
“Segmentation is the practice of dividing a larger system into smaller, isolated parts to improve control, security, and performance.” -> Thanks AI ChatBot!!



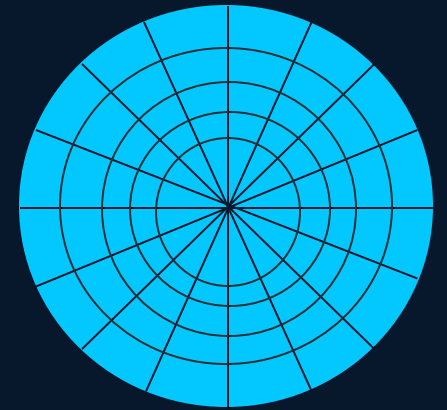
No Segmentation



Macro Segmentation



Micro Segmentation



Nano Segmentation??

Segmentation Is a Solution, but It Is Complex.

Cisco is dedicated to solving customers' needs.



People, process and technology



Scale, speed and granularity



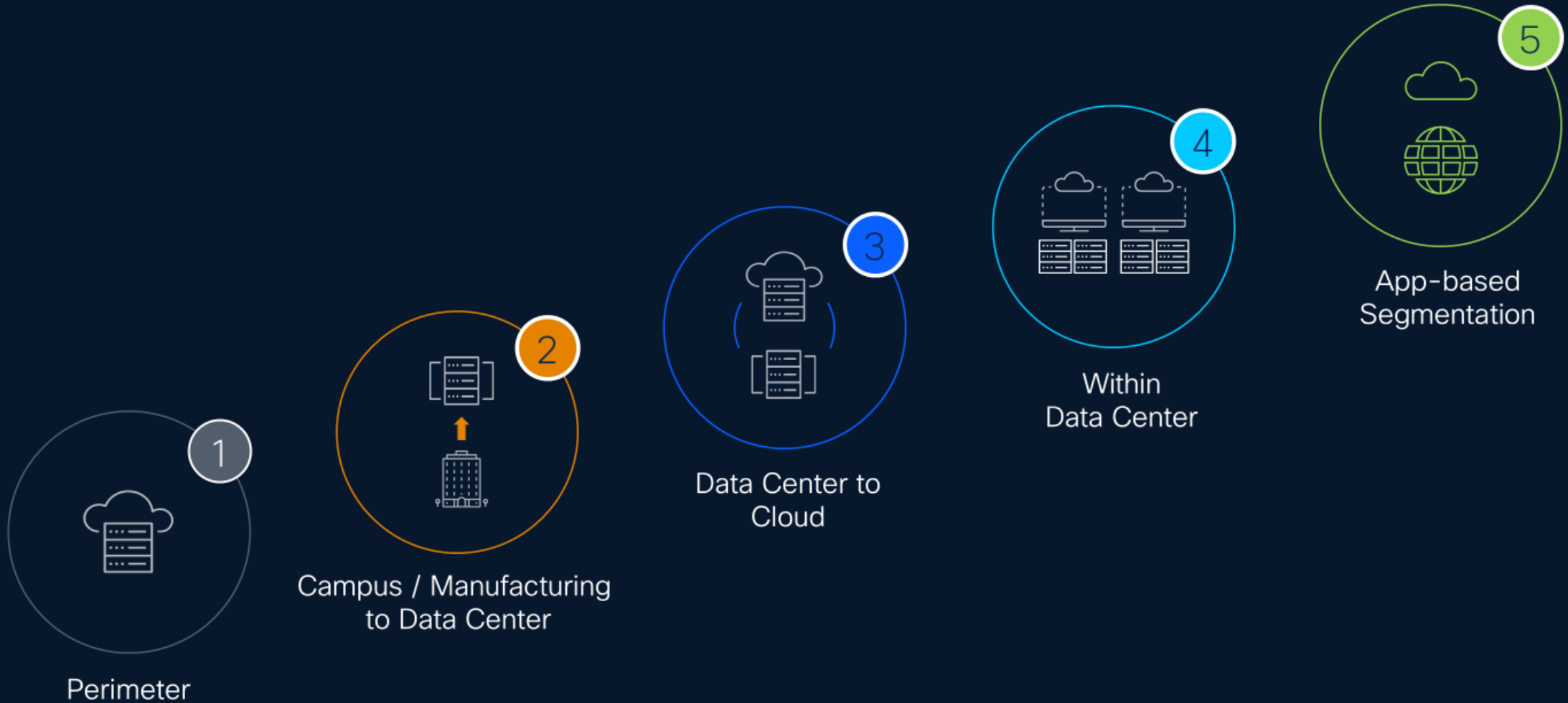
Customers need flexibility and choice to address unique scenarios

Why it matters to our customers

- App modernization and multicloud adoption
- Ransomware threat – contain lateral movement
- Meet compliance requirement
- Automation at scale
- Visibility



Segmentation that meets you where you are



Enterprise Segmentation Outcomes We Deliver Today

From identity to workload enforcement. One architecture across campus and data center.

Identity & Visibility – ISE as the control plane

Campus Segmentation – SGT based policy enforcement

Data Center Micro-segmentation – Application mapping and policy simulation

Unified Policy Enforcement – consistent policy across domains

Operationalization and Simplification – One policy model. No tool sprawl.

Zero Trust Realized

Cisco's Zero Trust Platform

Security Cloud Control

Securing Users (Universal ZTNA)

Securing Apps (Hybrid Mesh Firewall)

Access Control

AI Access

North South Segmentation

AI Model Protection

East West Macro/ Microsegmentation

Distributed Exploit Protection

ISE, SGT, SD-WAN

Identity

Secure Access

FTD, Multicloud Defense, 3rd Party Firewall

Hypershield (Smart Switch)

Secure Workload

Hypershield/Isovalent (Agent)



AI Access

AI Defense

eBPF

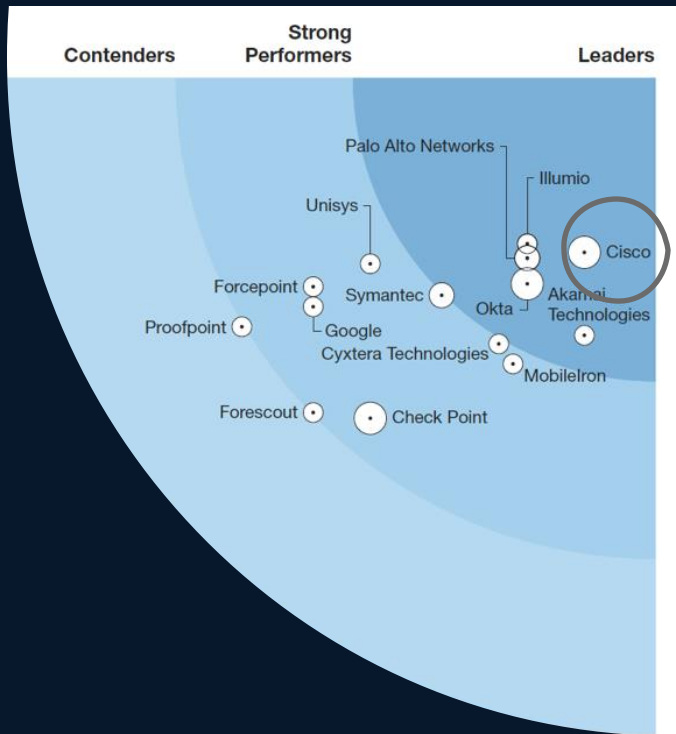
One Integrated Architecture

Cisco TALOS, Cisco XDR & Splunk

Segmentation in the Campus

ISE Is the Access Control and Policy Enforcement Market Leader

#1 in Forrester Wave
ZT ranking



ISE Market Maturity

10+ yrs
of market leadership

75,000+
Deployments

45%
Market Share
-Gartner

ISE as a Control Point

Secure Networking

ISE is the enabler of Segmentation for Catalyst and Meraki

Zero Trust

ISE is a critical control point.

ISE is the Bridge

ISE sits between Networking and Security

Cisco Intent-Based Access in the Campus

Cisco's campus intent-based access that lets you:

See

Users, endpoints and applications



Secure

By controlling network access and segmentation



Share

Context with partners for enhanced operations



Why Customers Buy ISE



Device Administration

TACACS+ Allows for secure, identity-based access to the network devices

<https://cs.co/ise-tacacs>



Secure Access

Secure wired, wireless, or VPN access using industry standard protocols **RADIUS** and **802.1X**

<https://cs.co/ise-wired>



Guest Access

Choose from Hotspot, Self-Registered Guest, and Sponsored Guest access options

<https://cs.co/ise-guest>



Asset Visibility

Use the probes in ISE and Cisco devices to classify endpoints and authorize them

<https://cs.co/ise-profiling>



Compliance & Posture

Use **agentless posture**, **Cisco Secure Client**, **MDM**, or **EMM** to check endpoints' posture

<https://cs.co/ise-posture>



Context Exchange

Integrate applications and vendors with ISE for endpoint identity, context, and automated Enforcement

<https://cs.co/ise-pxgrid>



Segmentation

Group-based Policy with Security Group Tags (SGT) and Security Group ACLs (SGACL) instead of VLAN/ACLs

<https://cs.co/segmentation-resources>



Cisco Catalyst Center

ISE integrates with **Catalyst Center** to automate the network fabric and policies using SDA

<https://cs.co/ise-ccc>



EMM/MDM

Endpoint Management is required for provisioning endpoints with certificates and controls for secure network access

<https://cs.co/ise-mdm>



Threat Containment

Use Threat Analysis tools to grade an endpoint's threat score and automatically quarantine it if

<https://cs.co/ise-tnac>



ISE Provides Zero Trust for the Workplace

Enterprise

Endpoints

- Users
- Devices
- Things
- 5G



Network Devices

- Switches
- WLCs / APs
- VPN



Cisco ISE

- Shared or Distributed
- VM/Appliance/Cloud
- Up to 2M Endpoints
- RADIUS and TACACS



Security

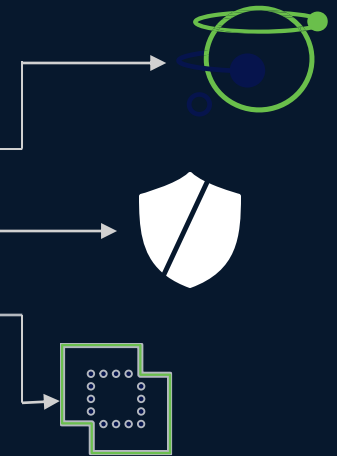
Identity Services

- Entra, AD
- LDAP, ODBC
- MDM
- SAML/MFA



Security Services

- Cloud Analytics
- Secure Firewall
- Partners

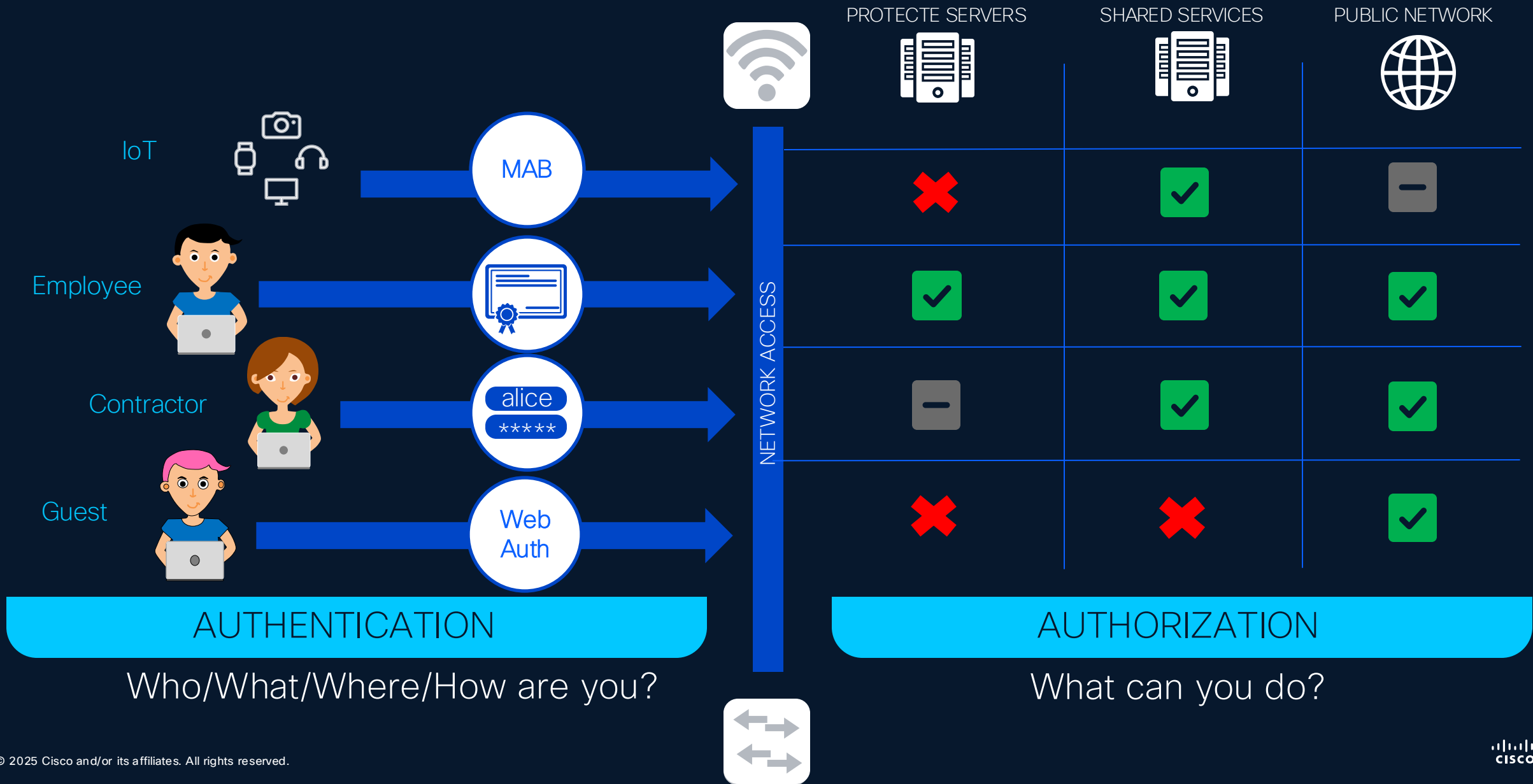


Visibility

Segmentation

Containment

Least Privilege Access

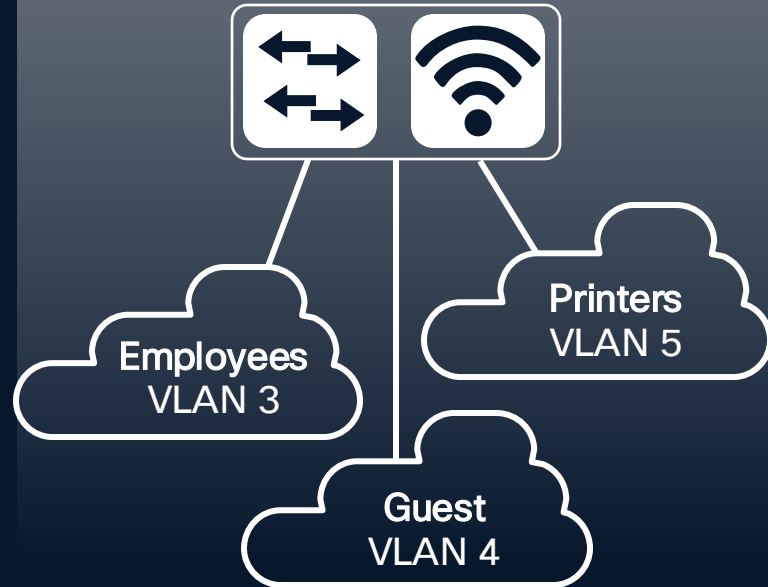


Network Segmentation Options

Beyond RADIUS Access-Accept / Access-Reject

VLANs

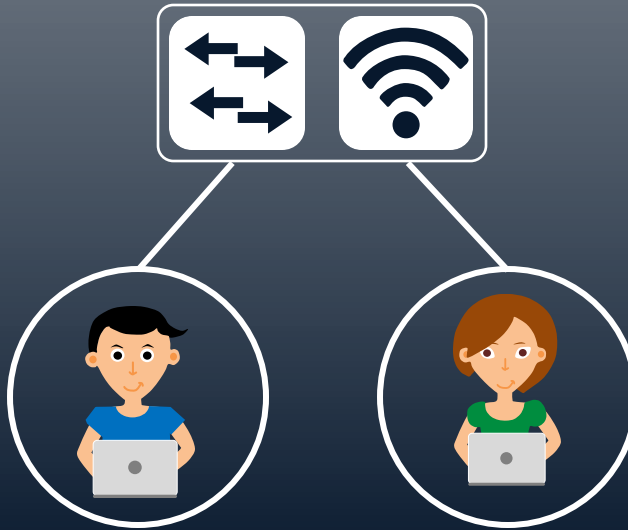
Dynamic VLAN Assignments



Per port / Per Domain / Per MAC

ACLs: DL, Named, DNS

Downloadable ACL (Wired) or
Named ACL (Wired + Wireless)



Employee

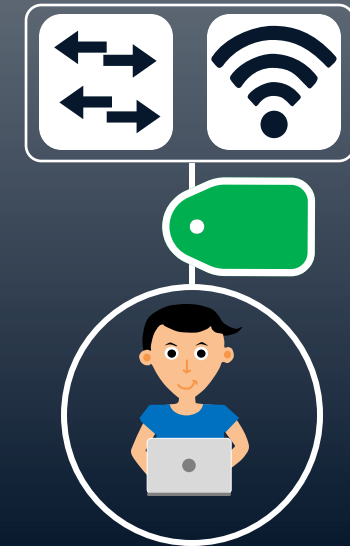
```
permit ip any any
```

Contractor

```
deny ip host <critical>  
permit ip any any
```

Security Group Tags

Cisco Group-Based Policy



16-bit SGT assignment and
SGT based Access Control

Can You See the Business Intent Here?

```
access-list 102 permit tcp 131.249.33.123 0.0.0.127 lt 4765 71.219.207.89 0.255.255.255 eq 606
access-list 102 deny tcp 112.174.162.193 0.255.255.255 gt 368 4.151.192.136 0.0.0.255 gt 4005
access-list 102 permit ip 189.71.213.162 0.0.0.127 gt 2282 74.67.181.47 0.0.0.127 eq 199
access-list 102 deny udp 130.237.66.56 255.255.255.255 lt 3943 141.68.48.108 0.0.0.255 gt 3782
access-list 102 deny ip 193.250.210.122 0.0.1.255 lt 2297 130.113.139.130 0.255.255.255 gt 526
access-list 102 permit ip 178.97.113.59 255.255.255.255 gt 178 111.184.163.103 255.255.255.255 gt 959
access-list 102 deny ip 164.149.136.73 0.0.0.127 gt 1624 163.41.181.145 0.0.0.255 eq 810
access-list 102 permit icmp 207.221.157.104 0.0.0.255 eq 1979 99.78.135.112 0.255.255.255 gt 3231
access-list 102 permit tcp 100.126.4.49 0.255.255.255 lt 1449 28.237.88.171 0.0.0.127 lt 3679
access-list 102 deny icmp 157.219.157.249 255.255.255.255 gt 1354 60.126.167.112 0.0.31.255 gt 1025
access-list 102 deny icmp 76.176.66.41 0.255.255.255 lt 278 169.48.105.37 0.0.1.255 gt 968
access-list 102 permit ip 8.88.141.113 0.0.0.127 lt 2437 105.145.196.67 0.0.1.255 lt 4167
access-list 102 permit udp 60.242.95.62 0.0.31.255 eq 3181 33.191.71.166 255.255.255.255 lt 2422
access-list 102 permit icmp 186.246.40.245 0.255.255.255 eq 3508 191.139.67.54 0.0.1.255 eq 1479
access-list 102 permit ip 209.111.254.187 0.0.1.255 gt 4640 93.99.173.34 255.255.255.255 gt 28
access-list 102 permit ip 184.232.88.41 0.0.31.255 lt 2247 186.33.104.31 255.255.255.255 lt 4481
access-list 102 deny ip 106.79.247.50 0.0.31.255 gt 1441 96.62.207.209 0.0.0.255 gt 631
access-list 102 permit ip 39.136.60.170 0.0.1.255 eq 4647 96.129.185.116 255.255.255.255 lt 3663
access-list 102 permit tcp 30.175.189.93 0.0.31.255 gt 228 48.33.30.91 0.0.0.255 gt 1388
access-list 102 permit ip 167.100.52.185 0.0.1.255 lt 4379 254.202.200.26 255.255.255.255 gt 4652
access-list 102 permit udp 172.16.184.148 0.255.255.255 gt 4163 124.38.159.247 0.0.0.127 lt 3851
access-list 102 deny icmp 206.107.73.252 0.255.255.255 lt 2465 171.213.183.230 0.0.31.255 gt 1392
access-list 102 permit ip 96.174.38.79 0.255.255.255 eq 1917 1.156.181.180 0.0.31.255 eq 1861
access-list 102 deny icmp 236.123.67.53 0.0.31.255 gt 1181 31.115.75.19 0.0.1.255 gt 2794
access-list 102 deny udp 14.45.208.20 0.0.0.255 lt 419 161.24.159.166 0.0.0.255 lt 2748
access-list 102 permit udp 252.40.175.155 0.0.31.255 lt 4548 87.112.10.20 0.0.1.255 gt 356
access-list 102 deny tcp 124.102.192.59 0.0.0.255 eq 2169 153.233.253.100 0.255.255.255 gt 327
access-list 102 permit icmp 68.14.62.179 255.255.255.255 lt 2985 235.228.242.243 255.255.255.255 lt 2286
access-list 102 deny tcp 91.198.213.34 0.0.0.255 eq 1274 206.136.32.135 0.255.255.255 eq 4191
access-list 102 deny udp 76.150.135.234 255.255.255.255 lt 3573 15.233.106.211 255.255.255.255 eq 3721
access-list 102 permit tcp 126.97.113.32 0.0.1.255 eq 4644 2.216.105.40 0.0.31.255 eq 3716
access-list 102 permit icmp 147.31.93.130 0.0.0.255 gt 968 154.44.194.206 255.255.255.255 eq 4533
access-list 102 deny tcp 154.57.128.91 0.0.0.255 lt 1290 106.233.205.111 0.0.31.255 gt 539
access-list 102 deny ip 9.148.176.48 0.0.1.255 eq 1310 64.61.88.73 0.0.1.255 lt 4570
```

Business Intent Is Clear With TrustSec

Identity Services Engine Work Centers / TrustSec Evaluation Mode 85 Days

Overview Components **TrustSec Policy** Policy Sets SXP Integrations Troubleshoot Reports Settings

Egress Policy Matrices List **Matrix** Source Tree Destination Tree Network Device Authorization

Egress Policies (144) Matrix · Production

Only show this dropdown and the 'Matrices List' tab when multi-matrix is enabled in settings.

+ Create Policy Monitor All Enabled Deploy Verify Deploy Reset All Policies Import Export

As of Today @ 2:45p (PST) View: Default View Default Policy: Permit

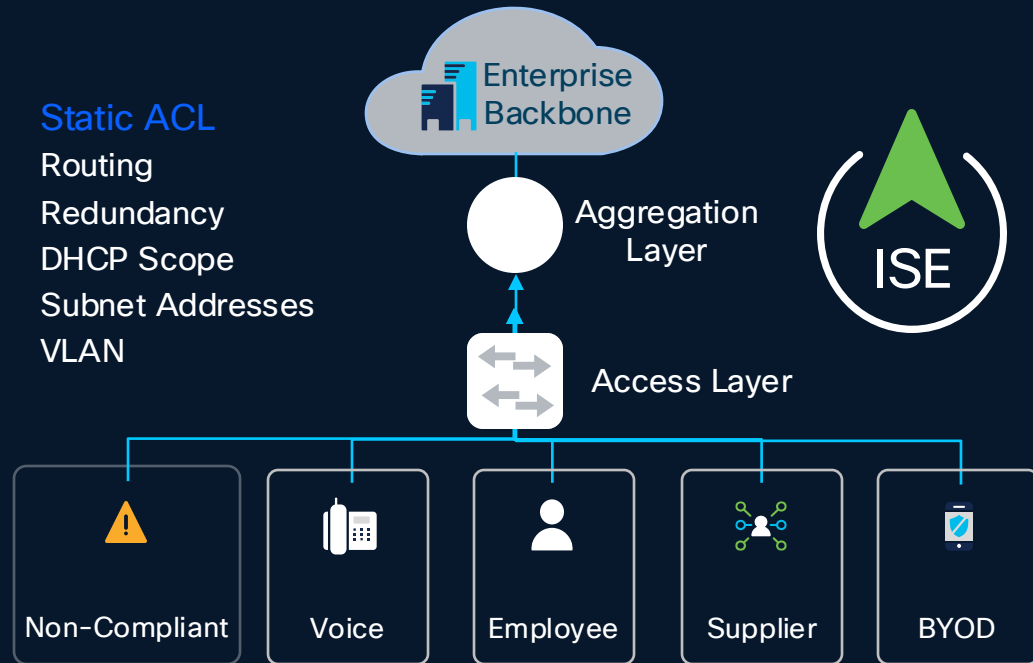
Source	1/0001	2/0002	3/0003	4/0004	5/0005	6/0006	7/0007	8/0008	9/0009	10/000A	11/000B	12/000C	13/000D	14/000E	15/000F	16/000G	17/000H	18/000I	19/000J	20/000K	21/000L	22/000M	23/000N	24/000O
SGTabc_abcdef... 1/0001	✓	✓	👁	👁	👁	👁	✗	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 2/0002	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 3/0003	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 4/0004	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 5/0005	👁	✗	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 6/0006	👁	✓	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 7/0007	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 8/0008	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 9/0009	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 10/000A	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 11/000B	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 12/000C	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 13/000D	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 14/000E	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 15/000F	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 16/000G	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 17/000H	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 18/000I	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 19/000J	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 20/000K	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 21/000L	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 22/000M	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 23/000N	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁
SGTabc_abcdef... 24/000O	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁	👁

deny icmp
deny tcp dst eq 22
deny udp dst eq 53
deny udp dst eq 67
deny udp dst eq 68
deny udp dst eq 69
deny tcp dst eq 135
deny tcp dst eq 137
deny tcp dst eq 138
deny tcp dst eq 139
deny tcp dst eq 445
deny tcp dst eq 689
deny udp dst eq 1025
deny udp dst eq 1026
deny tcp dst eq 3389
permit ip

© 2025 Cisco and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

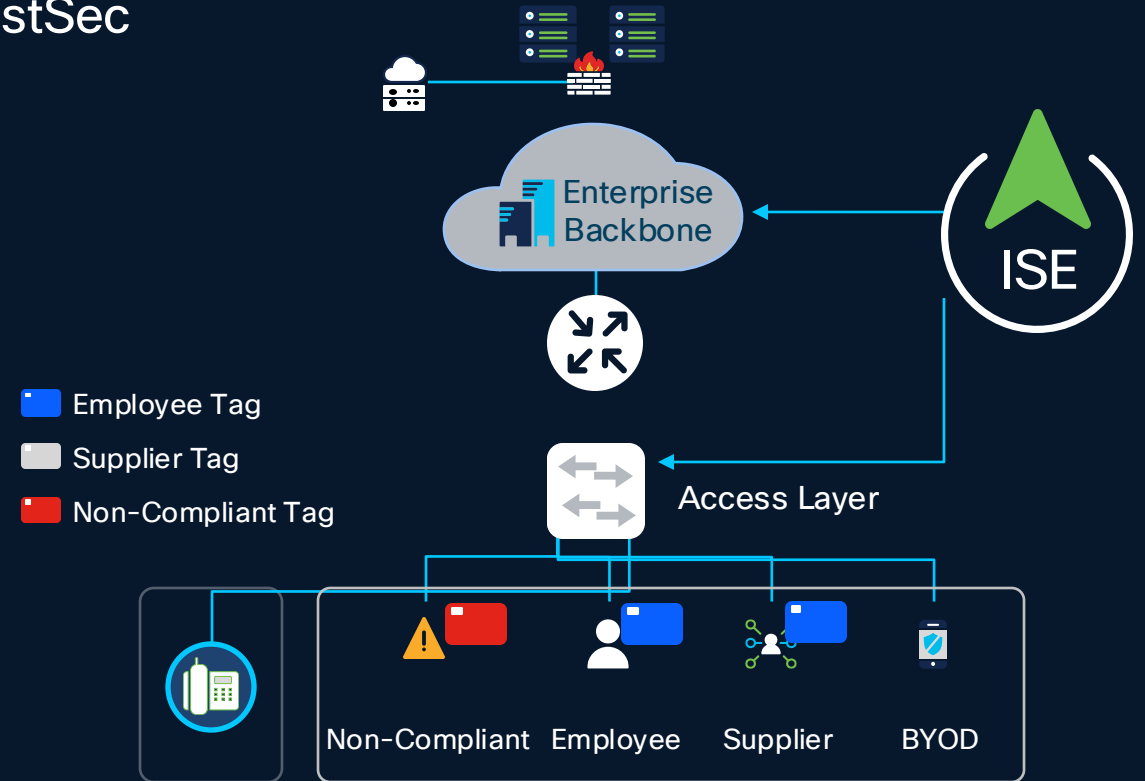
Group Based Policy Simplifies Segmentation

Traditional Segmentation



Security Policy based on Topology
High cost and complex maintenance

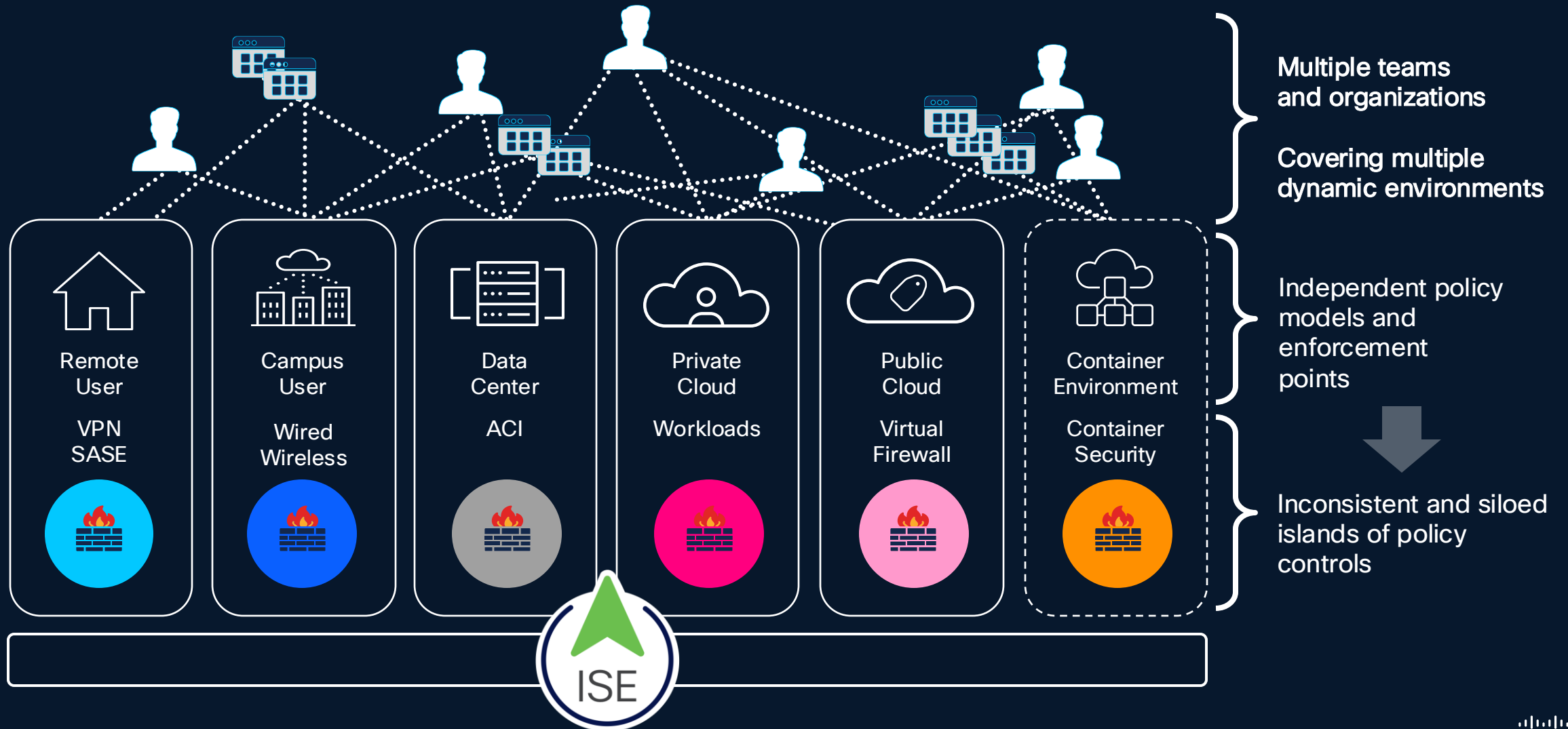
TrustSec



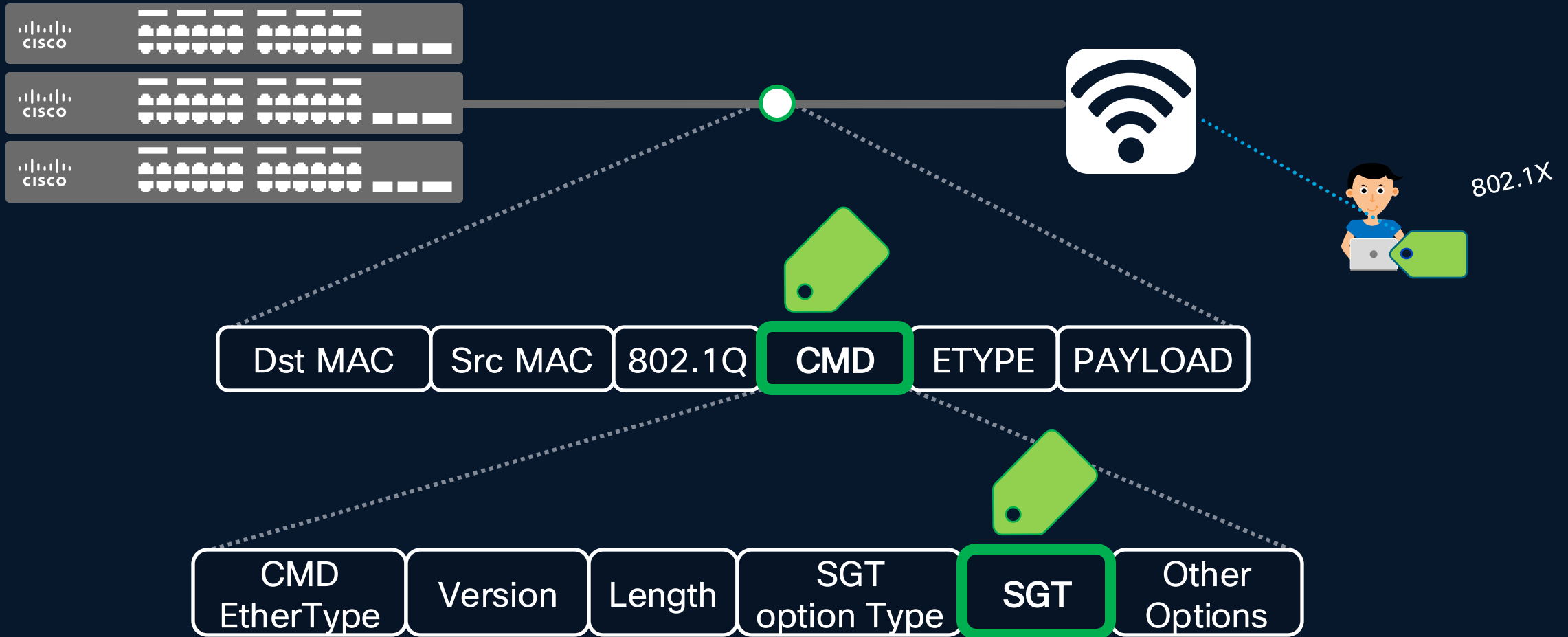
Use existing topology and automate
security policy to reduce OpEx

Common Policy with Security Group Tags (SGTs)

The common language across network industry products



TrustSec Security Group Tags (SGTs)



TrustSec Mechanisms

Classification

Propagation

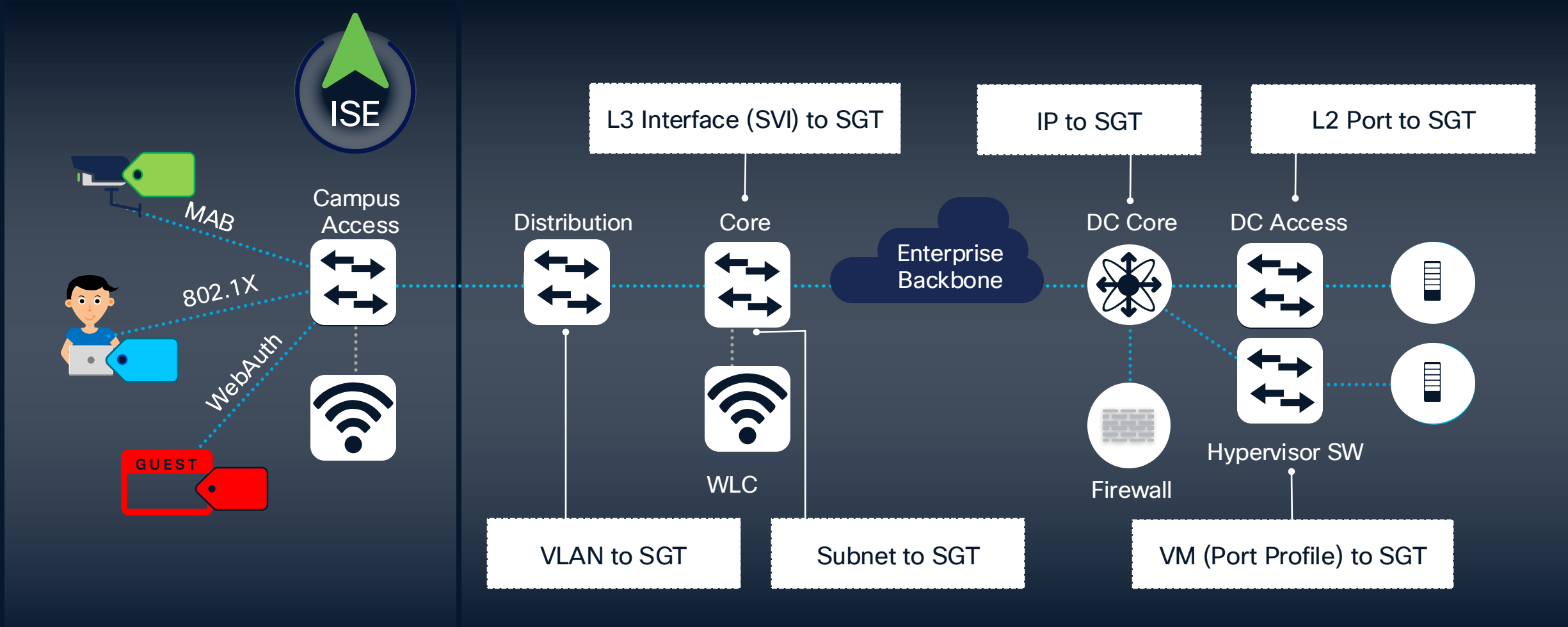
Enforcement



Classification Mechanisms

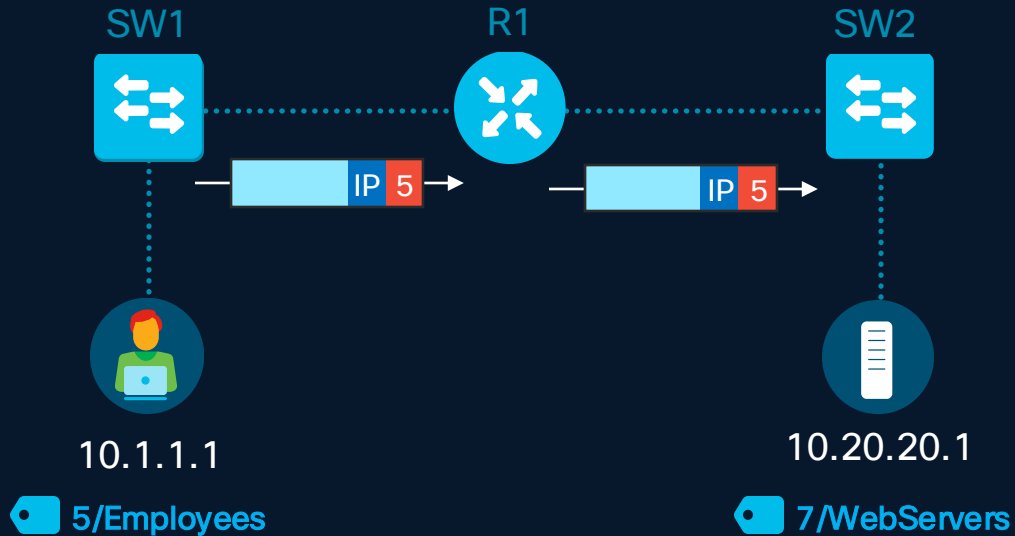
Dynamic Classification

Static Classification



TrustSec Propagation

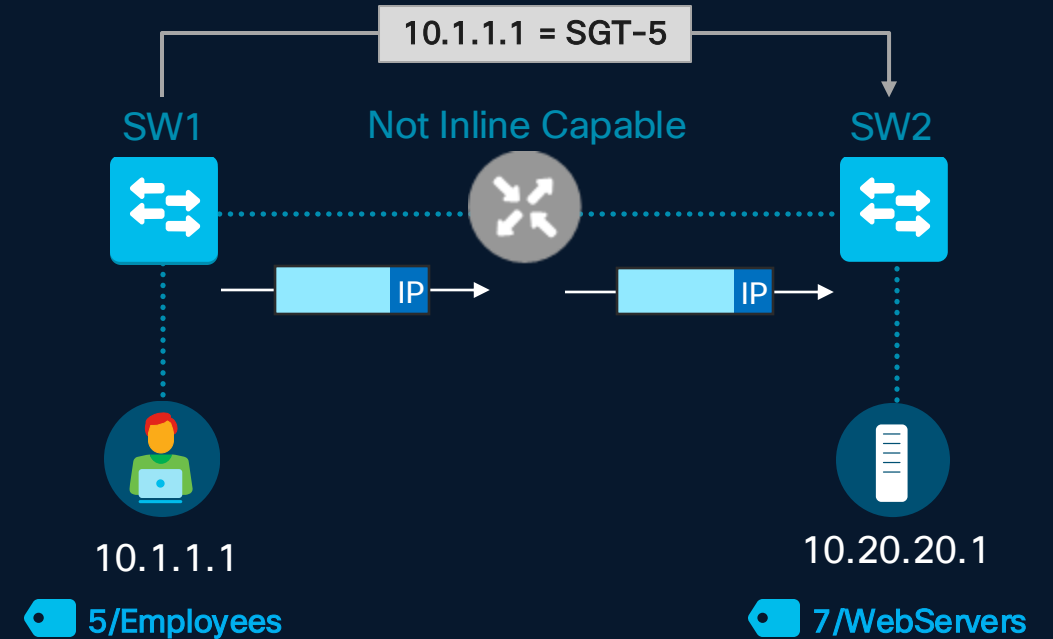
DATA PLANE PROPAGATION (INLINE TAGGING)



SGT carried inline in the data traffic. Methods include, SGT over:

- Ethernet
- MACSec
- LISP/VxLAN
- IPSec
- DMVPN
- GETVPN

CONTROL PLANE PROPAGATION (SXP)

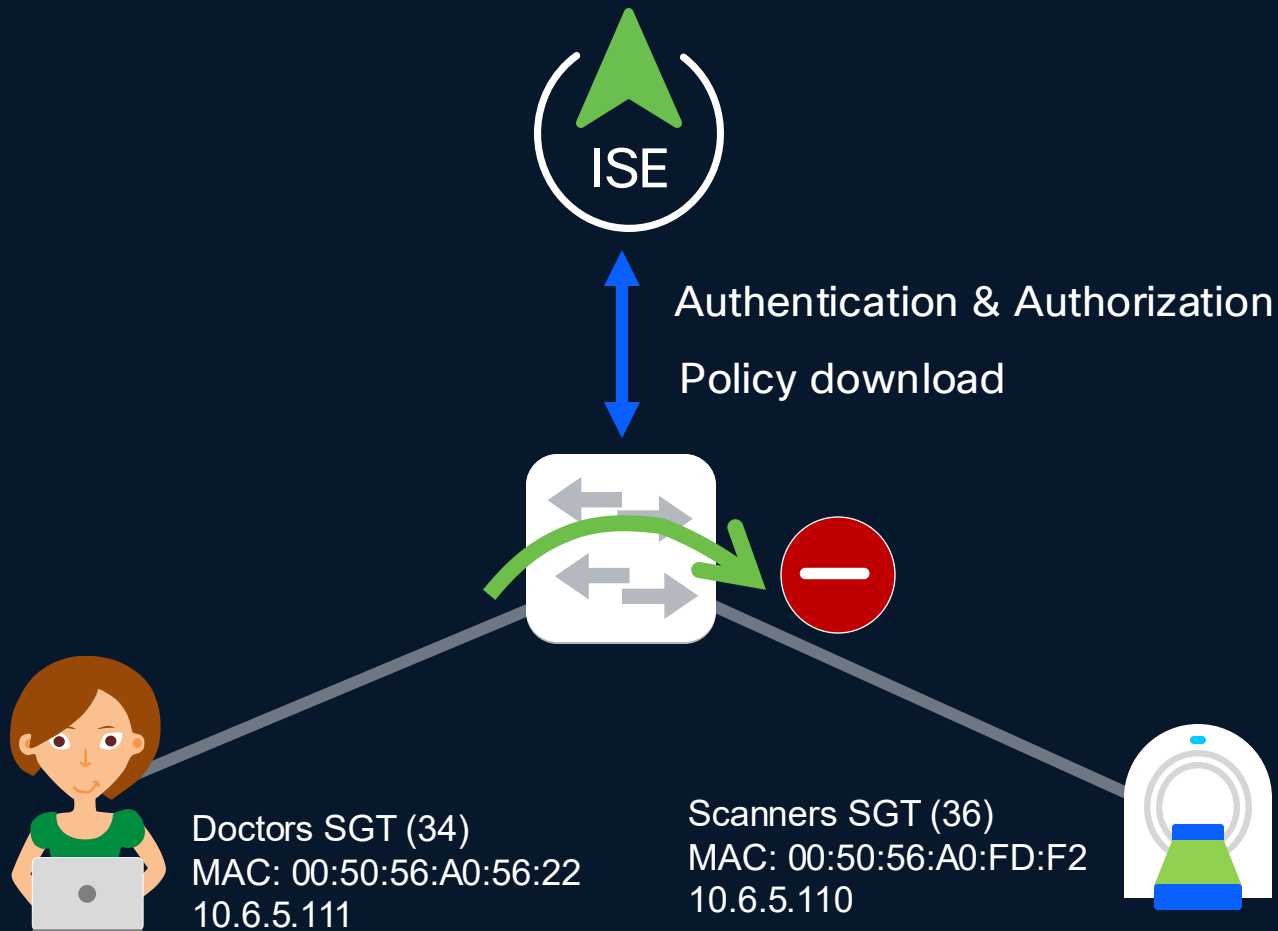


IP-to-SGT data shared over control protocol. No SGT in the data plane. Methods include, IP-to-SGT exchange over:

- SXP
- pxGrid

Classification, SGT Lookup and Enforcement

- Classification: Dynamic/ISE
- Src SGT found, Dst SGT found
- Enforcement: At Egress

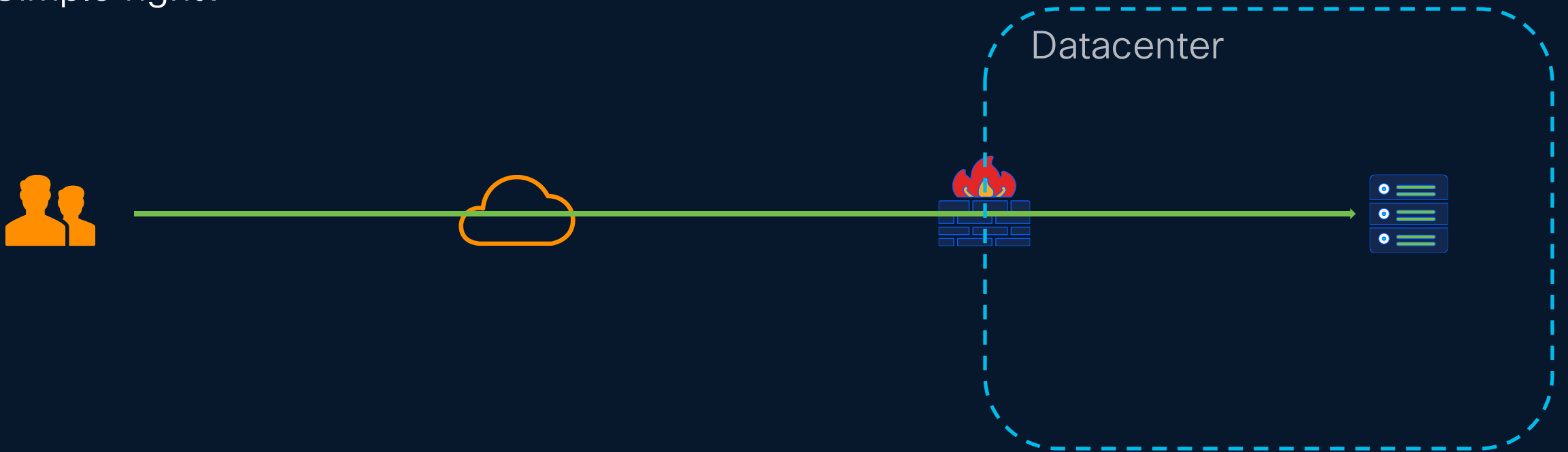


		Destination	
Egress Policy		Doctors	Scanners
Source	Doctors	Permit All	Deny All
	Guests	Deny All	Deny All
	Scanners	Deny All	Permit All

Segmentation for Application Workloads

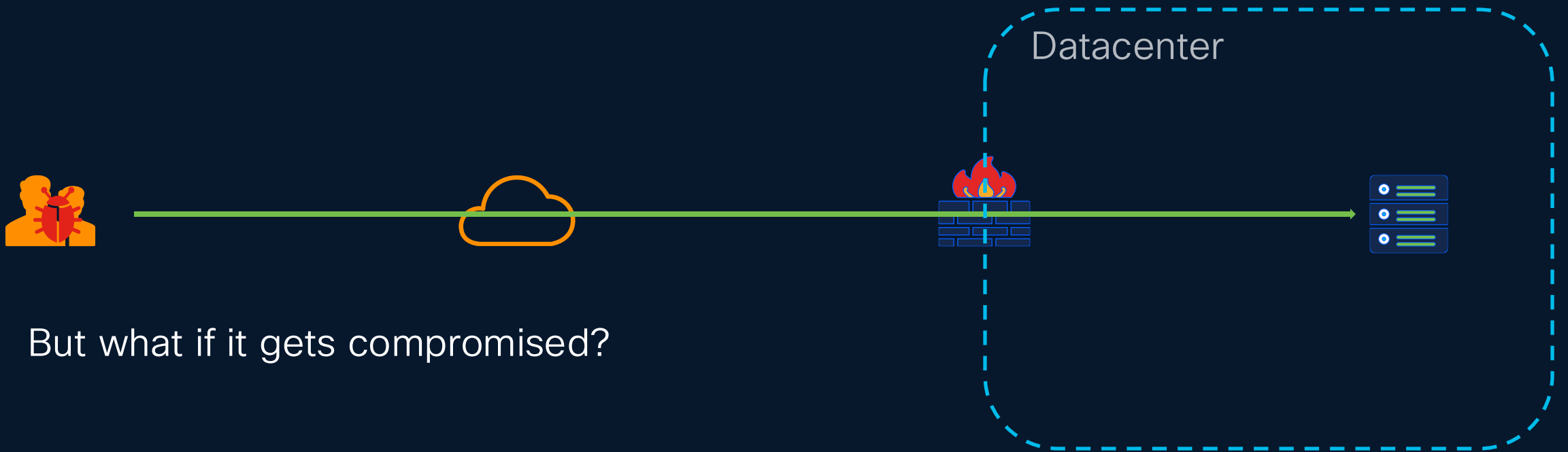
Securing Application Workloads – Threat Landscape

Using Network Security Controls
Simple right?



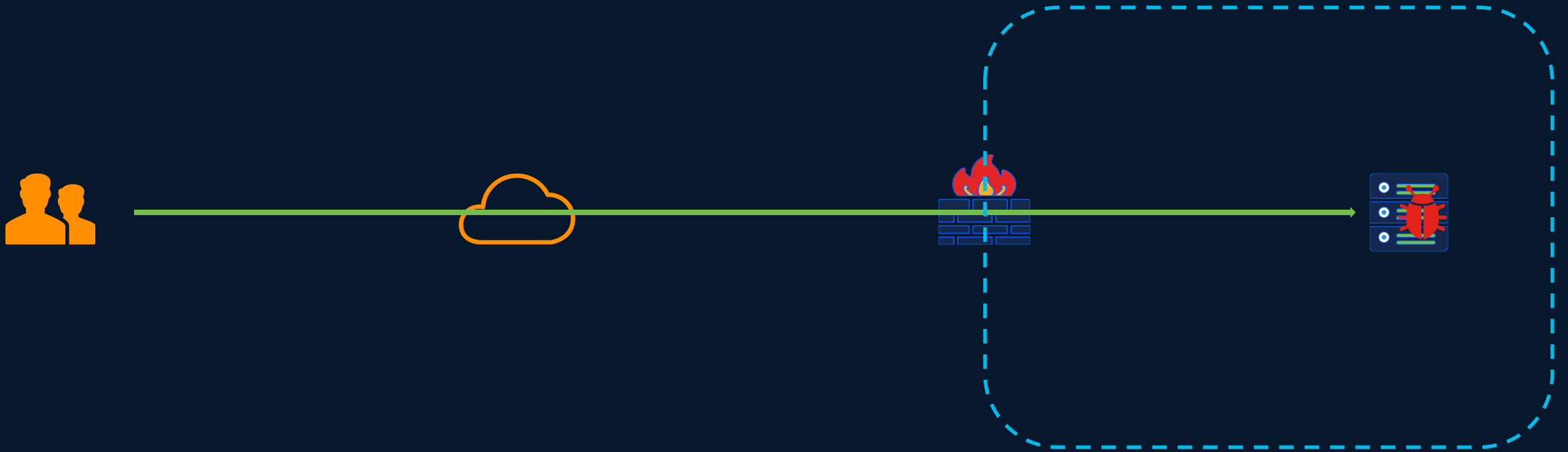
Securing Application Workloads – Threat Landscape

Using Network Security Controls



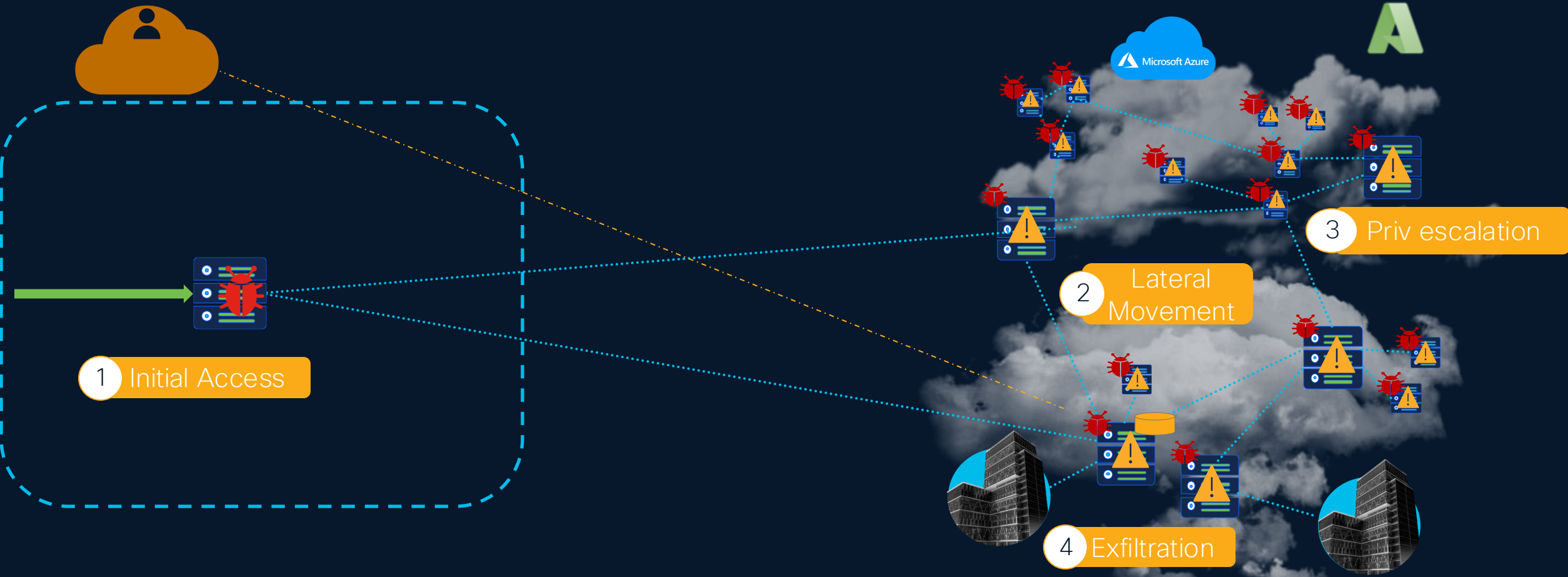
Securing Application Workloads – Threat Landscape

Using Network Security Controls



And this is only a part of the story.....

Securing Application Workloads – Threat Landscape



Segmentation and Policy Control Challenges



Network Security



Workload Security



Cloud Security



Cloud-Native Security

Organizational Challenges



NetSec Admin



Server/VM Admin



Cloud Architect



DevSecOps

Multiple teams, organizations and environments

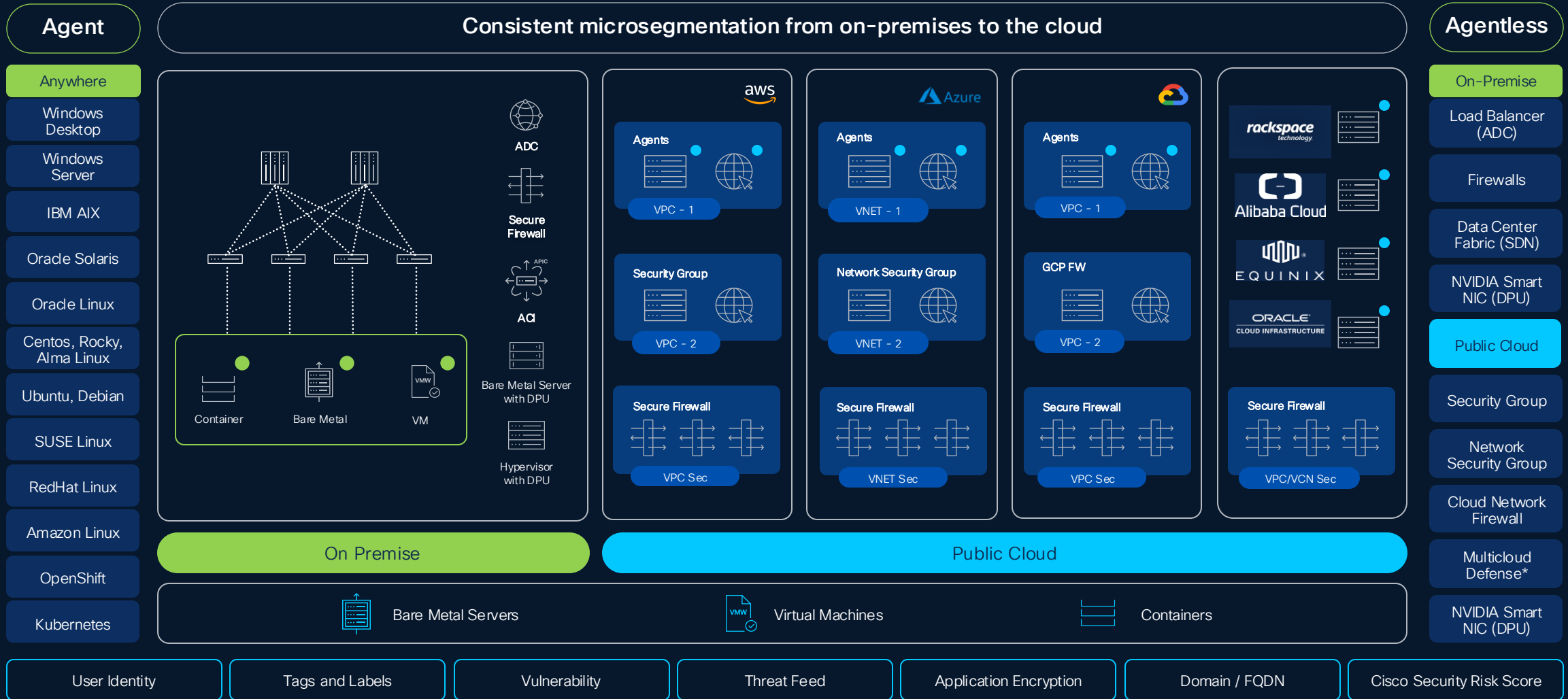


Inconsistent islands of policy controls across environments



Cisco Secure Workload

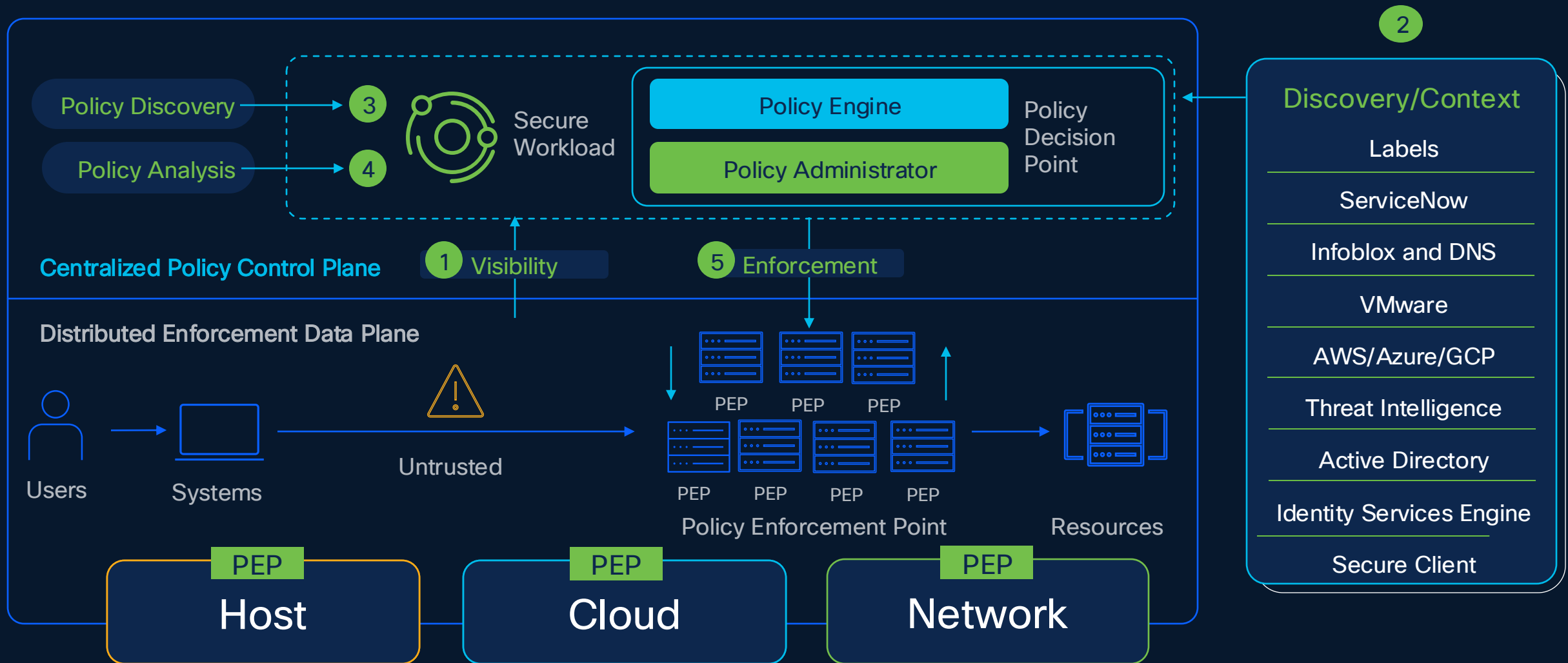
Big picture for Applications



* - In Roadmap

Secure Workload

Zero Trust Segmentation



Microsegmentation Approach Evaluation



Agent



Agentless

Pros

- Network Abstraction
- In-depth visibility and protection
- Flexible segmentation

- Less organizational dependencies
- Leverage existing infrastructure
- Faster time to deploy

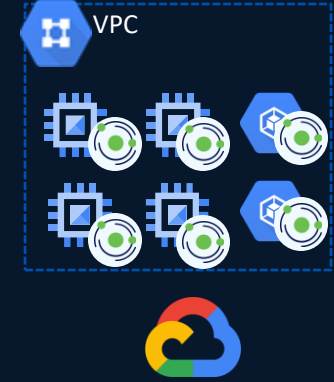
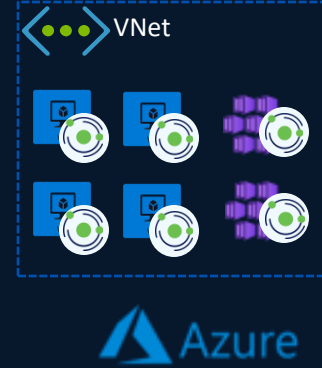
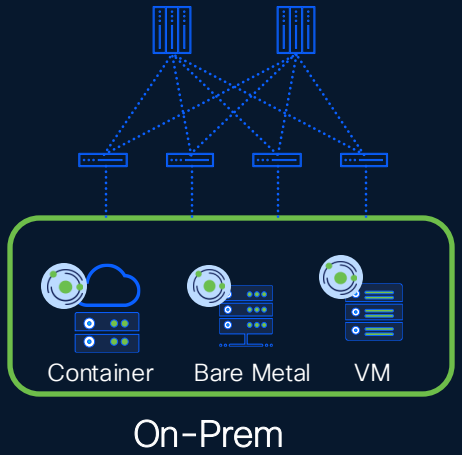
Cons

- Organizational dependencies
- OS dependency (legacy)
- Agent fatigue

- Network/CSP infrastructure dependency
- Segmentation granularity/scalability
- Only network-flows visibility

Host-Based Agent

← Visibility and Enforcement →

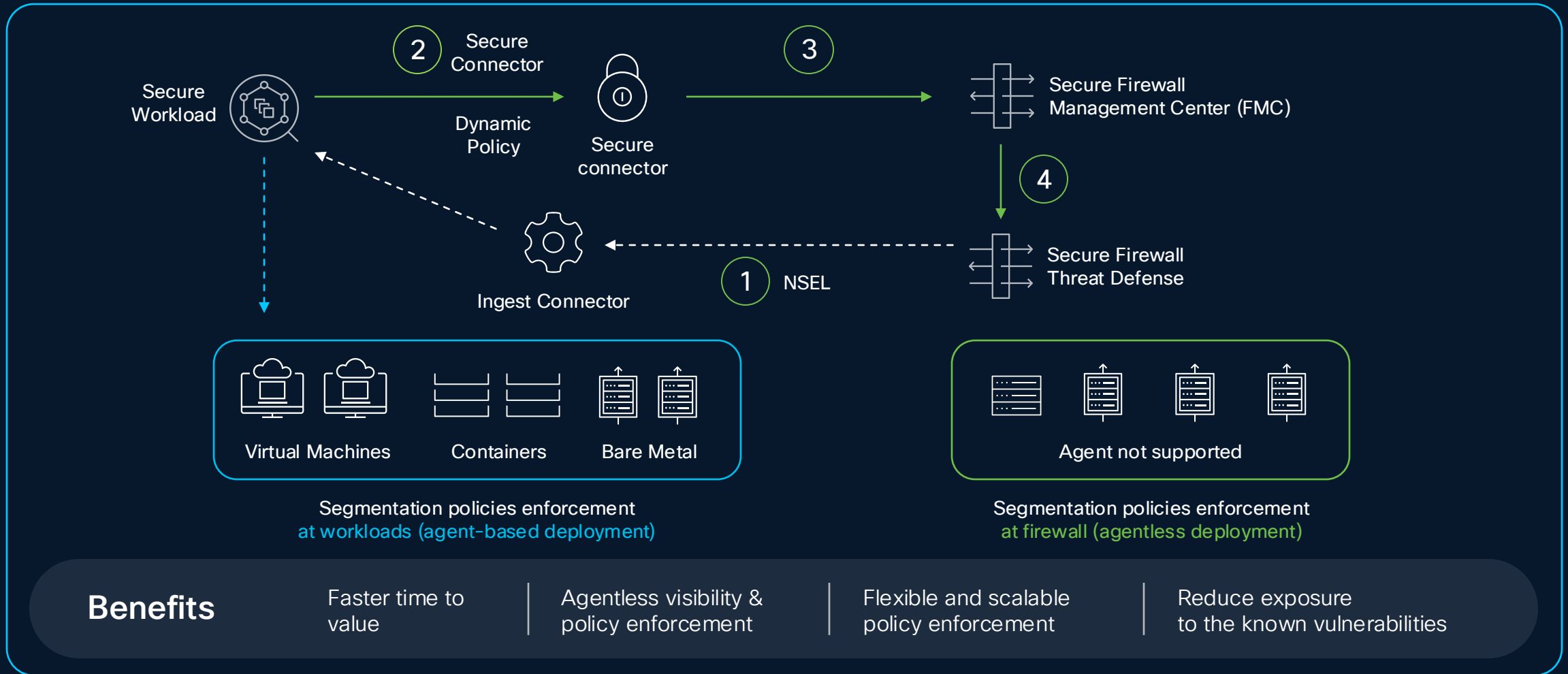


← Any Location →

Establish Policy Guardrails with Policies for your Application Workloads

Agentless - CSW-FMC Integration and Enforcement

Defense-in-depth use case



Cloud Service Provider Agentless

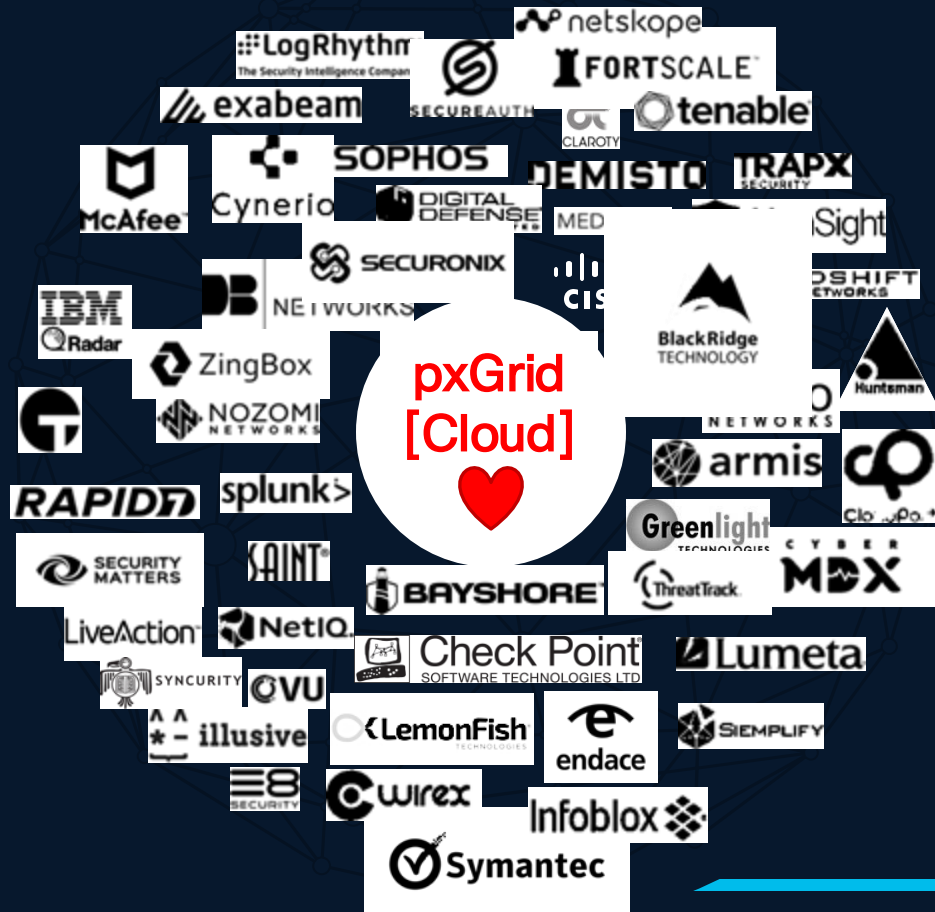
Protect the workloads – at the workload level!



- Centralized cloud-onboarding experience
 - Cloud connectors
 - Single point of management
- Visibility
 - Near real-time discovery of workloads and labels
 - Flow telemetry via VPC/VNets flow-logs
- Enforcement
 - Security Groups (AWS)
 - Network Security Groups (Azure)
 - Firewall (GCP)

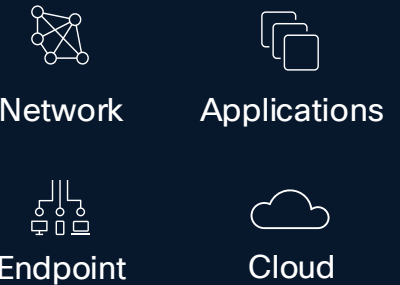
Integrations

The Power of Integration With Operational Simplicity

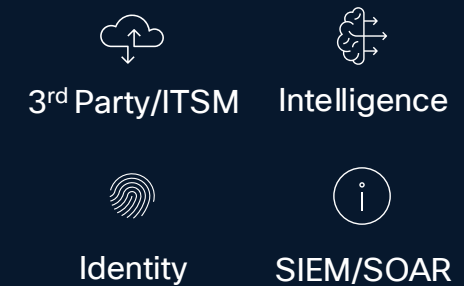


More Cross-Team
Use Cases Simplified
with Visibility and
Automation

Cisco Security



Your infrastructure



More Integrated
Products Across
Partner Ecosystem
and Beyond

Power of pxGrid Integration

Enabling a platform approach into the Cloud

ISE Context OUT



ISE makes Customer IT
Platforms User/Identity, Device
and Network Aware

ISE Context IN



Enrich ISE context. Make ISE
a better Policy Enforcement
Platform

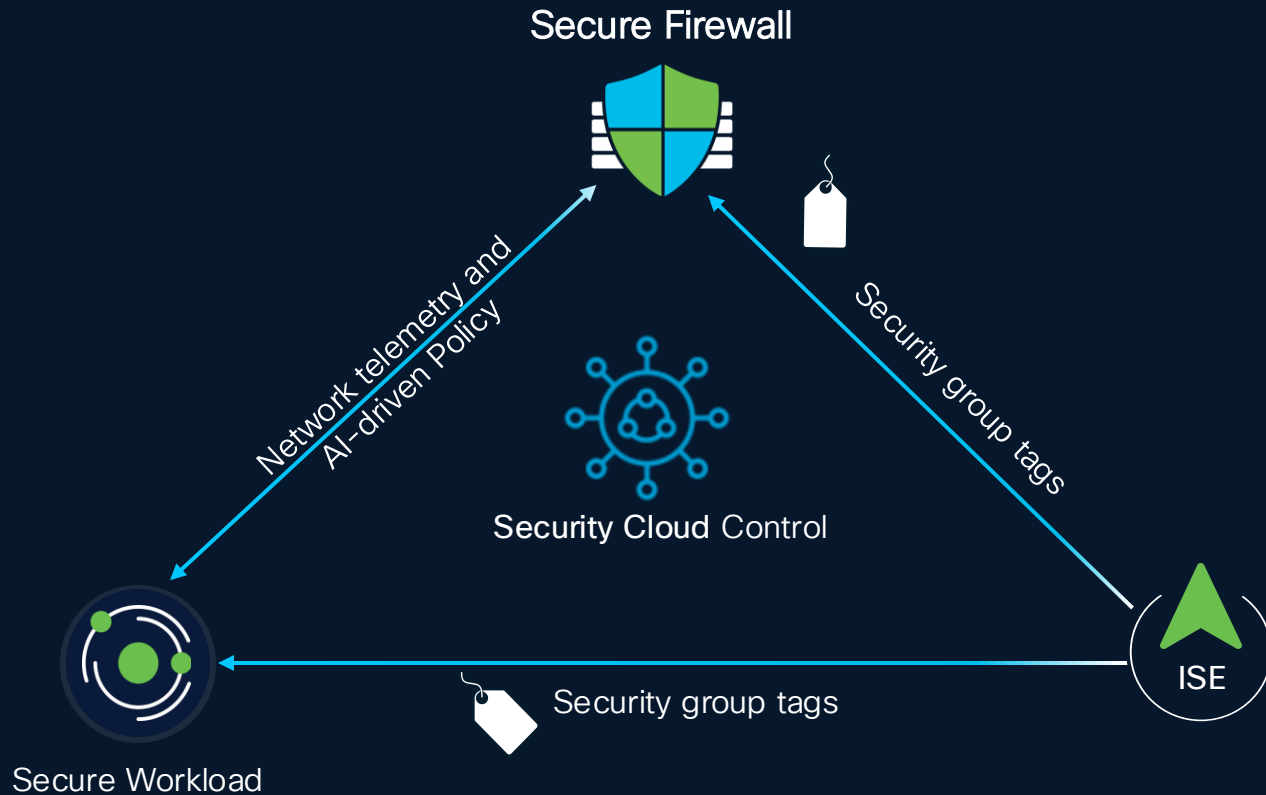
Rapid Threat Containment



Enforce dynamic policies into the
network based on Partner's
request

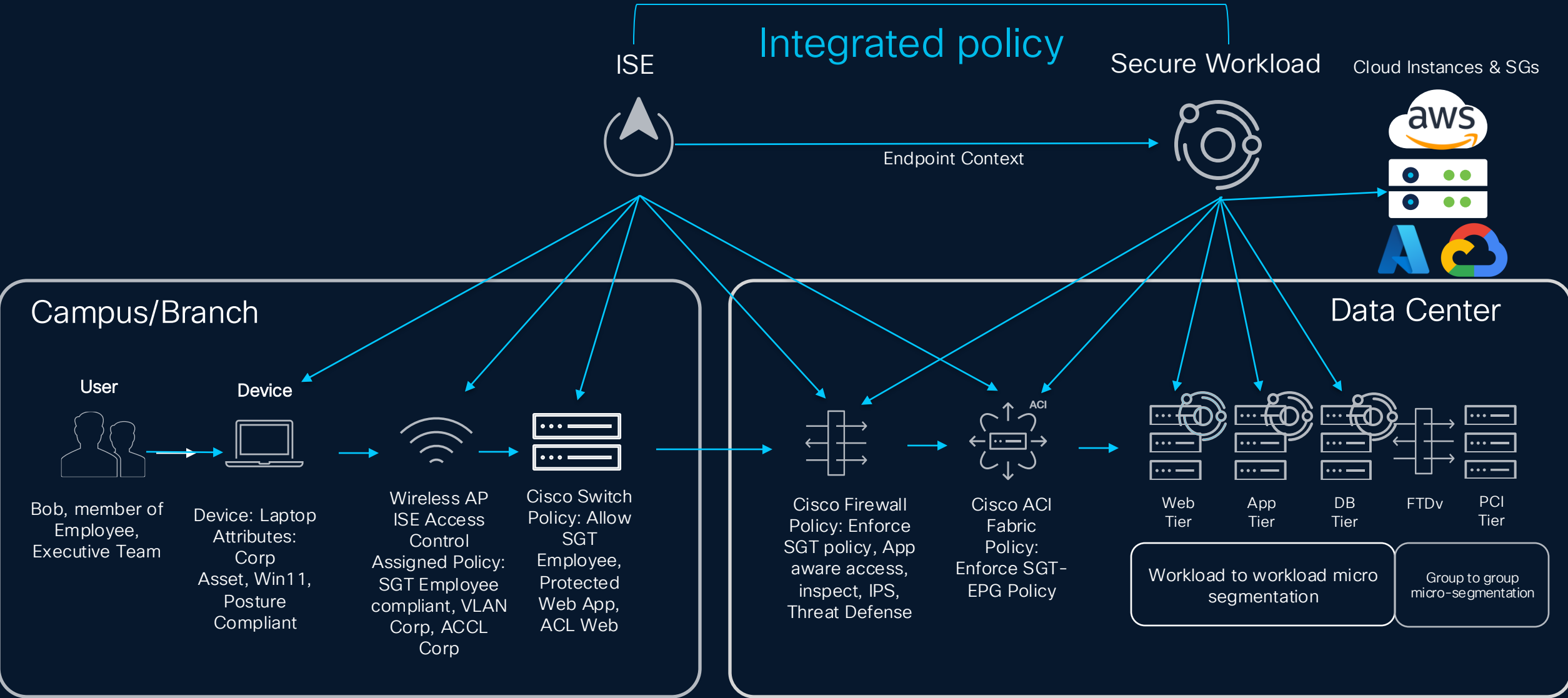
Share Identity to Apply Consistent Policies

Native integration

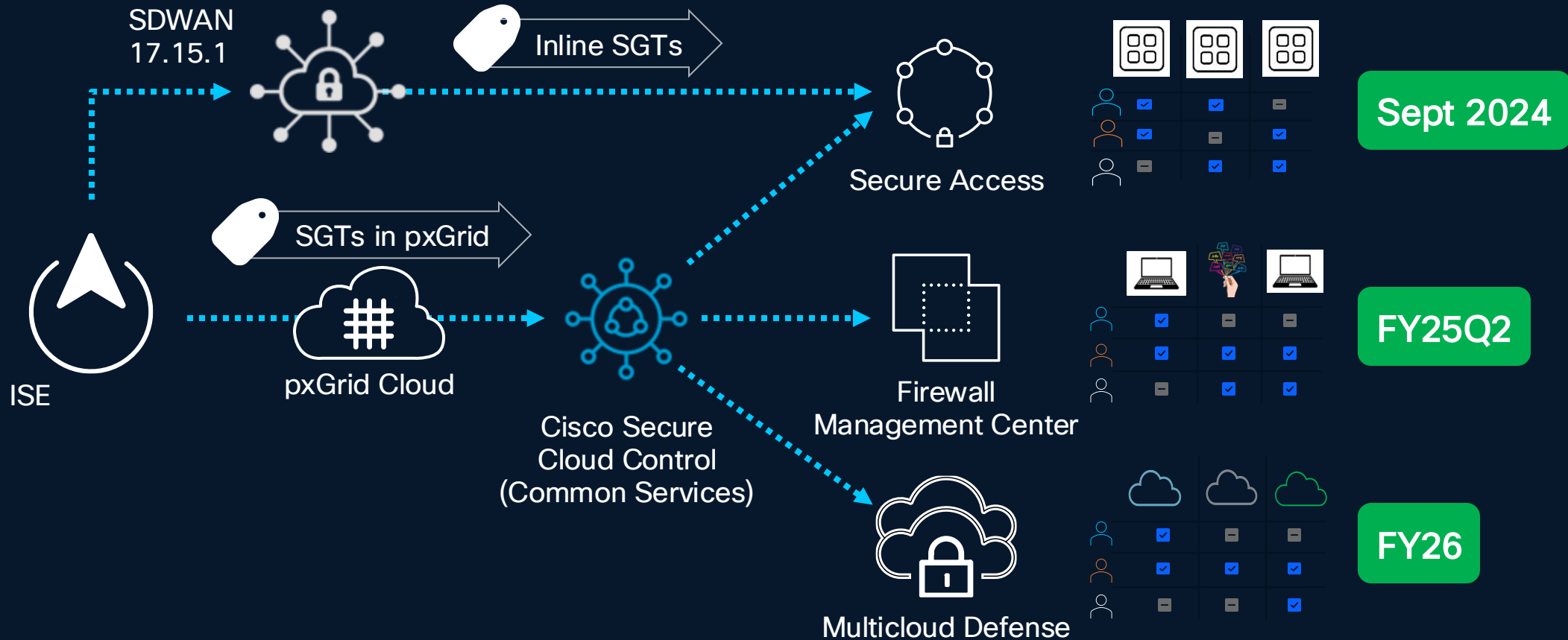


User based policy using ISE tags inline
ML powered policy discovery
Policies evolve as users and apps change

Cisco's Zero Trust Segmentation Strategy



Context for Cisco Security Cloud Services



Security Group Tags (SGTs) are the common language used across campus, remote, cloud, and firewall policies

Demo

What's For Lunch?

Click to vote

- | | | |
|------------|----------|---|
| tacos | 8 Votes | <input type="button" value="✕ Remove"/> |
| pizza | 11 Votes | <input type="button" value="✕ Remove"/> |
| salad | 11 Votes | <input type="button" value="✕ Remove"/> |
| burgers | 8 Votes | <input type="button" value="✕ Remove"/> |
| sandwiches | 9 Votes | <input type="button" value="✕ Remove"/> |

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

Thank you

