

SEC3 – Deciphering Hybrid Mesh Firewall

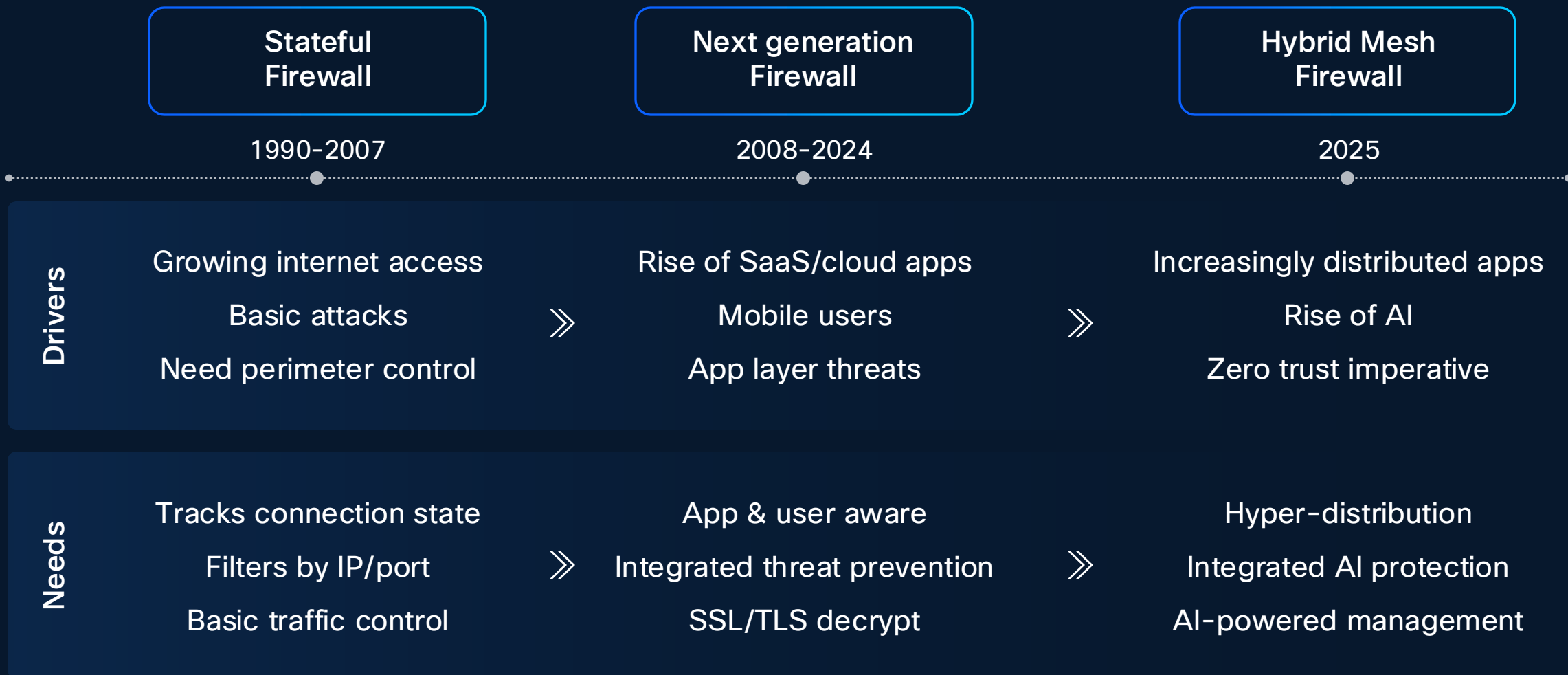
Mark Stephens – Cyber Security Solutions Engineer



Agenda

1. What is HMF?
2. Firewall Innovations
3. Customer use cases
4. HMF Value Proposition

From Firewall to Firewalling



Basic definition of Hybrid Mesh Firewall is limited



Unified management



Physical
Firewall



Virtual
Firewall



Cloud
Firewall

“Boxes managed as one”

Cisco Hybrid Mesh Firewall goes broader and deeper



Security Cloud Control



← Native enforcement points go deeper → Integrate with existing

Write policy once, enforce across the mesh

Customer projects we can solve today

Network Segmentation

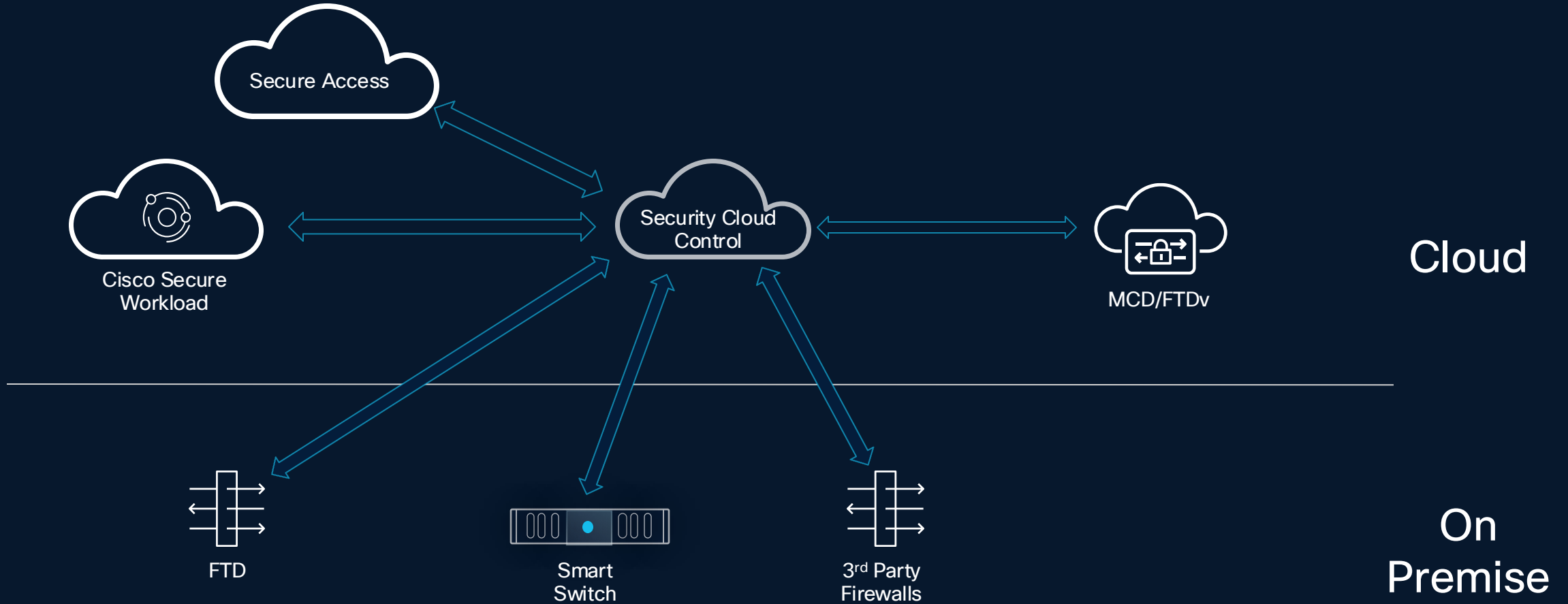
Kubernetes Security

Microsegmentation

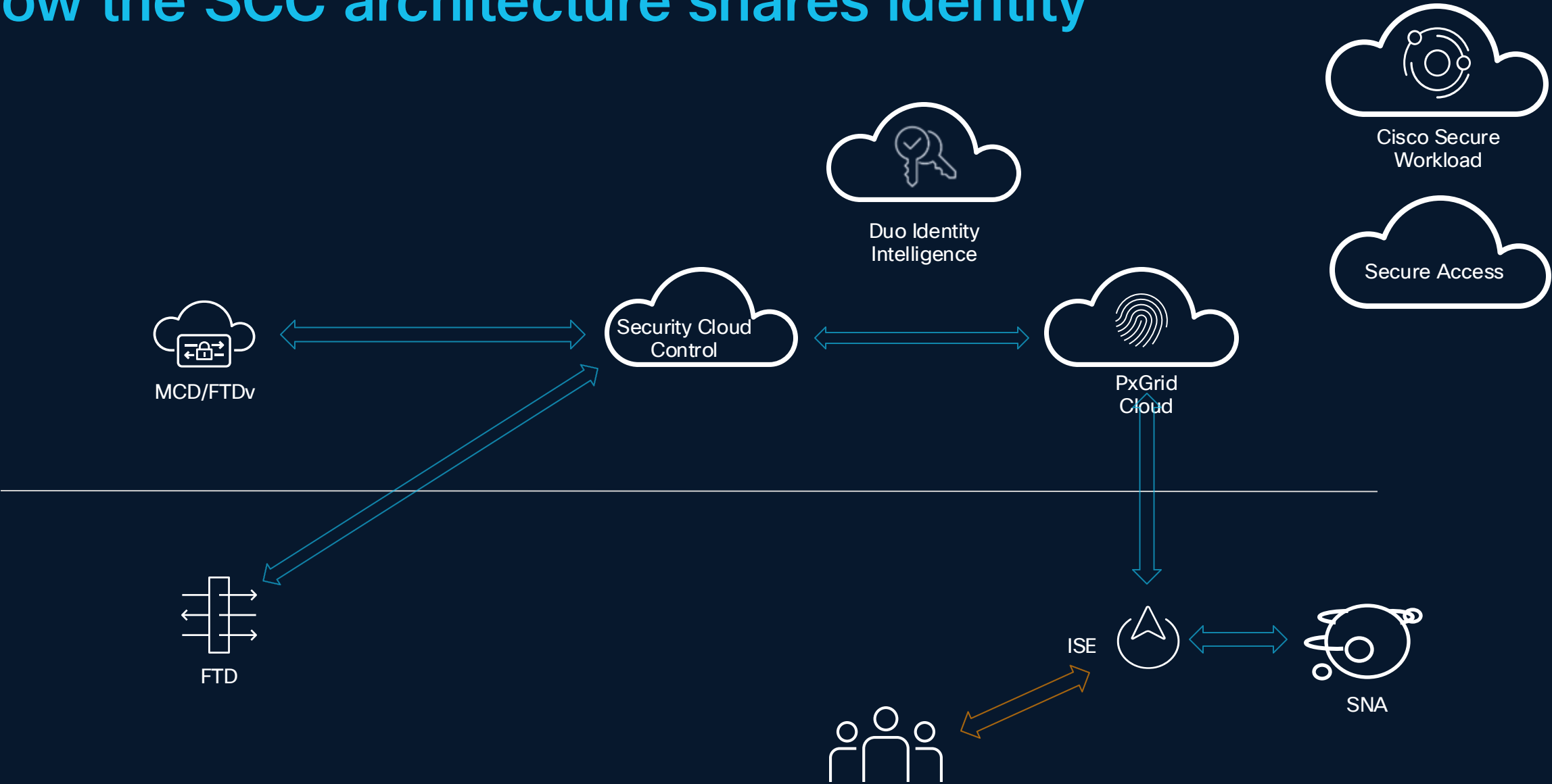
AI Security

Threat Detection & Exploit Protection

How SCC architecture connects to many PEPs



How the SCC architecture shares identity



Security Cloud Control

Define policy once and enforce anywhere

Cisco Firewalling

AI Defense

3rd Party Firewalls

Secure Firewall

Secure Workload

Hypershield

Secure Access (FW as a service)

Secure Router NGFW



Unified AI Assistant:
Simplify policy administration **by up to 70%**

NEW

Security Cloud Control

Industry's first multi-vendor intent-based policy



Absorb and optimize
existing rules

Change enforcement
points, not policy

No rip and
replace

Demo:

Security Cloud Control and Mesh Policy Engine

Something for the
network security team

Cisco Firewall price-performance leadership

Top to bottom

Branch

Campus

Data center

Cloud

NEW



200 Series

1 Model

Firewalling + IPS

Up to 1.5 Gbps



1200 Series

6 Models

Firewalling + IPS

Up to 18 Gbps



3100 Series

5 Models

Firewalling + IPS

Up to 45 Gbps



4200 Series

3 Models

Firewalling + IPS

Up to 140 Gbps



6100 Series

2 Models

Firewalling + IPS

Up to 400 Gbps*

*For two rack units (RUs)



Public/Private

20+ cloud variants



HyperFlex

NUTANIX



openstack



Microsoft Azure



alkira

rackspace
technology

EQUINIX

Alibaba Cloud

ORACLE
CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE

Unique capabilities unmatched in the market



**Early detection of
threats in encryption**

Cisco Encrypted
Visibility Engine



**Detect inline
zero-day threats**

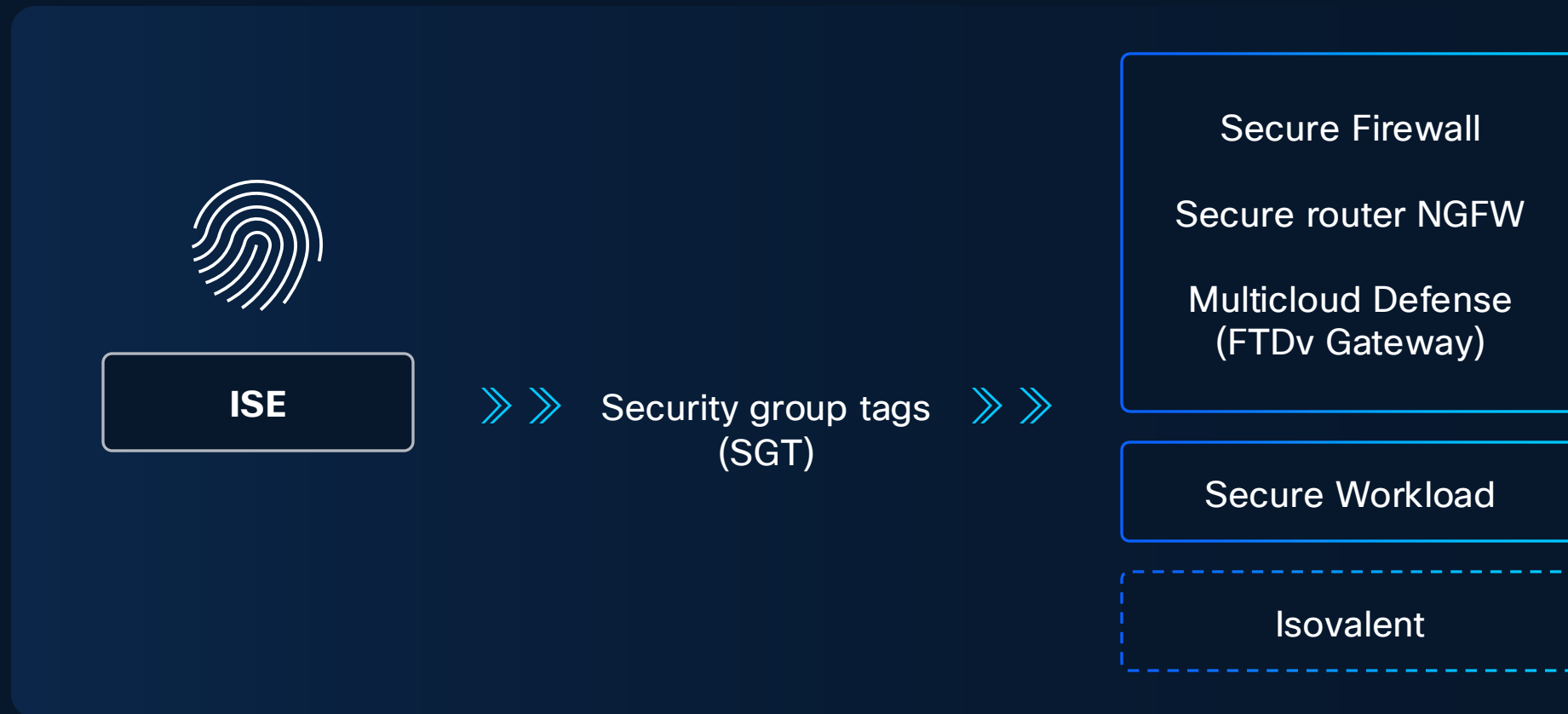
SnortML + Talos



**Intelligent
segmentation**

Native integration with
ISE, Secure Workload,
and Smart Switch

Our unique differentiator: Common classification across all Network and Security enforcement points



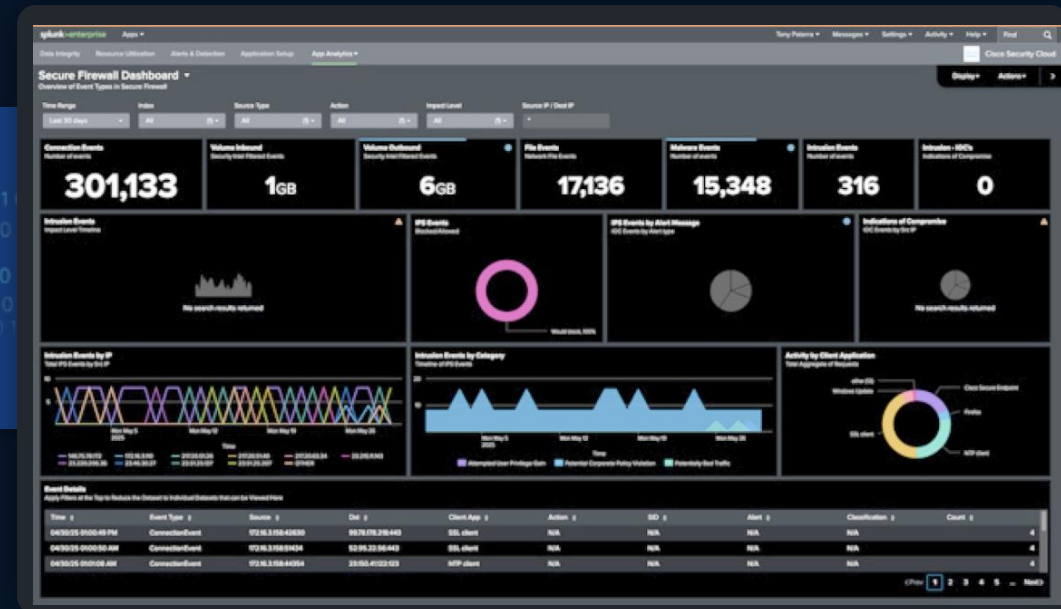
NEW

Security Insight, on Us

Firewall logs free in Splunk

Free log management*

AVAILABLE AUG 2025



New detections | Automated response

AVAILABLE NOW

Multicloud Defense Deploys FTDv



- Comprehensive visibility of clouds, assets, and their risks
- Cloud-agnostic automation and orchestration
- Automatically deploy, scale, and heal, from Multicloud Defense
- Hourly price; unlike other offers based on size and bandwidth
- Or use with your existing FTDv licensing

Firewall operator care abouts:
“How do I do decryption?”

A blue circular logo with a white border and the letters 'AI' in white, positioned in the top right corner of the slide.

AI

Cisco Encrypted Visibility Engine

Visibility to malicious flows in encrypted traffic without decryption

Machine learning
(ML) technology

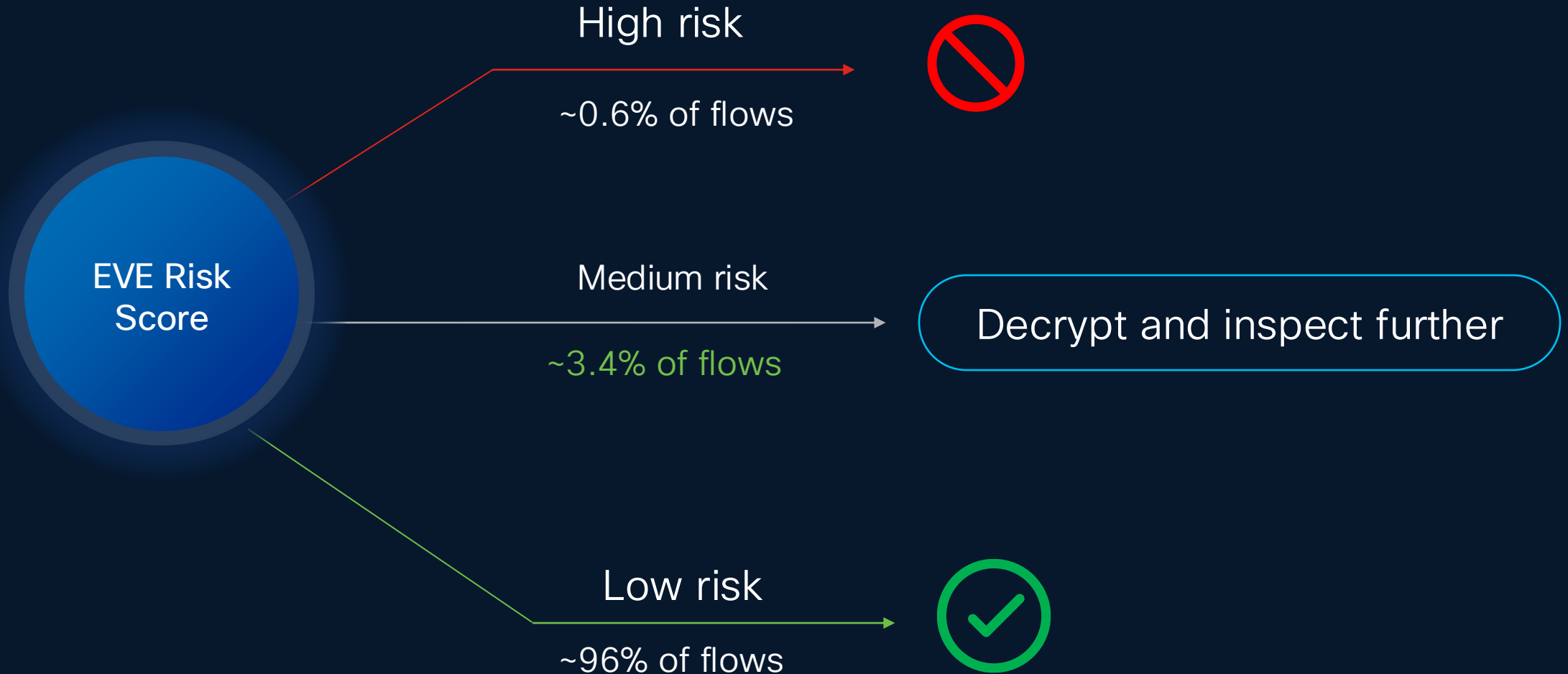
Processes 1 B+
TLS fingerprints

Processes 10 K+
malware samples daily

Cisco Encrypted Visibility Engine (EVE)

Cisco Differentiator

Risk-based intelligent decryption, **powered** by Cisco Encrypted Visibility Engine



Demo: NGFW Decryption EVE

☰

Organization
acme-netsec >

Home

Products

 Firewall

 Hypershield

 Multicloud Defense

Platform services

 Favorites >

 Security Devices

 Shared Objects

 Platform Management >

Home

Set default homepage

All Insights

Top Insights & Alerts 32 Active Insights

 **High Traffic Caused by Elephant Flow** ...
Data source:
AIOps has detected high traffic on the firewall caused by 1 flow, potentially leading to performance duress in Snort cores.
97d ago [Details](#)

 **RAVPN Forecast - Maximum Sessions Nearing Limit** ...
Data source:
AIOps has forecasted that the number of RAVPN sessions will reach capacity in '9' days
176d ago [Details](#)

 **Best practices and recommendations** ...
Data source: NGFWTG
AIOps has detected 5 needs review checks.
6d ago [Details](#)

Multicloud Defense [Multicloud Defense](#) ⋮

Account Resources

93 VPCS/ VNets

208 Security Groups

124 Route Tables

289 Subnets

151 Instances

33 Load Balancers

0 Tags

33 Applications

Security Considerations

33 Applications not protected 

80 VPCs/VNets not protected 

0 Service VPC/VNets without Gateways 

**Firewall Operator Care-Abouts:
“I Need to Block 0-Day Threats!”**

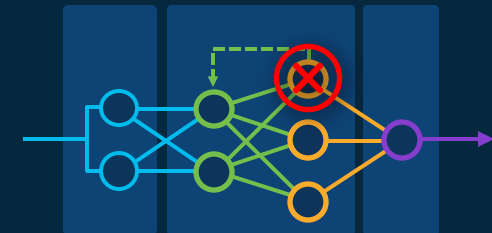
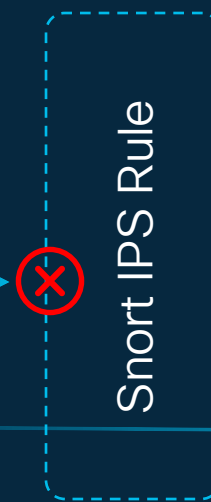
The Leading IDPS, Now with Zero-Day Protection

Snort ML extends IDPS protection to unknown variants of common attacks



Known SQL injection attack

Zero-day SQL Injection variant



(Deep learning model)

Powered by TALOS Intelligence

Customer Use Cases

Cisco Hybrid Mesh Firewall

CUSTOMER SECURITY OUTCOMES

Network Segmentation

Macro & Micro Segmentation

Threat Detection & Exploit Protection

AI Security

Security Use Cases

Network (L4 /L7) Zone based Segmentation

Enhances security, performance, and compliance by dividing networks into application-aware zones. It minimizes the attack surface, controls access, limits congestion and supporting zero-trust with granular controls and visibility.

Macro & Micro Segmentation

Reduce risk by enforcing least-privilege access across networks and applications. Cisco strengthens this with AI-driven security that adapts to application behavior, ensuring protection without sacrificing agility.

DC Edge – Perimeter Firewall

Safeguard north-south traffic by blocking external threats, securing critical DC workloads, enforcing least-privilege access, supporting compliance, and ensuring uninterrupted business operations.

L4 Switch Fabric Segmentation

Enable high-performance, distributed stateful segmentation and enforcement directly within the data center fabric, simplifying network security architecture while reducing costs and improving scalability and operational efficiency

AI Model Protection

Safeguards intellectual property and development investments, ensures the integrity of AI-driven decisions, supports compliance with data and AI ethical standards and minimize financial and reputational risks.

Cloud Edge

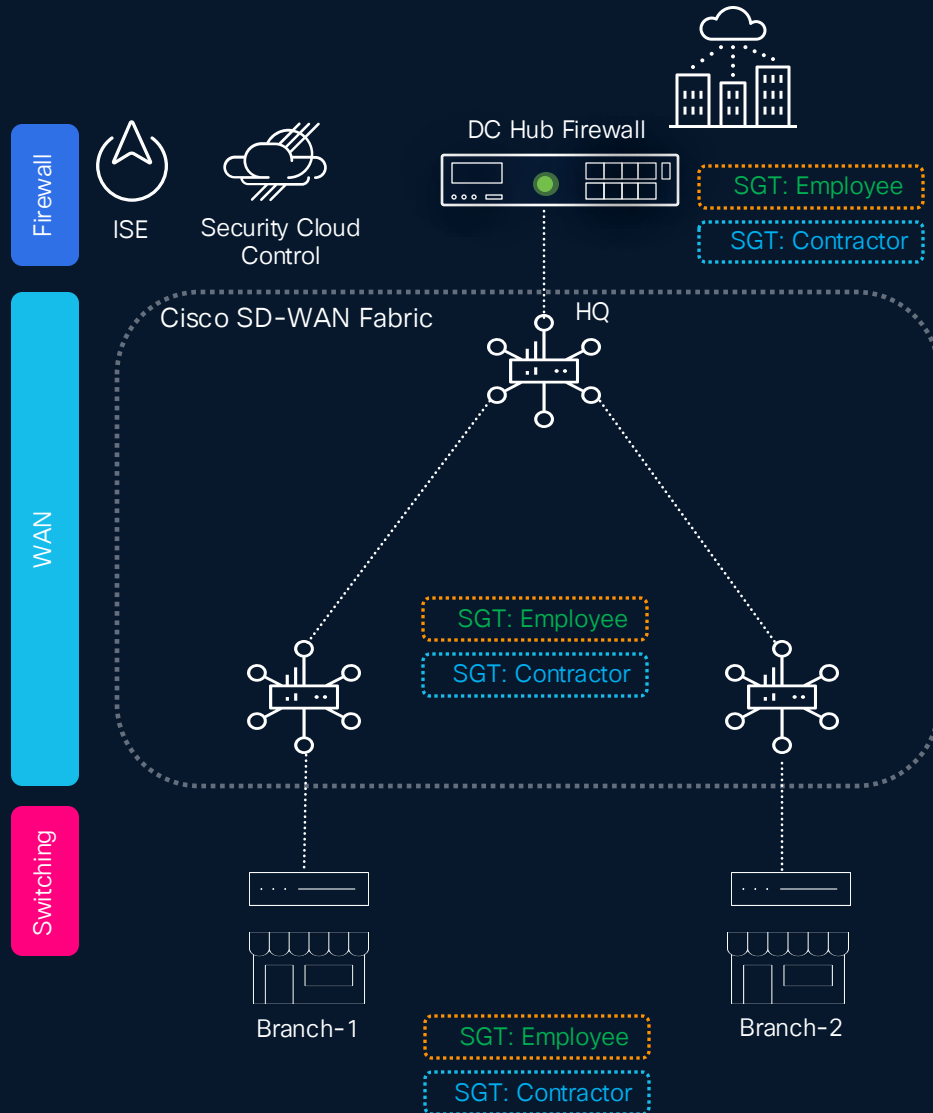
Deliver consistent, automated, and scalable security across hybrid and multi-cloud environments, reduces operational complexity, enhances threat visibility, and enables scalable security enforcement closer to the cloud application workloads.

End-to-End Segmentation

Network Segmentation in
Branch using Firewall and
ISE

Branch

Branch Segmentation Architecture



Customer Problems

Protect data and applications from attacks by
Stopping Lateral Movement
Enforcing Least-Privilege access and
Regulatory compliance

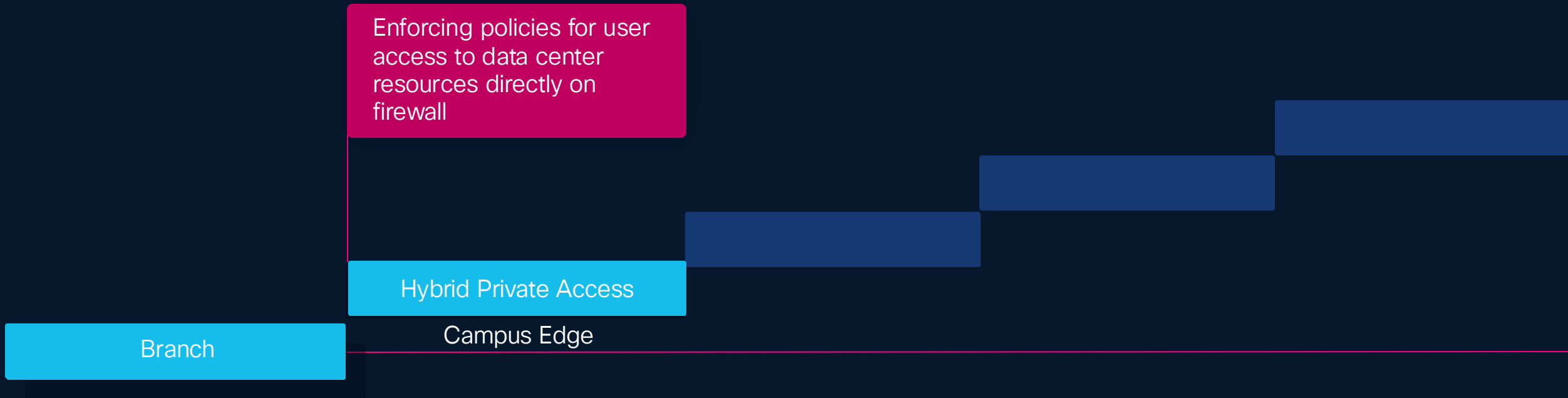
Cisco Solutions

Security Cloud Control
Secure Firewall
Identity Services Engine (ISE)
Catalyst Routers and Switches
SD WAN

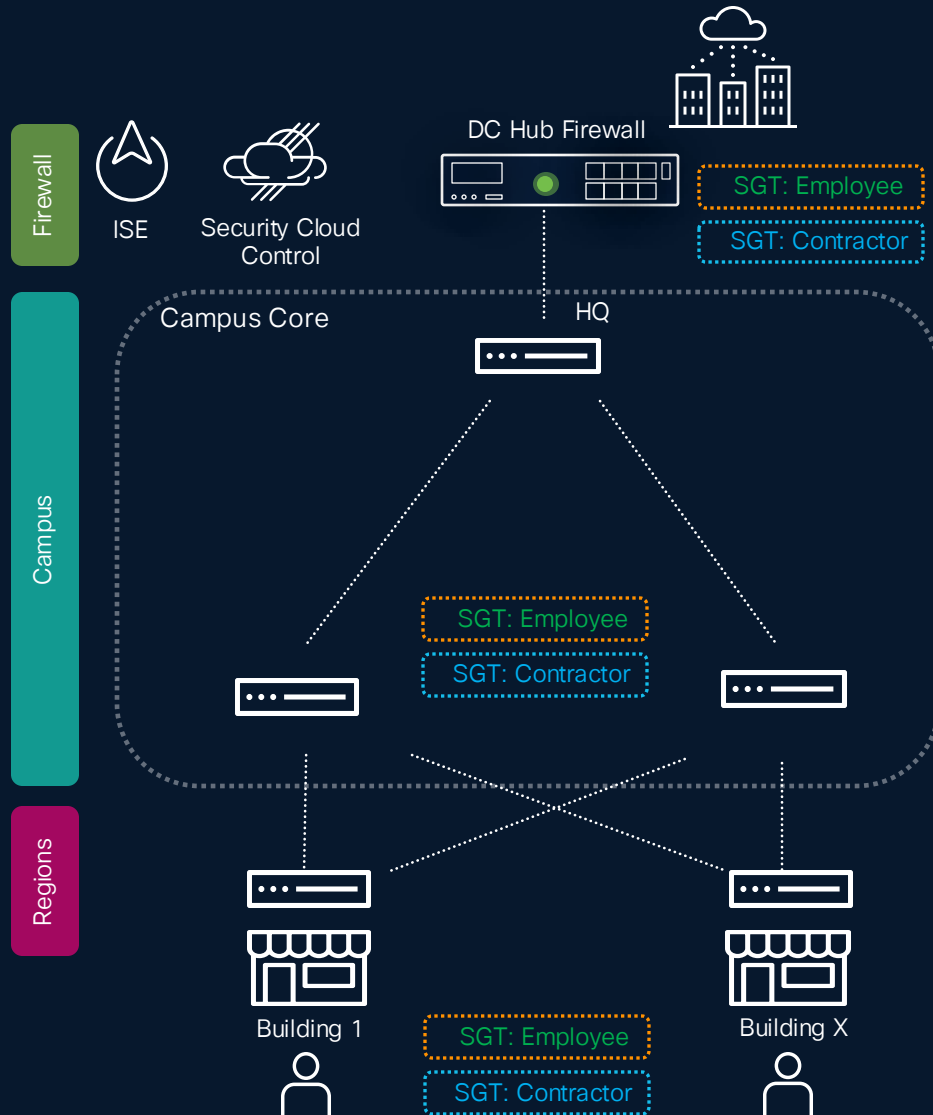
Customer Outcomes

Stronger security posture
Faster incident response and containment
Simplified security operations and improved
compliance

End-to-End Segmentation



Campus Segmentation Architecture



Customer Problems

Protect data and applications from attacks by
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Enforcing Least-Privilege access and
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Cisco Solutions

Security Cloud Control
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Catalyst Routers and Switches

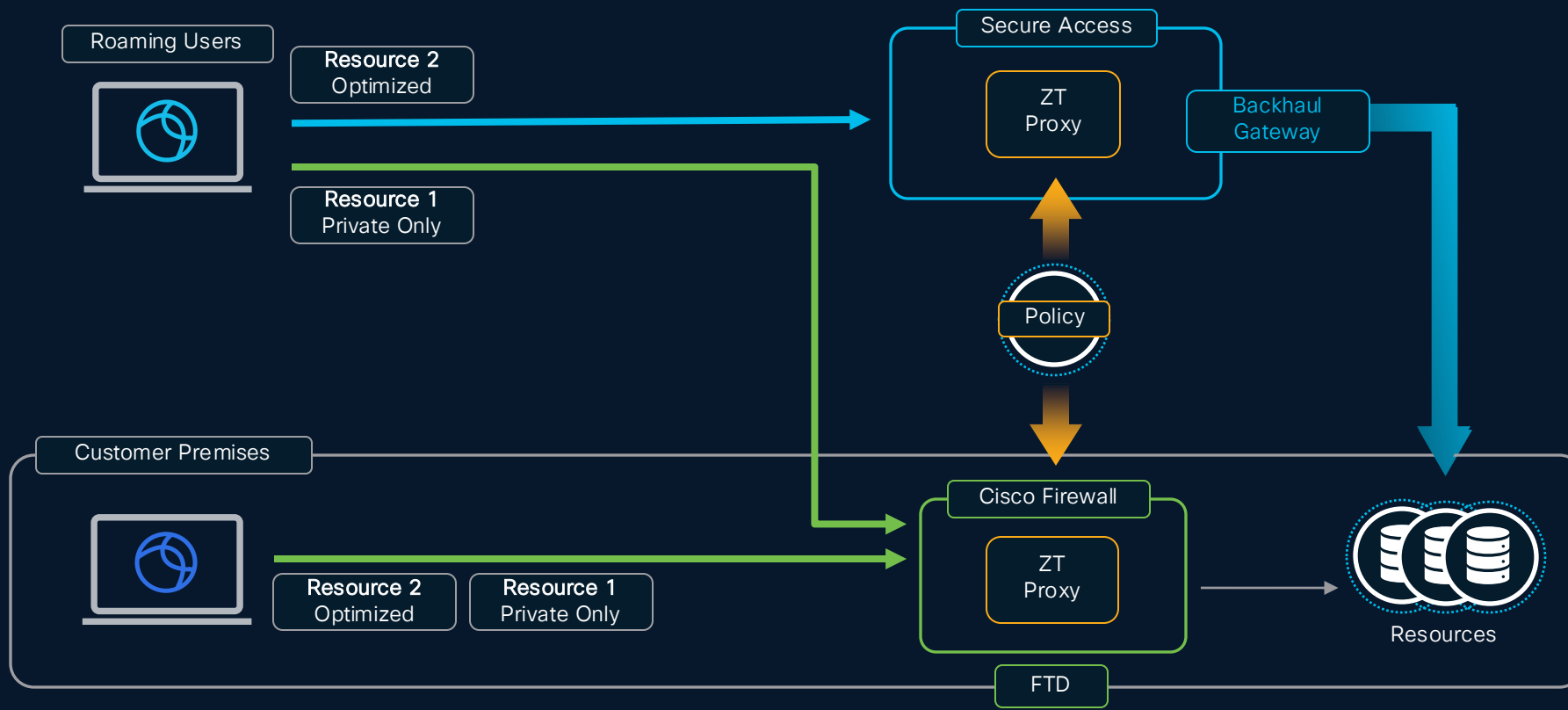
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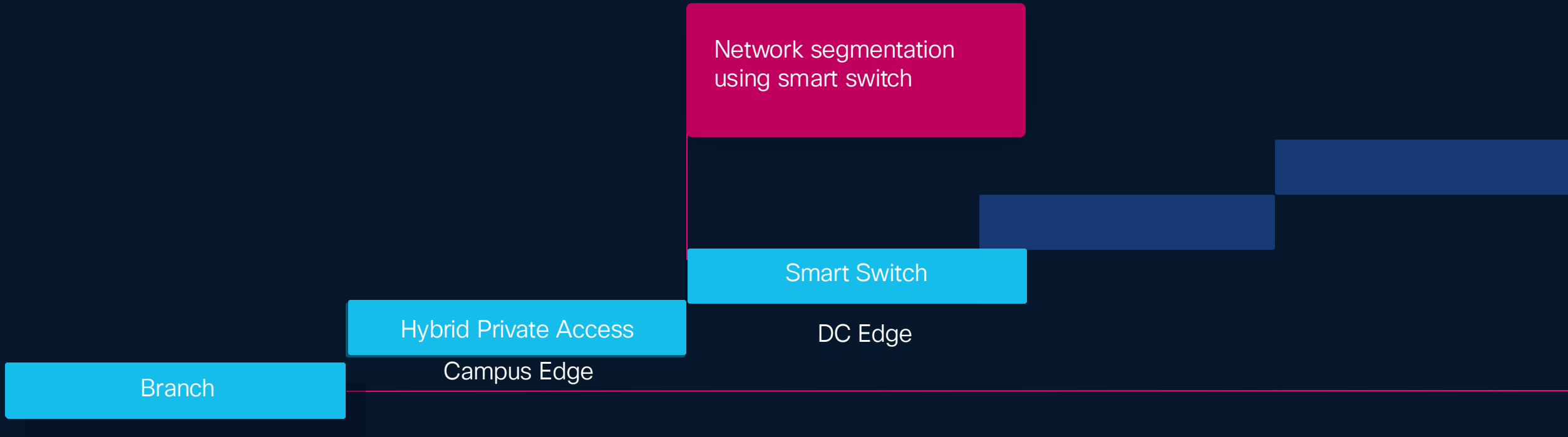
Hybrid Private Access

- Single Policy, Distributed Enforcement

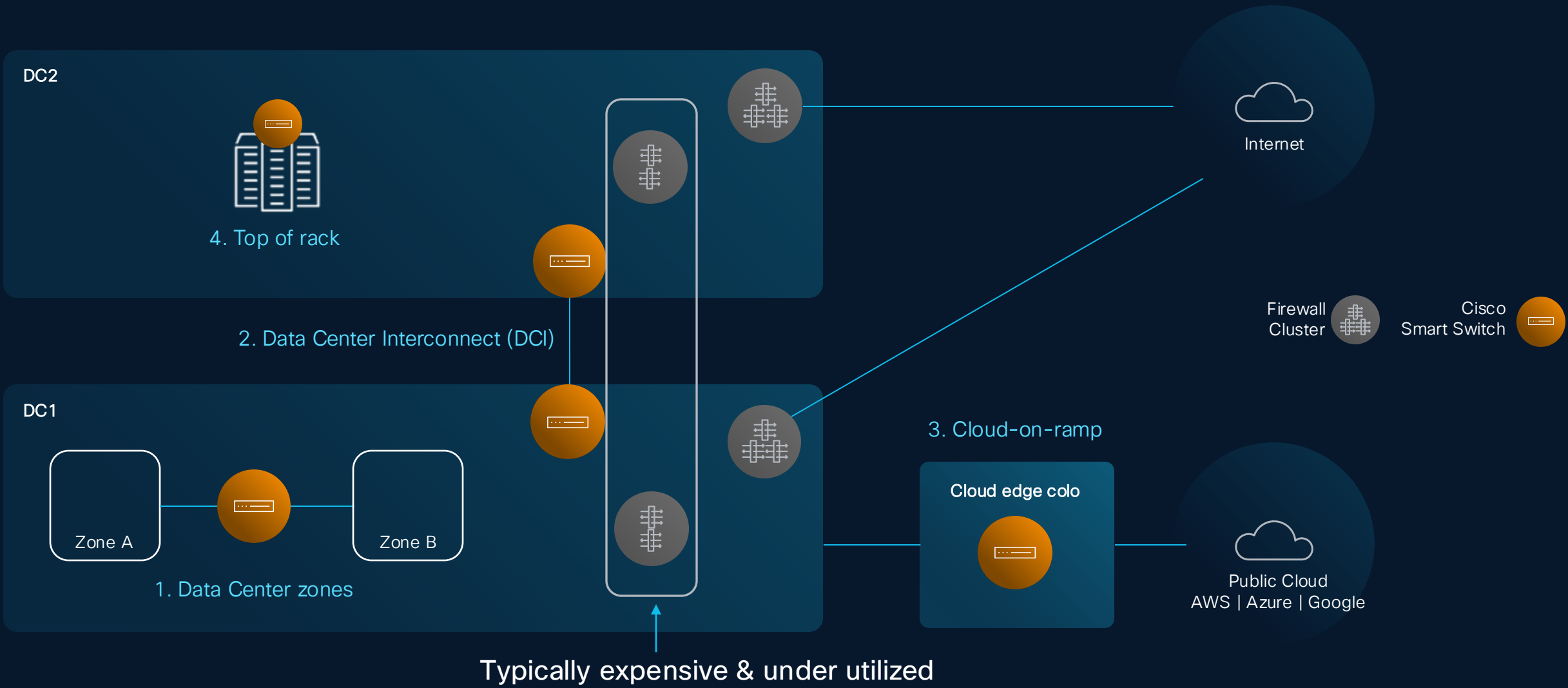
- Same experience in office and remote
- Resilient with Failover to on-prem firewall
- No sensitive traffic through cloud access



End-to-End Segmentation



Security Use Cases with Cisco Smart Switches



Cisco Smart Switches Integrated with Hypershield Security

Ultra Ethernet Consortium

Cisco N9300 Series Smart Switches

Shipping



N9324C-SE1U

24-port 100G

800G Services Throughput

Orderable

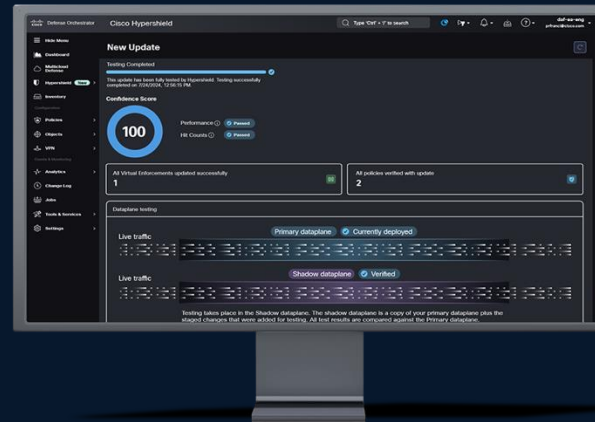


N9348Y2C6D-SE1U

48-port 1G/10G/25G, 6-port 400G, 2-port 100G

800G Services Throughput

Cisco Hypershield



Use Cases

Top of Rack segmentation and enforcement

Cloud Edge

Zone-based segmentation

Nexus Smart Switch

Unmatched Flexibility, Performance, and Efficiency

Cisco
Smart Switches

Networking



- Rich NX-OS Features and Services
- High-speed connectivity and scalable performance
- Optimized for latency and power efficiency



Routing
Switching



EVPN/MPLS/
VXLAN/SR



Rich
Telemetry



Line-rate
Encryption



Power
Efficiency

Cisco Nexus 9300 Services Accelerated Switch

Hypershield



- Software-defined Stateful Services
- Programmable at all layers: add new services without HW change
- Scale-out services with wire-rate performance
- Power down DPU complex when not used



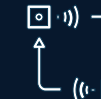
Distributed
Security



IPSEC
Encryption



Large-Scale
NAT



Event-Based
Telemetry

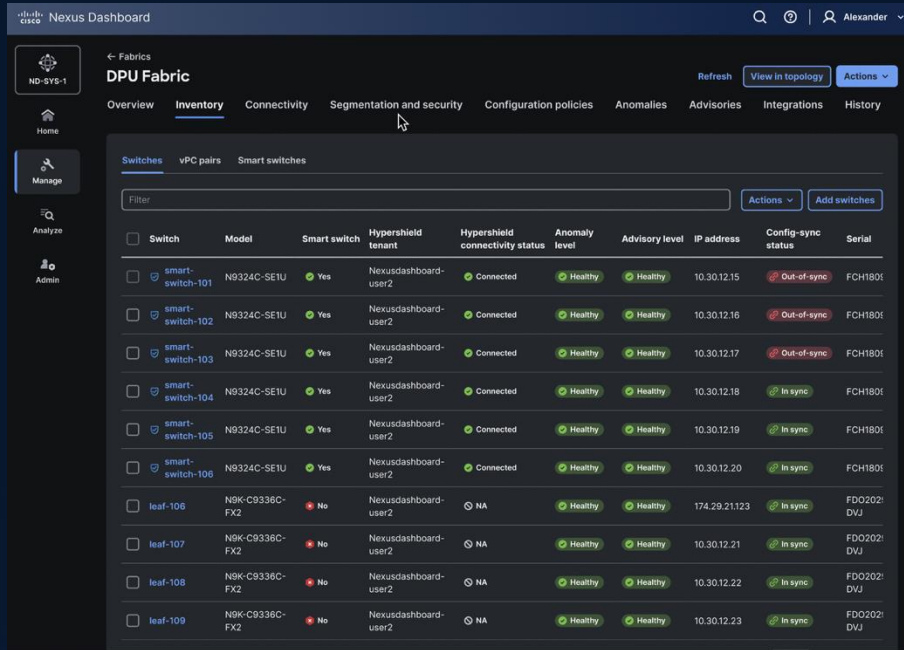


DoS
Protection

Future Use Cases

Separate Workflows for NetOps and SecOps

Nexus Dashboard

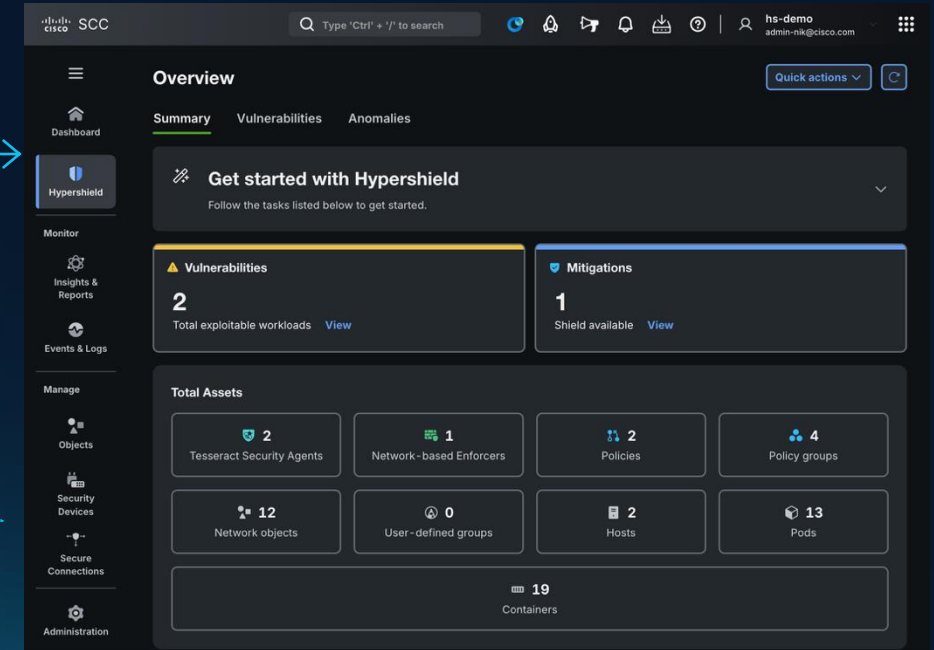


The screenshot shows the Nexus Dashboard interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Fabrics', 'DPUs Fabric', and various tabs like Overview, Inventory, Connectivity, etc. The main content area displays a table of switches with columns for Switch, Model, Smart switch, Hypershield tenant, Hypershield connectivity status, Anomaly level, Advisory level, IP address, Config-sync status, and Serial.

Switch	Model	Smart switch	Hypershield tenant	Hypershield connectivity status	Anomaly level	Advisory level	IP address	Config-sync status	Serial
smart-switch-101	N9324C-SEIU	Yes	Nexusdashboard-user2	Connected	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.15	Out-of-sync	FCH180f
smart-switch-102	N9324C-SEIU	Yes	Nexusdashboard-user2	Connected	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.16	Out-of-sync	FCH180f
smart-switch-103	N9324C-SEIU	Yes	Nexusdashboard-user2	Connected	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.17	Out-of-sync	FCH180f
smart-switch-104	N9324C-SEIU	Yes	Nexusdashboard-user2	Connected	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.18	In sync	FCH180f
smart-switch-105	N9324C-SEIU	Yes	Nexusdashboard-user2	Connected	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.19	In sync	FCH180f
smart-switch-106	N9324C-SEIU	Yes	Nexusdashboard-user2	Connected	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.20	In sync	FCH180f
leaf-106	N9K-C9336C-FX2	No	Nexusdashboard-user2	NA	Healthy	Healthy	174.29.21.123	In sync	FDO202:DVJ
leaf-107	N9K-C9336C-FX2	No	Nexusdashboard-user2	NA	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.21	In sync	FDO202:DVJ
leaf-108	N9K-C9336C-FX2	No	Nexusdashboard-user2	NA	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.22	In sync	FDO202:DVJ
leaf-109	N9K-C9336C-FX2	No	Nexusdashboard-user2	NA	Healthy	Healthy	10.30.12.23	In sync	FDO202:DVJ

Context sharing for troubleshooting

Security Cloud Control



The screenshot shows the Security Cloud Control (SCC) interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Overview', 'Vulnerabilities', and 'Anomalies'. The main content area displays a 'Get started with Hypershield' section, followed by 'Vulnerabilities' (2 total exploitable workloads) and 'Mitigations' (1 shield available). Below these are 'Total Assets' including Tesseract Security Agents (2), Network-based Enforcers (1), Policies (2), Policy groups (4), Network objects (12), User-defined groups (0), Hosts (2), and Pods (13). A summary bar at the bottom shows 19 Containers.

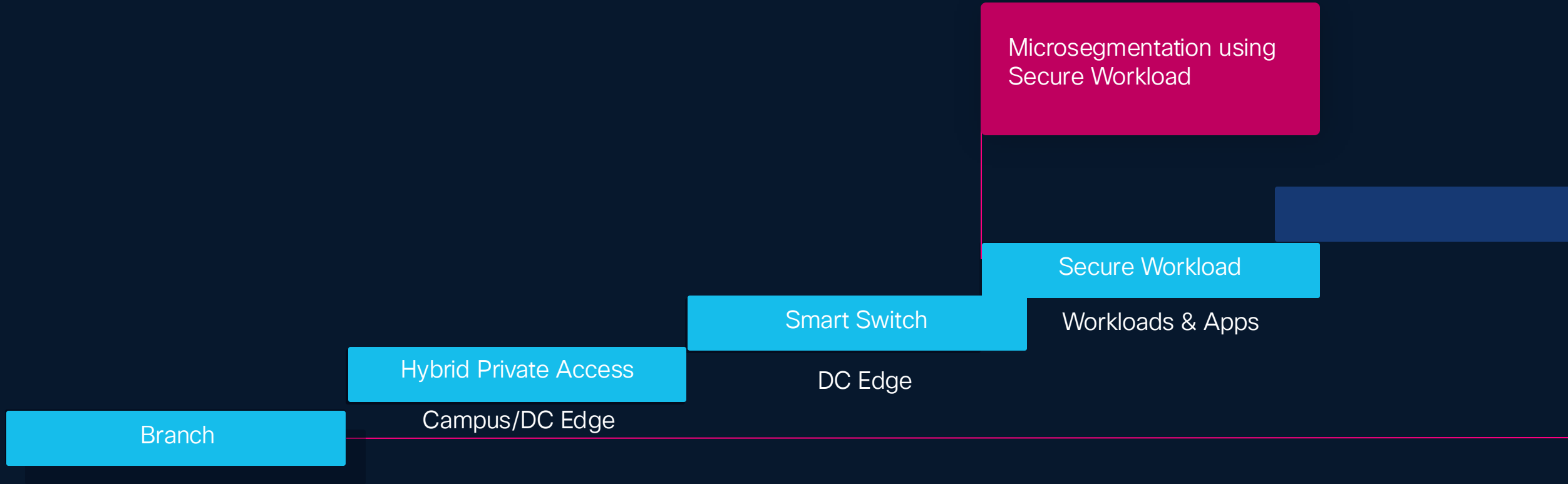


Smart Switch

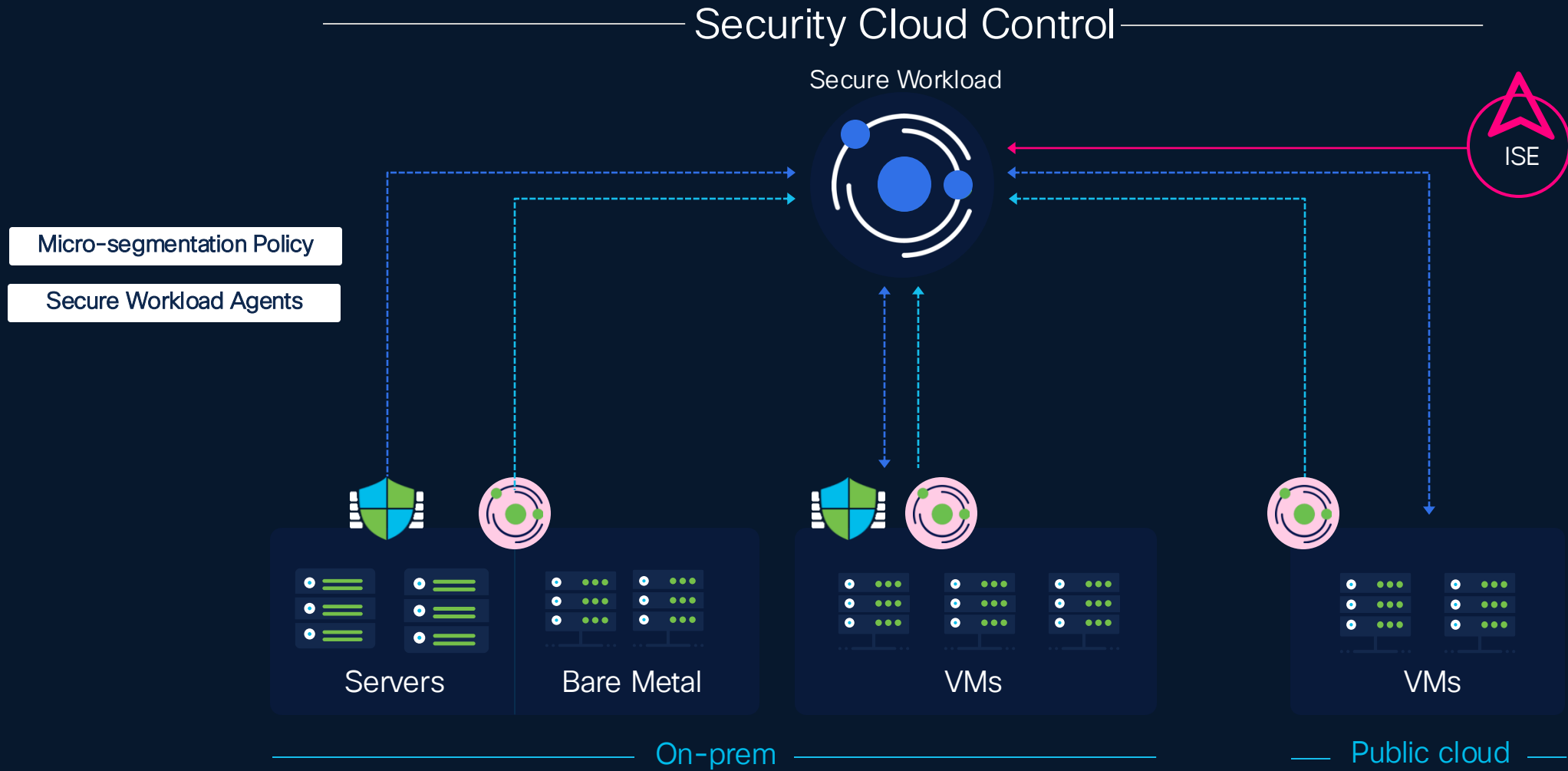
Demo:

Smart Switch Segmentation

End-to-End segmentation



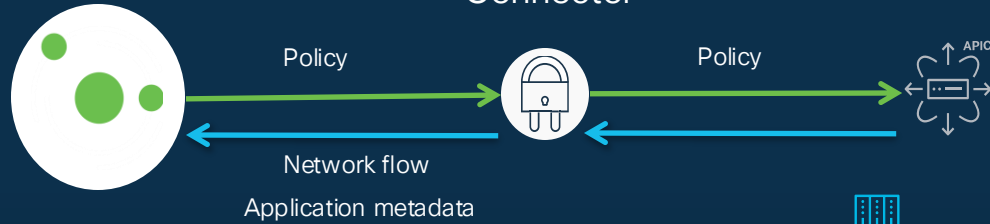
Micro-segmentation with Secure Workload



Automate Segmentation Policies for Cisco ACI

Secure Workload

ACI Connector



Container Bare Metal VMs



Deep visibility with AI/ML into application dependencies



Achieve application centric deployment of security



Automate policy lifecycle management

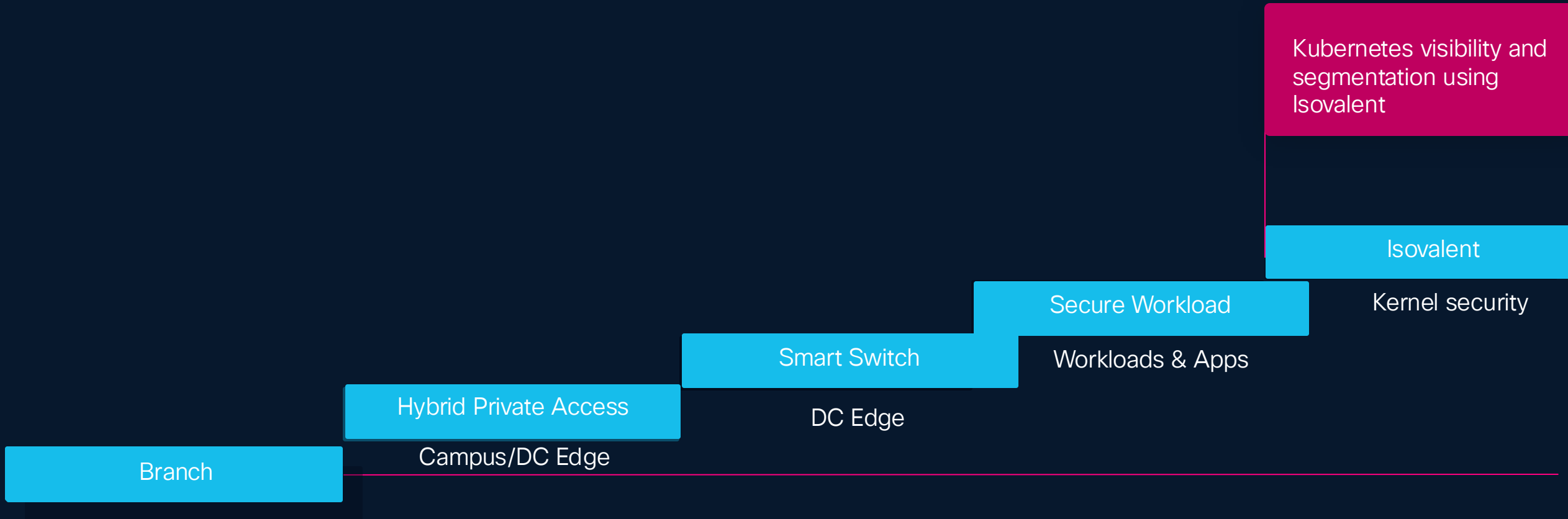


Zero friction to adoption



Agentless policy enforcement for segmentation

End-to-End Segmentation



Kubernetes Challenges Traditional Networking and Security Approaches

Challenges

- Nothing is fixed (IPs, hosts, workloads)
- Existing tooling doesn't work (firewalls, IP tooling, load balancers, observability)
- Reliability and Observability is a challenge

“My Kubernetes cluster is a black box, but this is where the apps are being built...”

- NetSec lead (financial customer)



Microservices Workloads



AI / ML Workloads



Legacy VM Workloads

Kubernetes

Bare Metal

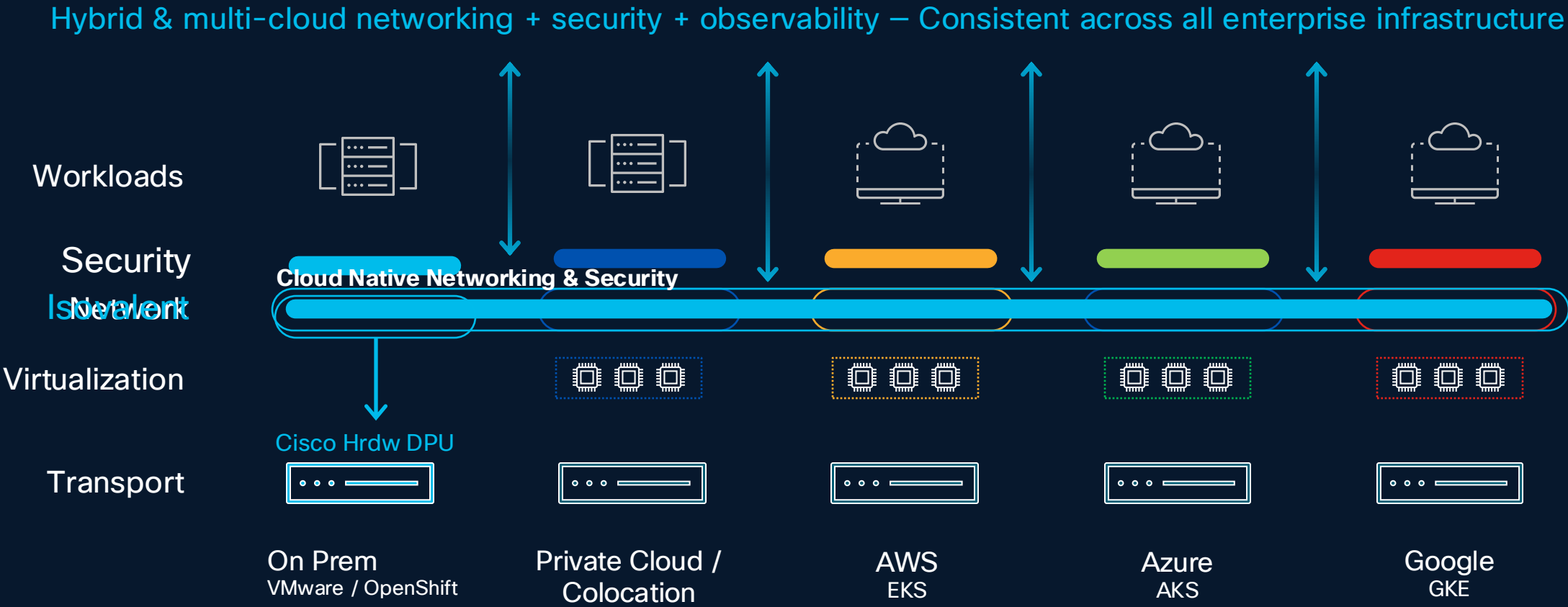
VMware

AWS

Azure

GCP

Isovalent brings network tooling to Kubernetes



Demo:

Visibility into Kubernetes Clusters

Hybrid Mesh Firewall: The customer value proposition

Cisco Hybrid Mesh Firewall

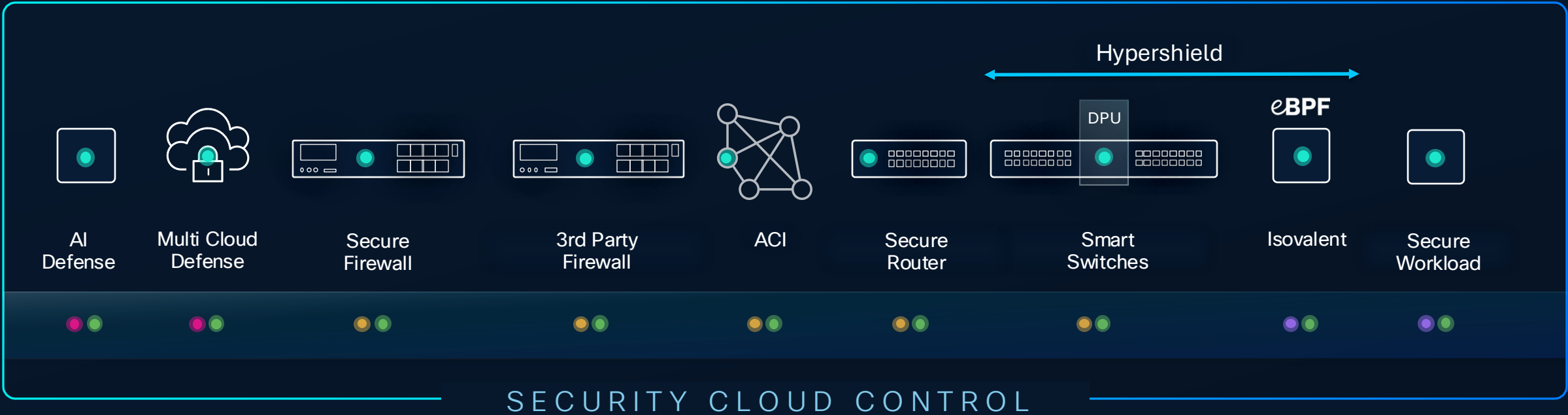
CUSTOMER SECURITY OUTCOMES

Network Segmentation

Macro & Micro Segmentation

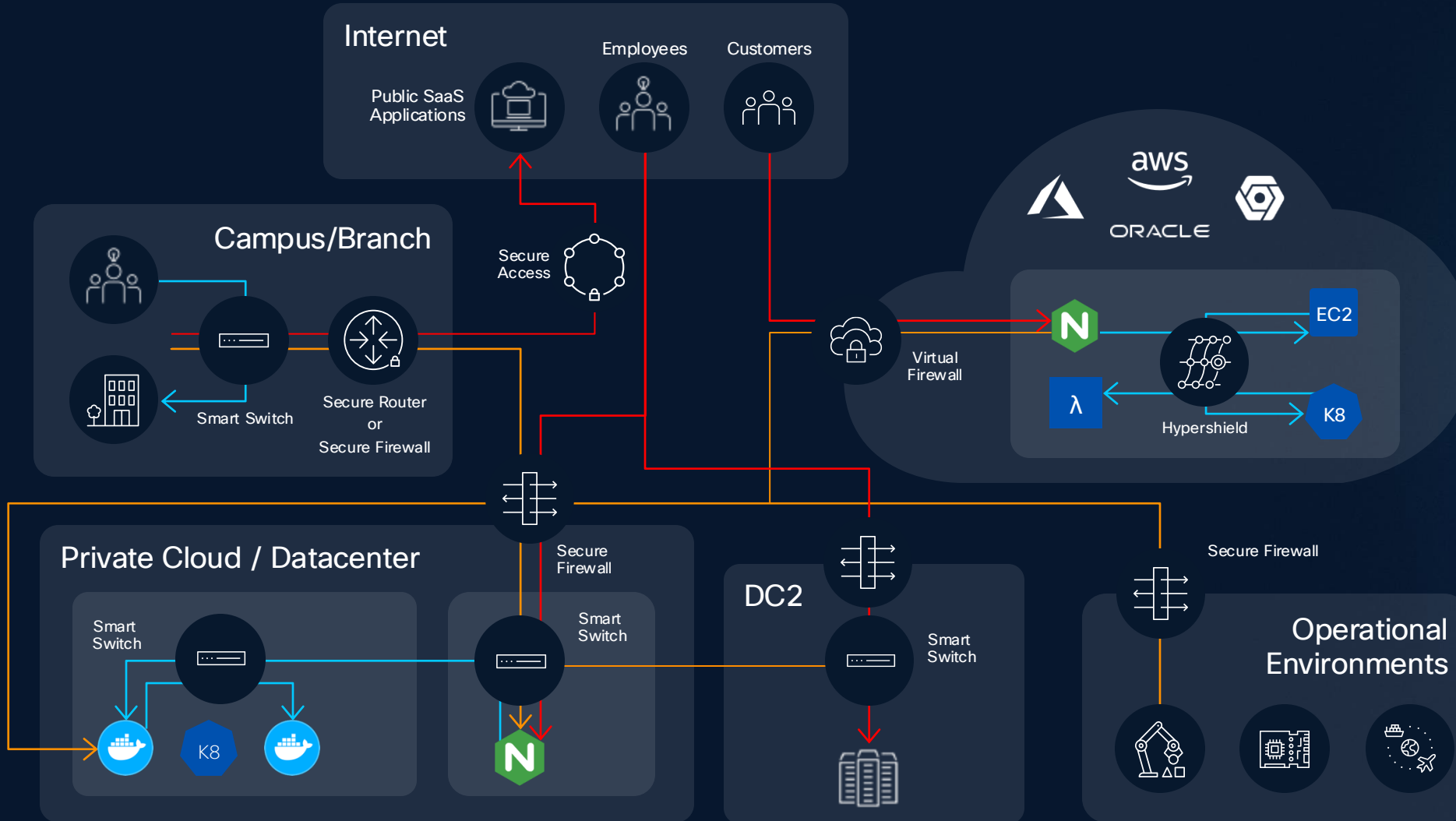
Threat Detection & Exploit Protection

AI Security



Write policy once, enforce across the mesh

Cisco Hybrid Mesh Firewall goes broader and deeper



Secure connectivity between campus, branch, and private cloud

Securely connect campus to Internet and SaaS apps, and employees to private apps

Apply full security stack (IPS, WAF, DLP) at virtual public cloud (VPC) edge

Security inline at workload, microservice, and switch port

Thank you



