



SOLUTION BRIEF



Palo Alto Networks and Alkira: Transforming Cloud Security

The Challenge

Organizations are rapidly migrating critical applications from on-premises data centers to cloud environments and SaaS platforms. This transition demands a reimagining of traditional security architectures, as protection must evolve alongside application deployment. However, DIY cloud firewall implementations face significant obstacles:

- ✓ Required expertise in multiple cloud platforms for complex manual configurations
- ✓ Intricate routing requirements to ensure proper stateful firewall functionality
- ✓ Inconsistent security policy enforcement across diverse cloud architectures
- ✓ Inadequate elastic capacity to handle fluctuating traffic demands
- ✓ Limited operational visibility and lifecycle management

While cloud orchestration tools can simplify provisioning, they fail to address the fundamental limitations in deploying enterprise-grade firewalls at global scale.

The Alkira Platform and Palo Alto Networks VM-Series

Alkira has reinvented networking for the cloud era. The Alkira Platform delivers the industry's leading global, unified multi-cloud network as a service. Engineered to provide high-speed, low-latency global connectivity across cloud environments, it integrates network services marketplaces with comprehensive visibility and governance.

Customers design their entire multi-cloud network on an intuitive digital canvas, deploy with a single click, and begin using it within minutes. Together, the Alkira Platform and Palo Alto Networks VM-Series Virtual Next-Generation Firewall deliver enterprise-grade multi-cloud security with these key capabilities:

- ✓ Global deployment through Alkira Cloud Exchange Points™ (virtual multi-cloud points of presence) with VM-Series firewalls available through the Alkira marketplace
- ✓ Intent-based policies with graphical visualization for uniform security enforcement without complex multi-cloud routing
- ✓ Cloud-independent segmentation and VM-Series security zones for consistent policy enforcement across environments
- ✓ Symmetric traffic steering for proper stateful inspection across cloud workloads
- ✓ Elastic auto-scaling that dynamically adjusts VM-Series deployments based on real-time demand
- ✓ Comprehensive lifecycle management and operational visibility
- ✓ Flexible licensing models including PAYG and BYOL options



Use Case: Stateful Multi-Cloud Security

Challenge

Deploying workloads across multiple clouds creates significant complexity in providing consistent, scalable security controls for traffic between on-premises locations and cloud instances. Traditional architectures aren't optimized for cloud adoption, while DIY approaches require specialized expertise and face restrictive cloud limitations.

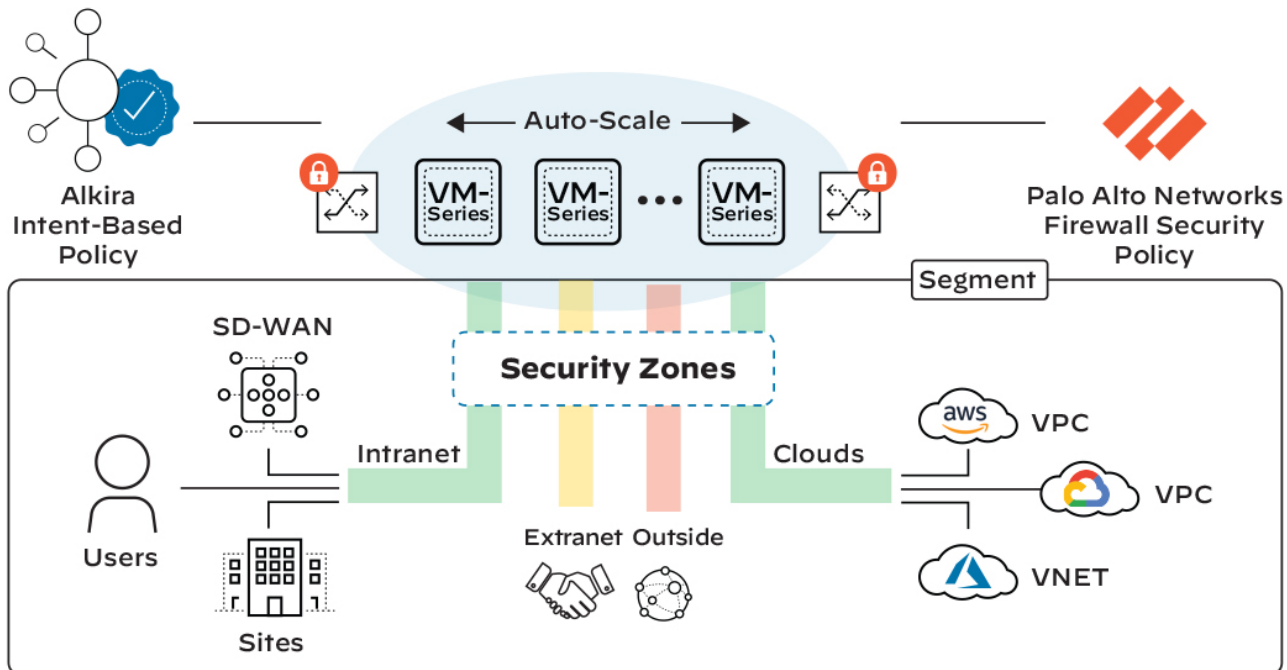
Solution

The Alkira Platform delivers a unified as-a-service approach by seamlessly integrating VM-Series firewalls into application traffic flows. Organizations can visually express security policies without needing to understand underlying cloud constructs, while maintaining familiar zone-based and rule-based security approaches.

Symmetric traffic steering ensures proper stateful firewall operation even across globally distributed environments. The Alkira Portal provides comprehensive lifecycle management and operational visibility.

Benefits of the Integration

- This powerful integration delivers:
- ✓ Multi-cloud network as a service with integrated VM-Series firewall security
 - ✓ One-click provisioning for your entire network and security infrastructure
 - ✓ Stateful protection for traffic between cloud application workloads
 - ✓ Secure, optimized access to SaaS and internet applications via regional exits
 - ✓ Auto-scaling security that responds to real-time demands
 - ✓ Comprehensive monitoring, visibility, and lifecycle management across environments





Use Case: Secure Regional SaaS/Internet Access

Challenge

The rise of SaaS applications like Microsoft 365 and Salesforce creates tension between performance and security. Backhauling traffic through centralized locations impacts user experience, while direct internet access increases administrative overhead.

Solution

The Alkira Platform offers a unified approach to securing internet exit points with VM-Series virtual firewalls. Deployed through globally distributed Cloud Exchange Points, these security services enable remote locations to access SaaS applications through their nearest exit point. Intent-based policies ensure traffic inspection and threat prevention, while the platform handles necessary network address translation functions.



About Alkira

Alkira reinvents networking for the cloud. The Alkira Platform is the first unified multi-cloud network delivered as-a-service, embodying principles of agility, speed, on-demand functionality, consumption-based pricing, and elastic scalability. Organizations can now deploy global multi-cloud networks with integrated services, comprehensive visibility, and governance. The entire network is designed on an intuitive digital canvas, deployed with one click, and ready in minutes. The Network. Reinvented for Cloud.™ For more information, visit www.alkira.com.



About Palo Alto Networks

Palo Alto Networks, the global cybersecurity leader, is shaping the cloud-centric future with technology that transforms how people and organizations operate. Their mission is to be the cybersecurity partner of choice, protecting our digital way of life through continuous innovation in AI, analytics, automation, and orchestration. By delivering an integrated platform and empowering a growing ecosystem, they protect tens of thousands of organizations across clouds, networks, and mobile devices.