



SOLUTION BRIEF



Network Infrastructure On-Demand: Next-Generation Security for Multi-Cloud Networks

A Joint Solution Brief: Alkira and Cisco

In today's digital transformation landscape, enterprises face unprecedented challenges in maintaining network agility while defending against sophisticated security threats. Traditional on-premises architectures struggle to support the distributed nature of cloud applications, creating critical security gaps and operational inefficiencies.

The Challenge

Organizations migrating to cloud environments encounter significant hurdles when deploying trusted security services:

- ✓ **Complex Multi-Cloud Management:** Operating across cloud providers creates inconsistent security postures
- ✓ **Extensive Deployment Timelines:** Traditional deployments can take months rather than days
- ✓ **Specialized Expertise Requirements:** Teams must master cloud-specific networking constructs
- ✓ **Over-Provisioning Concerns:** Limited flexibility leads to excessive spending on unused capacity

Key Capabilities



Unified Security Framework

- ✓ Enforce consistent firewall policies across on-premises, cloud, multi-cloud, and internet environments
- ✓ Maintain familiar Cisco Secure Firewall Management Center (FMC) for policy administration
- ✓ Leverage Alkira's automated provisioning and lifecycle management



Intelligent Network Design

- ✓ Deploy through Alkira Cloud Exchange Points (CXPs) - virtual multi-cloud points of presence
- ✓ Utilize global infrastructure powered by hyperscale cloud providers
- ✓ Maintain symmetrical connection steering with original IP addressing



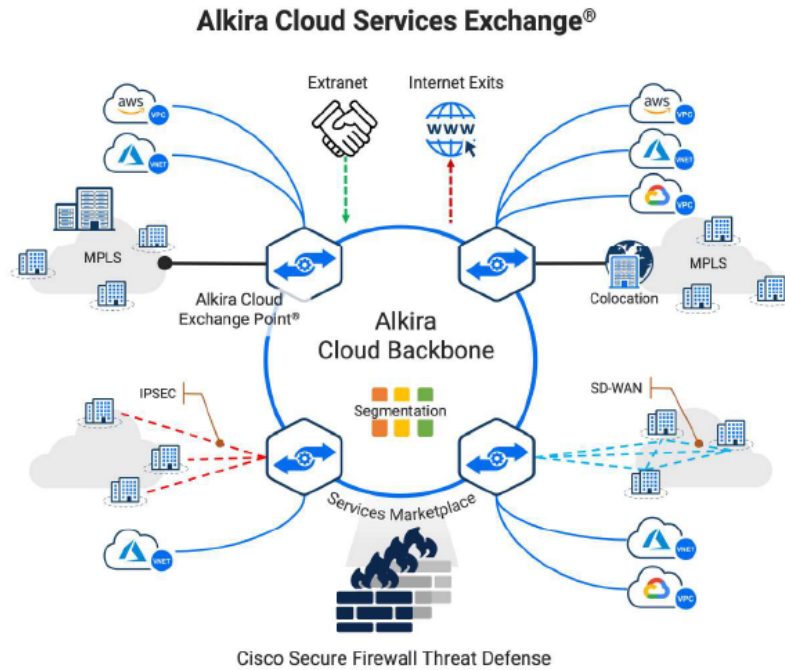
Dynamic Resource Optimization

- ✓ Automatically scale firewalling capacity based on real-time demand
- ✓ Eliminate overprovisioning while ensuring performance
- ✓ Reduce firewall licensing costs by up to 80%



Transformative Solution

The Alkira-Cisco partnership delivers a revolutionary approach to cloud security, enabling organizations to seamlessly extend Cisco Secure Firewall Threat Defense capabilities through Alkira’s Network Infrastructure-as-a-Service platform.



Strategic Use Cases

The Alkira-Cisco solution addresses critical enterprise security scenarios:



Multi-Cloud Security

Enforce unified policies across workloads in single and multi-cloud environments.



Cloud DMZ

Secure traffic between remote users and internet-facing applications in any environment



Secure Internet Egress

Apply consistent egress firewall policies for cloud and on-premises environments



Branch Security

Cloud-based security enforcement for traffic between distributed locations

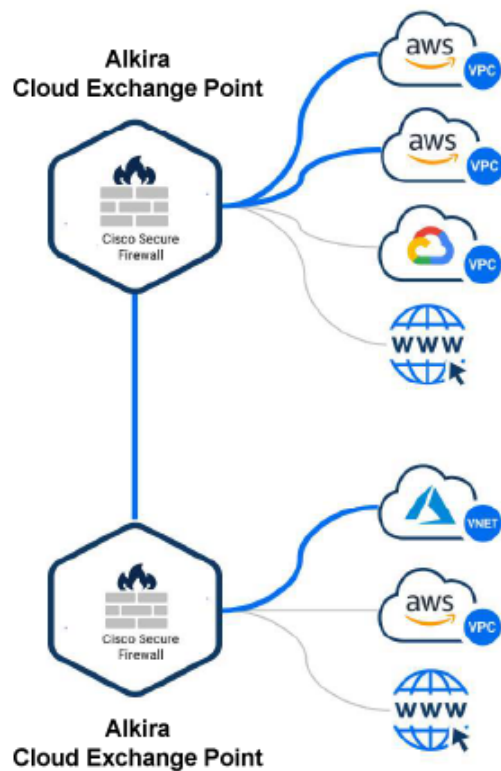


Business Partner Connectivity

Secure cross-segment traffic for partner integration, mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures

Alkira Intent-Based Policy for Multi-Cloud

- **Segment**
Engineering
- **Connectors**
AWS<-> Azure
- **Traffic Match**
All | 6-Tuple | Application
- **Traffic Action**
Send to Cisco Secure Firewall





Business Impact

Organizations implementing this joint solution experience transformative operational benefits:



80% Reduction in network provisioning time



40% Decrease in total cost of ownership



Up to 94% Fewer firewalls needed through intelligent consolidation



99% Faster partner onboarding capabilities

Implementation Advantages

Alkira’s intuitive provisioning process simplifies deployment:

- ✓ Connect to Cisco Secure Firewall Management Center
- ✓ Select licensing model (PAYG or BYOL)
- ✓ Configure auto-scaling parameters
- ✓ Assign security zones for policy enforcement

The platform automatically orchestrates connectivity between firewalls and management systems while continuously monitoring performance to optimize capacity.

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About the Partnership



About Alkira

www.alkira.com delivers Network Infrastructure On-Demand through the industry’s only comprehensive, entirely virtual network infrastructure delivered as-a-service. With Alkira, customers unify clouds, sites, and users in minutes instead of months. One cloud or many. Scale elastically based on business demand with an enterprise-grade network built 100% in the cloud. Agentless. Delivered as-a-service. Move faster. Manage less. Save more.



About Cisco Systems

www.cisco.com is the worldwide leader in technology that powers the Internet. Cisco inspires new possibilities by reimagining applications, securing enterprises, transforming infrastructure, and empowering teams for a global and inclusive future.