

SOLUTION BRIEF

Fortinet and AudioCodes Secure Access Solution for Unified Communications Services

Secure, High-quality, and Resilient Access to Cloud UC Services Over SD-WAN

Executive Summary

Fortinet and AudioCodes have partnered to offer a best-of-breed, secure, high-quality, and resilient access solution for cloud-based unified communications (UC) services over software-defined wide-area networks (SD-WANs). The solution combines the Fortinet FortiGate VM next-generation firewall (NGFW) and the AudioCodes Mediant session border controller (SBC) delivered on AudioCodes' Mediant 800 uCPE versatile appliance.

Challenges

With the promise of lower costs, service elasticity, and rapid deployment, enterprises around the world are moving many of their workloads to the cloud. UC is no exception, but in order for the transition to be successful, enterprises need cost-effective, secure, and resilient cloud access while ensuring high levels of quality of service are maintained.

The Fortinet and AudioCodes joint solution integrates multiple physical WAN access and public switched telephone network (PSTN) gateway technologies with SD-WAN, firewall, and SBC software solutions into a single, robust, and versatile appliance to deliver secure and reliable UC connectivity to any branch office.

Joint Solution

AudioCodes and Fortinet have partnered to deliver an industry-leading cloud access solution to address these challenges. By integrating Fortinet NGFW and SD-WAN technology with AudioCodes' field-proven SBC software on a single, compact uCPE appliance, enterprises can enjoy redundant multi-WAN connectivity and secure access to unified communications services delivered from the cloud.

AudioCodes Mediant 800 uCPE supports a variety of WAN interface methods—including xDSL, copper and fiber Ethernet, and LTE—giving enterprises the flexibility they need to connect any branch-to-cloud communications services. The Mediant SBC software that runs natively on the uCPE ensures seamless connectivity and reliable bring your own carrier (BYOC) for cloud UC and contact center services such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom Phone, and Genesys Cloud contact center. The embedded PSTN gateway supports integration with legacy voice equipment and platforms such as private branch exchanges

(PBXs), analog phones, and fax machines, as well as connectivity with T1/E1 service provider trunks when needed. The Mediant SBC is formally certified by numerous Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) trunk, UC, and contact center providers including Microsoft Teams Direct Routing facilitating on-premises voice connectivity for Teams customers.

Joint Solution Components

- Fortinet FortiGate VM next-generation firewall with SD-WAN
- AudioCodes Mediant 800 uCPE cloud edge device
- AudioCodes Mediant session border controller software

Joint Solution Benefits

- Single uCPE delivering secure edge demarcation and multiple UC and data services
- Flexible, integrated WAN access methods
- Best-of-breed solution combining market-leading SBC and firewall solutions
- Reliable, redundant multi-WAN access to cloud UC services such as Microsoft Teams



Joint Solution Components

AudioCodes Mediant 800 uCPE is a versatile edge device that enables reliable and secure connectivity with cloud UC services along with cost-effective SD-WAN support. With the integrated Mediant session border controller and PSTN media gateway, the Mediant 800 uCPE ensures seamless connectivity with UC and legacy voice platforms whether they are located on-premises or in the cloud.

The Mediant 800 uCPE includes an integrated Intel server module that can run multiple third-party virtual network functions (VNFs) such as Fortinet FortiGate VM to deliver the most enterprise communications services from a single device.

The Fortinet FortiGate VM next-generation firewall (NGFW) virtual appliance provides industry-leading multi-cloud security and high-performance threat protection. FortiGate VM offers a consistent security posture and protects connectivity across public and private clouds, while high-speed VPN connections protect data. FortiGate VM shares the same advanced features of the FortiGate NGFW, enabling and enforcing security policies across all environments and providing single-pane-of-glass management.

FortiGate VM ensures complete application security and secure connectivity by augmenting microsegmentation with advanced L7 security. Fortinet also delivers Secure SD-WAN as an integrated feature of the FortiGate, to enable better application experience, higher performance, and better cost-efficiency. The Fortinet solution boosts application performance through instant identification and intelligent routing. Fortinet Secure SD-WAN integrates enhanced SD-WAN features with proven security capabilities, delivering security-driven networking that improves efficiency and connectivity without compromising protection.

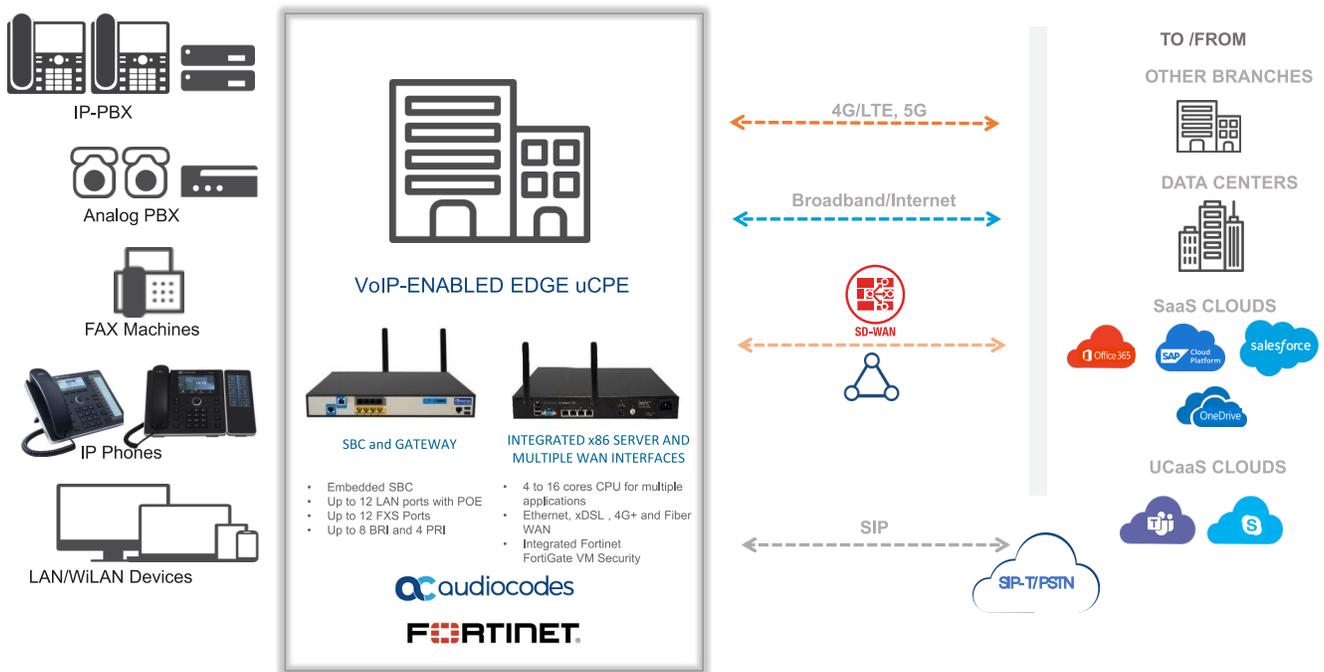


Figure 1: Solution Components



Joint Use Cases

Reliable Cloud UC Access for Multisite Enterprises

Enterprises with multiple sites benefit from having a single device that can be deployed at any location and offer unified functionality, security, and reliability regardless of the access technology available. Retail chain stores, banks, car dealerships, and any other businesses that value the security of its data, the quality of every voice and video call, and the ability to control WAN costs and manage all appliances from a single location will benefit from this unique solution at all their offices.

About AudioCodes

AudioCodes Ltd. (NASDAQ, TASE: AUDC) is a leading vendor of advanced communications software, products and productivity solutions for the digital workplace. AudioCodes enables enterprises and service providers to build and operate all-IP voice networks for unified communications, contact centers, and hosted business services. AudioCodes offers a broad range of innovative products, solutions and services that are used by large multi-national enterprises and leading tier-1 operators around the world. For more information on AudioCodes, visit <http://www.audiocodes.com>.



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