zpe®

Palo Alto Networks and ZPE Systems

Boost Edge Resilience with a Consolidated, Multifunctional Solution

Benefits of the Integration

Together, Palo Alto Networks Prisma® SD-WAN and ZPE Systems' Nodegrid devices offer improved reliability for Prisma SD-WAN deployments. This integration allows you to bring greater security and control to your edge networks for a complete SD-WAN or SD-Branch solution, so you can:

- Get security, networking, and out-of-band access on a single scalable solution
- Rapidly diagnose and restore services at any time, from anywhere
- Boost resilience with 5G/4G/LTE for primary and failover paths for production traffic and out-of-band access
- Streamline deployment, configuration, and management with a fast and secure cloud platform

The Challenge

Traditional wide area network (WAN) architectures make it difficult to migrate to a cloud-based edge networking architecture. In addition, at distributed locations, organizations are required to deploy hardware and software that can accommodate various infrastructure solutions, which can add to their stacks and make management difficult.

Once a cloud-based branch infrastructure is established, businesses need to ensure they can securely manage their networks and provide reliable backup connectivity throughout the entire enterprise. To do so, they need a consolidated solution that delivers all these capabilities and scales efficiently.

ZPE Systems

ZPE Systems' Nodegrid family of hardware and software allows you to deploy a fully customized environment—from the data center to the branch and everywhere in between. Nodegrid devices offer powerful internal components for a robust open platform to run virtualized functions (VNFs) and directly host third-party applications of your choice.

Branch networking no longer consists of cumbersome hardware stacks and expensive on-site support. Nodegrid's all-in-one appliances eliminate the need for repeat hardware

purchases, even for high availability environments, and allow you to customize further with add-on modules for compute, serial, Ethernet, and other capabilities. Coupled with built-in management software, you can see and control all of your branch networks by gaining secure access via your web browser. Deploy, scale, and manage on your terms using ZPE Systems' Nodegrid.

Palo Alto Networks

With more and more users, branch offices, data, and services located outside the perimeter, traditional network security appliances organizations need a cloud-based infrastructure that converges networking and network security capabilities. Palo Alto Networks Prisma Access, combined with Prisma SD-WAN, is the industry's leading secure access service edge (SASE) solution, helping organizations embrace cloud and mobility by providing networking and network security services from the cloud.

Prisma Access provides consistent security services and access to cloud applications (including public cloud, private cloud, and SaaS applications), delivered through a common framework for a seamless user experience. Whether at corporate headquarters, branch offices, retail locations, or on the road, all users connect to Prisma Access to safely use the cloud, data center applications, and the internet. Prisma SD-WAN provides a simple, cost-effective approach by offering the industry's first next-generation SD-WAN solution that is app-defined, autonomous, and cloud-delivered.

Palo Alto Networks and ZPE Systems

Together, Palo Alto Networks and ZPE Systems offer reliable distributed networking coupled with comprehensive branch management. This integration provides cloud-based flexibility at the edge, enabling customers to break free from the limitations of legacy WAN architectures.

Pairing Prisma SD-WAN with Nodegrid appliances, customers can achieve a compact yet robust networking stack. In addition, because Nodegrid devices feature multiple interfaces and support VNFs, customers can deploy both physical and virtual Prisma SD-WAN solutions.
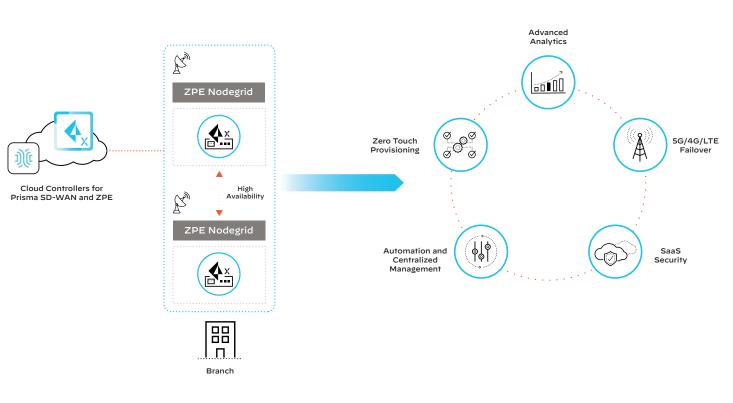
Figure 1: Prisma SD-WAN and Nodegrid integration

This partnership offers peace of mind for SD-WAN and SD-Branch implementations at the edge without adding to the networking stack. Prisma SD-WAN delivers proven traffic routing, supports automation, and enables a cloud-based branch while Nodegrid's built-in 5G/4G/LTE supports primary as well as secondary network paths and adds resilience with integrated out-of-band access and management. As a result, joint customers can gain visibility and control into distributed networks, maintain uptime, and get always-ready access, whether to adjust SD-WAN priorities or troubleshoot the high availability environment.

Prisma SD-WAN supports rich API integrations, and Nodegrid allows customers to directly host applications. These features allow customers to further tailor their WAN and LAN deployments to their business requirements. Deploying, scaling, and managing the cloud-delivered branch is simple with this consolidated solution.

Use Case 1: Services Company Achieves Consistent Connectivity

Challenge

A major North American oil and gas provider began its digital transformation by securing its network as well as addressing connectivity challenges for offshore platforms and remote drilling rigs. Remote branch offices not equipped with real estate for large hardware stacks required consolidated, compact appliances that could provide a comprehensive SD-WAN solution. Along with advanced SD-WAN capabilities to provide dynamic traffic steering, the company needed a path of last resort for failover and out-of-band management to enable round-the-clock visibility and control over these remote branches.

Solution

Following rigorous proof-of-concept trials, the company deployed Prisma SD-WAN hosted directly as a virtual machine on Nodegrid devices. The resulting remote branch network could be centrally administered using the Prisma SD-WAN cloud controller through Nodegrid's out-of-band management path, providing centralized visibility and control over network and application performance. Consistent connectivity for business-critical applications came via the LTE/cellular link, the path of last resort that offered reliable backup for all network paths—including for redundant, high availability, and out-of-band management connections.

Use Case 2: Global Technology Company Deploys Cost-Effective Solution

Challenge

A global technology company, with a distributed presence that includes large branch offices, remote locations, and teleworkers, sought to simplify its WAN network as part of digital transformation. The existing legacy architecture was complex, consisting of multiple point products and CLI-based operations. Centralized management and out-of-band access were primary goals for transformation, and to achieve these, the company needed a consolidated WAN edge that could seamlessly integrate security, SD-WAN, and networking.

Solution

After validating several solutions, the company's IT infrastructure team selected Prisma SD-WAN to deploy directly on ZPE Systems' Nodegrid Services Router. By consolidating security, SD-WAN, and networking onto a single device,

the company reduced its infrastructure's complexity and operational costs. With built-in cellular providing consistent connectivity to remote branch locations, the IT team could instantly monitor and troubleshoot problems. This resulted in time and cost savings, as issues could be identified and resolved remotely. The company's IT burden decreased dramatically despite limited staff, with support tickets able to be closed in half the time previously required.

Learn more about how Prisma SD-WAN can help your digital transformation at paloaltonetworks.com/prisma/sd-wan.

About ZPE Systems

ZPE Systems frees enterprises from today's networking challenges. Cumbersome environments, frequent downtime, and inefficient management are no match for ZPE Systems' Nodegrid, a vendor-neutral platform that lays the groundwork for open networking. Created by visionary engineers, Nodegrid's patented hardware & software empower companies to transform their networks into business value creators.

ZPE collaborates with best-in-class technology partners, to add value by integrating with SD-WAN, firewall, IoT, and other solutions. The world's top companies trust ZPE Systems to provide advanced out-of-band management, Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) platforms, and SD-Branch networking. It's our mission to take the work out of networking. For more information, please visit www.zpesystems.com.

Palo Alto Networks

Palo Alto Networks, the global cybersecurity leader, is shaping the cloud-centric future with technology that is transforming the way people and organizations operate. Our mission is to be the cybersecurity partner of choice, protecting our digital way of life. For more information, visit www.paloaltonetworks.com.