Zero-Trust with VMware vDefend



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Current Threat Landscape









Source 1 – 2022 VMware Global Threat Report, Source 2 - 2023 Verizon Data Breach Investigation report, 3 – 2023 IBM Cost of Data Breach Report

Whaten to Security And titeral Approaches for Lateral Security





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Securing Just at the Perimeter Isn't Enough



You should be worried about Lateral Security





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Common Type of Attack Vectors





Perimeter Security is Inadequate



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Perimeter Security is Inadequate If the perimeter is breached, the attacker has free movement within the datacenter





Perimeter Security is Inadequate DFW can be configured to allow traffic only between VMs that need to communicate for org needs



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Perimeter Security is Inadequate Should the perimeter be breached, this limits the scope and contains the lateral movement of the attacker





Multi-layer Defense-in-Depth Protection Enables Zero Trust





Fully Integrated Security Stack





VMware vDefend Distributed Firewall



Elastic Throughput Distributed Architecture Rich API

L2-L4 Firewall L7 Application Inspection Identity-Based Malicious IP Filtering

Dynamic/Static Grouping Flexible Matching Criteria Optimized Configuration



Vmware vDefend Gateway Security

Next Generation Edge Gateway Firewall



- Gateway Firewall is a centralized service and needs the Service Router (SR) component of the Gateway
- 2. The Gateway Firewall can be implemented on the NSX-T Edge Node in both:
 - VM form factor
 - Bare Metal form factor



VMware vDefend Gateway Security

Next Generation Edge Gateway Firewall - Key Capabilities

Stateful L3-L4 Firewall

L7 Application Identity Addition of > 750 APP-IDs

Intrusion Prevention & Detection (IPS/IDS)

Behavioral & Lua script-based signatures

Malware Detection including Sandboxing Known and day0 malware

TLS Inspection (TLS Decryption)

Identify attacks in encrypted traffic

User-ID Firewalling for Physical Servers Identity Firewall with Event Log Scraping

URL Filtering URL category and reputation-based

FQDN Analysis Visibility into user and Application Internet Usage

Stateful Active/Active

Horizontal scale out for higher throughput

NAT, IPSec VPN, L2 VPN, dynamic Routing



Advanced Threat Prevention



Elastic Throughput Distributed Architecture Rich API

IDS/IPS NTA Malware Prevention Virtual Patching

Context-Based Threat Detection Curated Signature Distribution



VMware vDefend Security Platform (Security Intelligence) From Visibility to Insights



App Flow Visibility

- Contextual visibility color codes flows with Segmentation rules
- Eliminates blind spots with comprehensive Visibility Into Flows and Posture with Full Visibility to E-W Traffic
- Enhanced Context Provides visibility to process and application visibility with L7 context



Analytics and Automation

Uses NSX Inventory and Config to detect unprotected flows, workloads and applications to provide high fidelity rule recommendation

- Reuses existing groups or services
- L7 Recommendation



AI/ML Driven Anomaly Detection

Behavioral detection of suspicious activity threat based on traffic patterns



Transformational Network and Security Analytics

Bolted-on versus Built-in Model for Analytics



Duplicate/Mirror traffic to Analytics solutions

High Capex and Opex implications

Limited coverage due to performance and cost implications

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Analytics (Flows, IDS, DPI) done on each compute No Network Changes, Taps and Packet Brokers

Complete network coverage

VMC



Secure workloads with DFW and GFW

NSX Tier 1 router per tenant, enforcing security and resource limits

Unified cloud and on-prem security portfolio

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VMware Cloud Disaster Recovery



Protected Sites - and the policies that provide the coverage of your production workloads whether they are in on-premises data center locations or running in other VMC SDDCs

Scale-out Cloud File System (SCFS) - that provides the immutable, off-site recovery points for effecting the desired site failover, managed by a separate Orchestrator UI running as a service in VMware Cloud

VMC Recovery SDDC - the DR site in the cloud - for running workloads when the Protected Site has experienced a disaster



VMware vDefend Benefits Extend to Bare-metal





Filter ingress and egress traffic to and from the physical workload

Stateful Layer 4 Firewall with OVS-Based NSX Agent inside Bare-metal OS

Unified policy management for Virtual and Physical Workloads



Traditional Perimeter Security vs VMware vDefend

Traditional Firewall	VMware Firewall	
Protect Perimeter Traffic	Virtual DMZ and Internal Traffic	
HW Appliance-based Architecture	Distributed Architecture	
Hard to scale	Elastic	
IP-based rules – complex to manage	Tag-based rules – easy to manage	
Higher TCO	Lower TCO	



Traditional Firewall



Network Design dictated and performance by security requirements

Sub-optimal traffic patterns

East/West traffic cannot be subjected to security policy

Limited visibility into East/West traffic patterns



Distributed Firewall and Gateway Firewall



East/West traffic secured at vNIC with DFW

GFW extends security to physical infrastructure and provides defense in-depth approach

Visibility into East/West traffic with Security Intelligence

IDS/IPS, L2-L7 features provided across fabric



Agent-Based Solutions vs VMware vDefend

Agent-Based	VMware Firewall	
Host OS Security Dependent	Built into the Hypervisor	
Susceptible to workload compromises	Unaffected by workload compromises	
Competes with application resources	Application resources unaffected	
L3 to L4 functionality	L2 to L7 functionality	
Limited to segmentation	Full ransomware protection	



Agent Based Distributed Approaches Are not Secure





Antrea + vDefend = Better Together



Segmentation Use-Cases



vDefend Distributed Firewall and Gateway Firewall

• SIEM	 Automotive 	



Secure Infrastructure Secure Virtual Zones Secure Apps Compliance



Secure Infrastructure

Secure Virtual Zones

Secure Apps

Compliance



Secure Infrastructure Secure Virtual Zones Secure Apps Compliance



Secure Infrastructure Secure Virtual Zones Secure Apps Compliance

Lateral Security in a Brownfield Environment












Vmware Distributed Firewall Use Cases



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Vmware Distributed Firewall Use Cases



Physical and Virtual Infrastructure coexist in the datacenter

All traffic between Physical and Virtual Infrastructure will need to be hairpinned to perimeter FW



Gateway Firewall is a service available on the NSX Gateway

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Gateway Firewall is a service available on the NSX Gateway

GFW rules leverage tags to enforce firewall policies between virtual machines and physical servers



Gateway Firewall is critical to protect N<->S Traffic



Inter Tenant Filtering using GFW

Gateway security for zoning with network virtualization



GFW can be leveraged to implement multiple zones/tenants within an Enterprise or for a Service Provider

GFW rules can be configured to allow traffic between zones that are required to communicate and block all other traffic.

GFW continues to protect all Outbound Traffic from all the tenants.

Additional Layer of Security that can be used in conjunction with DFW for Defense in Depth

Inter-WLD Filtering using GFW

Gateway security for WLD zoning



GFW can be leveraged to implement multiple zones/tenants within an VCF domain

Mgmt WLD Persona sets GFW rules to allow traffic between WLD that are required to communicate and block all other traffic.(IP based)

VI WLD Personas can configure additional GFW rules on their own WLD

VI WLD Personas can provide an additional Layer of Security (intra) with DFW, Distributed IDPS, Malware Prevention for Defense in Depth

Lateral Security in a Greenfield Environment

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Development of a new application



Segmentation

Tying the lifecycle of a security policy to the lifecycle of an application



Securing Virtual Infrastructure Workload Domains

Highlighted Use Cases

Secure Zones	Secure Apps	Ransomware Protection & Threat Investigation
Gateway or Distributed	DFW and Security Intelligence	Advanced Threat Prevention
Firewall Between WLDs or within a WLD	Minimize the blast radius/attack surface	Prevent exploits and extend patching cycles with Virtual Patching
Create network-based or network-agnostic zones/environments (i.e. dev/test/prod/compliance)	Zero-Trust model for Network Security	Detect & Prevent evasive malware Prioritize and correlate threats into actionable campaigns
	Align security policy lifecycle with application lifecycle	
Isolated zones or provide controlled zone access		

Security across Sites with NSX Federation

Lateral Security Tools



Legacy Firewall Policy



Manual updates for workload additions and removal



Tag-Based Firewall Policy



Optimized Policy



Group Membership Options



Dynamic and Static Group Membership

Lateral Security Quick Wins



Segmentation VDI security automation



Segmentation Security for Legacy Operating Systems



Segmentation Known Unsecure Protocols - The problem





Segmentation Identity Firewall - VDI and RDSH to App Control







Internal VMware Customer Study: DICE ROI and Value Modeling

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Better Security, Compelling Savings



No network changes

Easily segment your network in software



No blind spots

Advanced threat prevention for every hop



Operationally simple

Rule recommendations & policy automation

