

Delivering secure, software-defined remote access



Earlier the corporate network was relatively simple, and the applications resided inside the organization's perimeter. The corporate network was confined and easier to secure. Users accessing the network were provided a secure connection through on-premise VPN solutions. But with the introduction of cloud,

infrastructure became borderless and the corporate network got extended to the internet. Users can now access the applications from anywhere and on any device. VPNs backhaul traffic through a data center just to access apps running in cloud. This means a poor user experience and an increase in MPLS costs. Gartner

recommends that enterprises adopt a Zero-Trust Network Access (ZTNA) service instead. Remote access VPNs worked well in the network-centric world, but in the age of cloud and mobility, application access must be independent of the network.

Challenges



Expensive to deploy (appliance costs) and complex to manage (operations costs)



Complex ACLs/NAC (security issues) to manage access



App access requires a user to be on the network – broad attack surface (security)



Internal apps or VPNs are exposed to the Internet – a DDoS target (security)



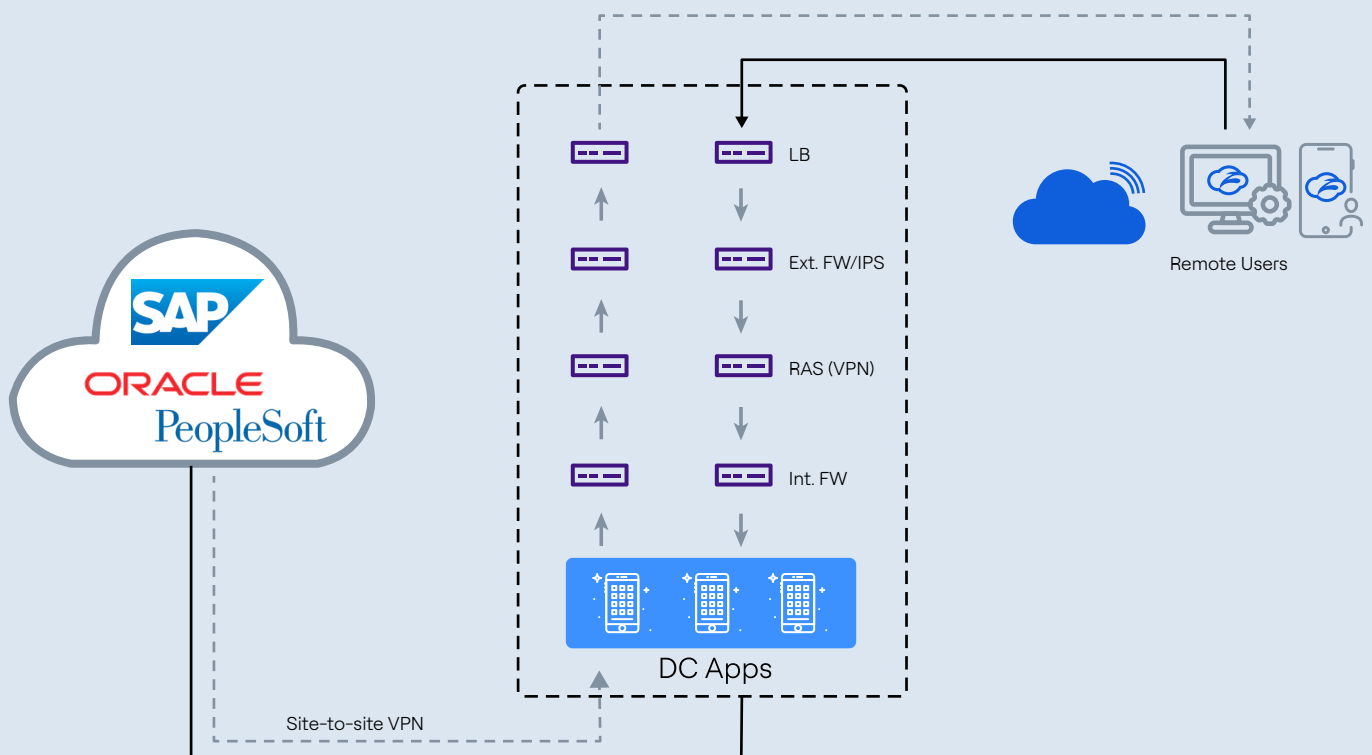
Backhaul over internal network adds to the latency and results in poor user experience



User must remember to start VPN and must select a VPN gateway



Network flap requires re-login to VPN



Our solution

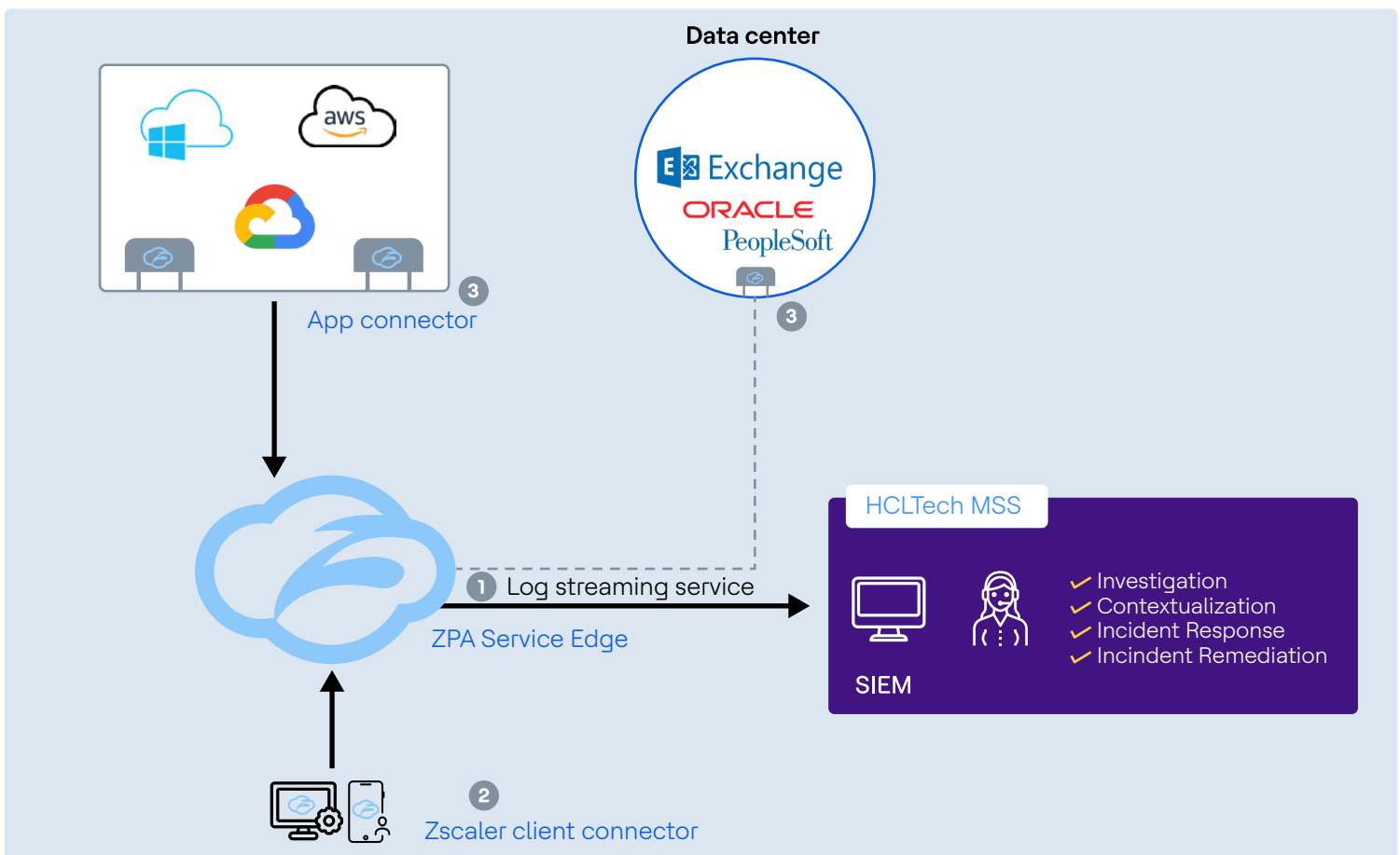
HCLTech' solution is based on the fact that the internet should be made available as a secure network without the need for a traditional VPN, and the corporate network should not be extended to remote users.

In addition, internal application must be invisible and not exposed to the internet where micro-segmented access from user to application is provided.

Hence HCLTech recommends the clients to have a remote-access solution that utilizes a zero-trust strategy, where only authorized users are given access to the applications and not to the complete network. This makes the user experience better as they can swiftly and seamlessly access the respective applications irrespective of their location.

Such access to internal

applications is provided by a software-defined solution, powered by Zscaler Private Access. When an authorized user requests access to an internal application, the Zscaler policy engine enables a lightweight, application layer-based tunnel through the Zscaler cloud. This tunnel is an encrypted channel and protects the application access from any kind of man-in-the-middle attack or unauthorized access.



Solution features

Zscaler Private Access

- Access is application specific, with no need to define policy by IP address or ACL
- Internal applications are invisible to users, unless users are authorized to access them
- No user-to-network access. Users have direct access only to specific applications, and each application session has its own micro-tunnel

HCLTech Managed Services

- Easier and faster deployment
- Simplified authentication mechanism
- Real-time monitoring and incident response for threats
- Policies maintained on an application level and not at network level

Value delivered

- Based on zero-trust model
- Magnitude savings in total cost of ownership versus traditional on-premise point products
- Traffic remains private via internet network
- Users receive better experience accessing applications even in hybrid and multi-cloud environments
- Per user – Per app granular access based on policies
- Real-time visibility with 24*7 managed services powered through HCLTech CSFCs (CyberSecurity Fusion Centres)

Client success story

One of the world's largest investment management firm, with a sales footprint across UK, North America, Asia and Europe



Customer challenge

- Private applications hosted in DC and/or cloud which need to be accessed by corporate users and partners
- High number of users accessing from remote locations
- Movement of applications to public cloud resulted in remote users first accessing the DC via VPN and then routed to cloud



HCLTech Solution:

- Improved user experience. Same solution irrespective of where the apps are hosted
- Simplified management with real time visibility
- No CAPEX involved
- Users and devices never allowed on the network
- Faster deployment



Benefits:

- Cost of hardware installation and management reduced by 55%
- Remote user experience improved by 70%
- Reduction in the threats posed by remote access vulnerabilities

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