

SOLUTION BRIEF

Fortinet and Criterion Networks Security Solution

SaaS Environment Purpose-Built for Collaborative Virtual Network Design, Validation, and Automation of Fortinet Solutions

Executive Summary

Fortinet solutions are integrated and available on the Criterion SDCloud® platform for rapid Day-0 design and validation exercises, automated Day-1 deployments, and assured Day-2 operations, accelerating the enterprise network transformation and modernization needs of Fortinet enterprise customers.

Service providers and enterprises are rapidly transforming their networks and service infrastructures. The transformation is fueled by an ever-growing adoption of cloud services, a rapid shift to cloud-native application architectures, and a full embrace of distributed workforces.

For many, this is new ground. To get there, network architects, engineers, and operations teams need environments to design, test, and validate new networks and technologies before rollouts and upgrades. This is exactly what the Criterion SDCloud Design Center provides.

Solution Description

Criterion SDCloud is an all-in-one platform for Day-0 designs, Day-1 deployments, and Day-2 operations. At the heart of the Criterion SDCloud Design Center is a multi-user virtual network lab platform coupled with an intuitive drag-and-drop canvas for rapid Day-0 design and validation exercises, automated Day-1 deployments, and assured Day-2 operations. The platform allows architects and engineers to collaboratively design, validate, deploy, and operate new network technologies inside a virtual sandbox environment before deploying to production environments. The vendor-agnostic platform supports Fortinet technologies, including SD-WAN, security, edge and multi-cloud networking, NetOps, and SecOps.

The Criterion SDCloud Design Center generates a fully operational virtual infrastructure that can be connected to physical labs, product network elements, and public cloud resources. With the platform, organizations can preserve existing investments while introducing new capabilities and safeguards to reduce business interruptions by testing and gaining confidence with new networking and security technologies, policies, and releases before production rollouts.

Criterion Networks and Fortinet have partnered to deliver an industry-leading solution. Integrating the Criterion SDCloud product and Fortinet solutions, enabled through the Fabric-Ready Program in the Fortinet Open Ecosystem, delivers enterprise security design, validation, and sandboxing capabilities for Fortinet offerings.



Solution Components

- FortiAnalyzer, FortiGate
- Criterion SDCloud® Platform
- FortiManager

Solution Benefits

- Design validation tools
- Network design canvas
- Multi-tenanted with admin users
- Integrates with CSPs, middle mile providers
- Integrates with security and monitoring SaaS platforms
- Facilitates group design activity
- Built-in automation
- Multi-user and multi-vendor



Solution Components

The Criterion SDCloud platform is Criterion’s flagship SaaS product for on-demand and custom design, experience, and learning environments to accelerate the transformation of network infrastructure and services.

The platform’s Design Center is geared toward network planning teams to accelerate the design and deployment of new multi-cloud software-defined architectures, while the Experience Center serves as a complement to advanced network sandbox environments to quickly and effectively evaluate new technologies and architectures. And the Learning Center offers a library of instructor-led and self-paced on-demand workshops ideal for Learning and Development and Sales Enablement teams to accelerate onboarding and knowledge transfer exercises.

Fortinet networking and security solutions are now available on Criterion SDCloud for on-demand and custom design, experience, and learning environments to accelerate Fortinet customers’ and partners’ transformation and enablement needs. Customers greatly benefit from on-demand and custom design, deployment, training, demo, and PoC capabilities, accelerating network transformation initiatives and shortening sales cycles and deployment times while lowering cost structures.

Fortinet is the pioneer of secure networking, delivering flawless convergence that can scale to any location: remote office, branch, campus, data center, and cloud. Fortinet FortiGate Next-Generation Firewalls (NGFWs) deliver comprehensive visibility and enterprise security to protect any user, device, or edge at any location in various form factors, including container firewalls, virtual firewalls, and appliances. FortiGate Firewalls NGFWs deliver industry-leading enterprise security for any edge at any scale with full visibility and threat protection. A single operating system, FortiOS, provides a unified security and management framework across all form factors and edges, supporting hybrid environments in a consistent and coordinated way. Organizations can weave security deep into the hybrid IT architecture and build secure networks to deliver ultra-fast security end-to-end, enable consistent real-time defense with AI/ML-powered FortiGuard Services, achieve seamless user experience with security processing units, and improve operational efficiency and automate workflows.

Solution Integration

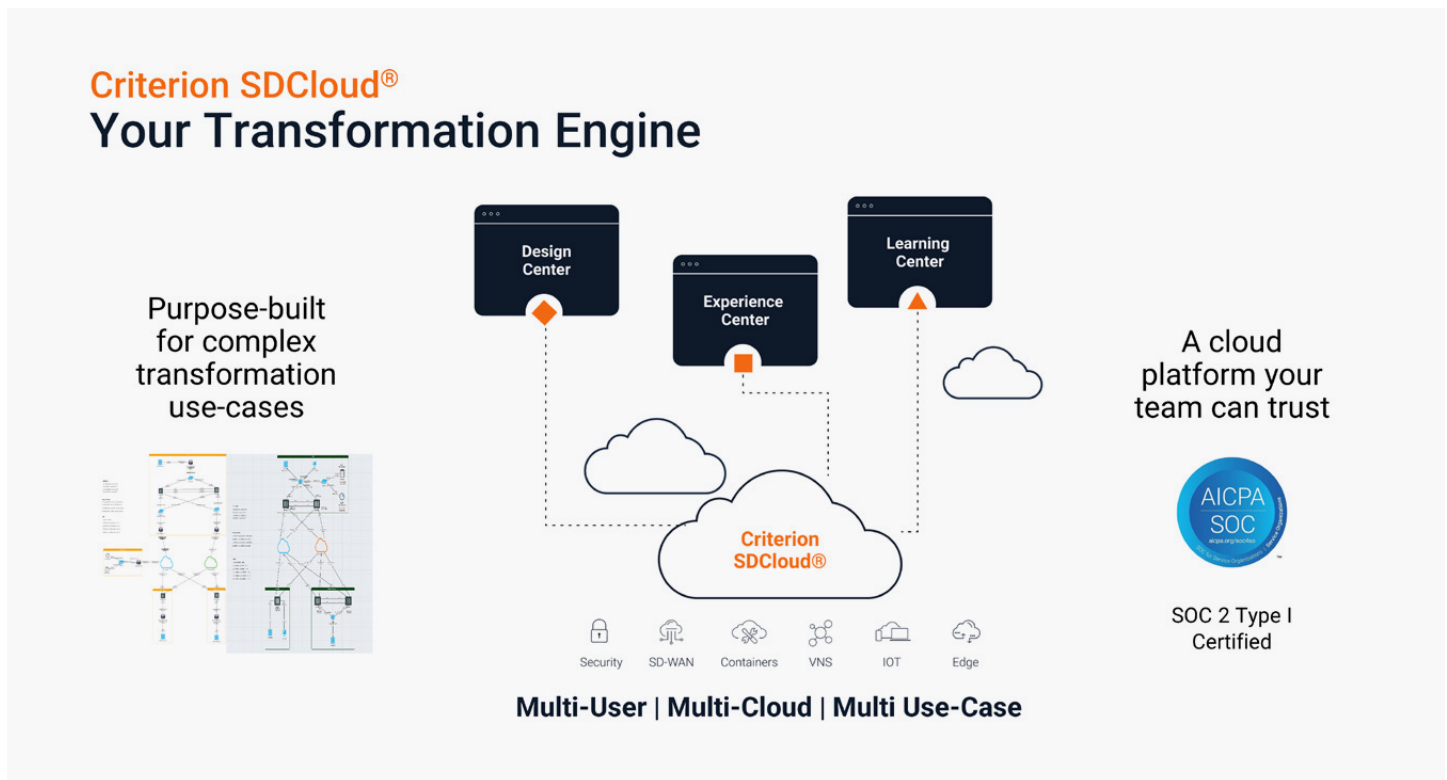


Figure 1: Criterion SDCloud overview

Sample Use Cases

Use case #1: Design your custom network environment.

Provides plan, design, and test environment to meet all design and validation needs. Solution architects and network engineers use these capabilities to design custom networks for proofs-of-concept, feature parity testing, building deployment scenarios, and Day-2 problem reproduction and troubleshooting.

Use case #2: Save time and increase deployment confidence.

Once a deal is closed, both the enterprise and the enterprise' deployment services provider wait for hardware to be delivered at the sites to get started on the network engineering and implementation project. It could be a lot of lost time on the project. This interim period could be constructively used with a virtualized environment to create testbeds quickly to help the solution architects and design assurance teams to have working meetings on various mid/low-level design discussions and decisions without dependency on physical devices. This would save time to deploy and ensure the best possible success with the network deployment.

Use case #3: Multi-use "golden" sandboxes.

Various validated network designs can be available on-demand as "golden" sandboxes for network engineering, professional services, and training teams. These prescriptive/standard solution environments would help improve the teams' productivity and capabilities.

About Criterion Networks

Criterion Networks is a cloud company providing hosted enablement services to service providers and enterprises globally to accelerate the transformation of network infrastructure and services. Service providers rely on Criterion Networks to deliver results faster with environments for new service creation, go-to-market execution, and operations. Enterprise customers depend on us to achieve outcomes faster with environments to evaluate products and technologies, design new networks, and upskill and reskill staff. Today, our immensely capable Criterion SDCloud® platform services customers globally transforming networks with leading technologies including SD-WAN, Security, Observability, Multi-Cloud/SDCI, Edge Computing and 5G.



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