SD-WAN Managed Services

SD-WAN Managed Services are a specific use case for a MEF Third Network service using overlay networking technologies to deliver agile, assured and orchestrated application-driven connectivity services. Also, SD-WANs can operate over Internet access connections, enabling off-net sites to be quickly added to the SD-WAN without establishing interconnect agreements with off-net access providers.

As described in MEF White Paper: MEF 3.0 SD-WAN Services, SD-WANs have the following key characteristics:

1. Provide a secure, IP-based virtual overlay networks that typically uses IPSec tunnels over Internet or MPLS underlay networks.
2. Are transport-independent of the underlying network, operating over any type of wireline or wireless access network.
3. Provide service assurance of each SD-WAN tunnel.
4. Provide application-driven packet forwarding, performing application-level classification (up to OSI Layer 7) at the customer premises.
5. Provide high availability through multiple WANs, supporting packet forwarding over one or more WANs at each site.
6. Use policies to make application forwarding (or blocking) decisions for SD-WANs tunnels over each WAN.
7. Achieve service automation via centralized management, control, and orchestration of SD-WAN tunnels with automatic configuration of SD-WAN customer premises equipment.
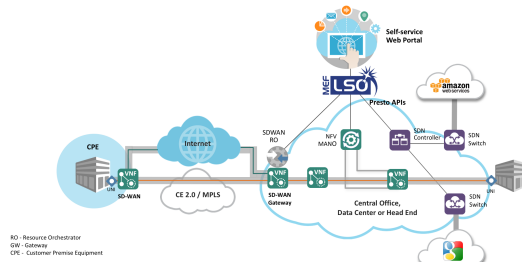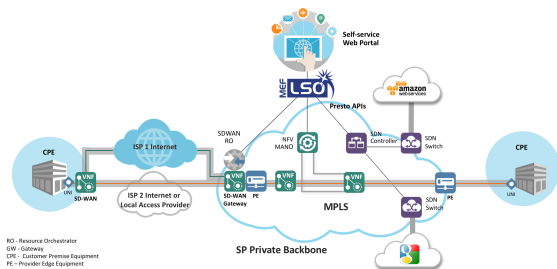8. Often deliver WAN optimization as a value-added service.

Example(s)

Managed Hybrid/Internet WAN

In the Managed Hybrid/Internet WAN use case, the Service Provider manages the SD-WAN on behalf of the Subscriber. There can be multiple active links in addition to the backup link. Those multiple links can be private to the Subscriber, hybrid private + Internet or Internet only. Also, the links can be sourced from a combination of Service Provider, third party Operator or the Subscriber.

Managed Off-Net to On-Net

In the Managed Off-Net to On-Net use case, the Service Provider manages the SD-WAN on behalf of the Subscriber in order to achieve OTT from off-net sites to on-net sites. Single or dual Internet links are supported, as well as Internet + Partner Private.

Peering Across Providers

In the Peering Across Providers use case, the SD-WAN Access Provider peers with other Service Providers for global access and reachability.

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