Cognizant's managed zero trust SASE offering for manufacturing vertical—powered by Palo Alto Networks

Industry overview

The manufacturing industry is transforming with the integration of IoT, AI and automation, leading to the rise of smart factories and enhanced operational efficiency. This digital evolution drives improvements in productivity and agility, while also requiring significant investment in infrastructure and workforce training. At the same time, manufacturers must address the complexities of integrating legacy systems with modern technologies, managing global supply chains, ensuring regulatory compliance and maintaining consistent quality across regions.

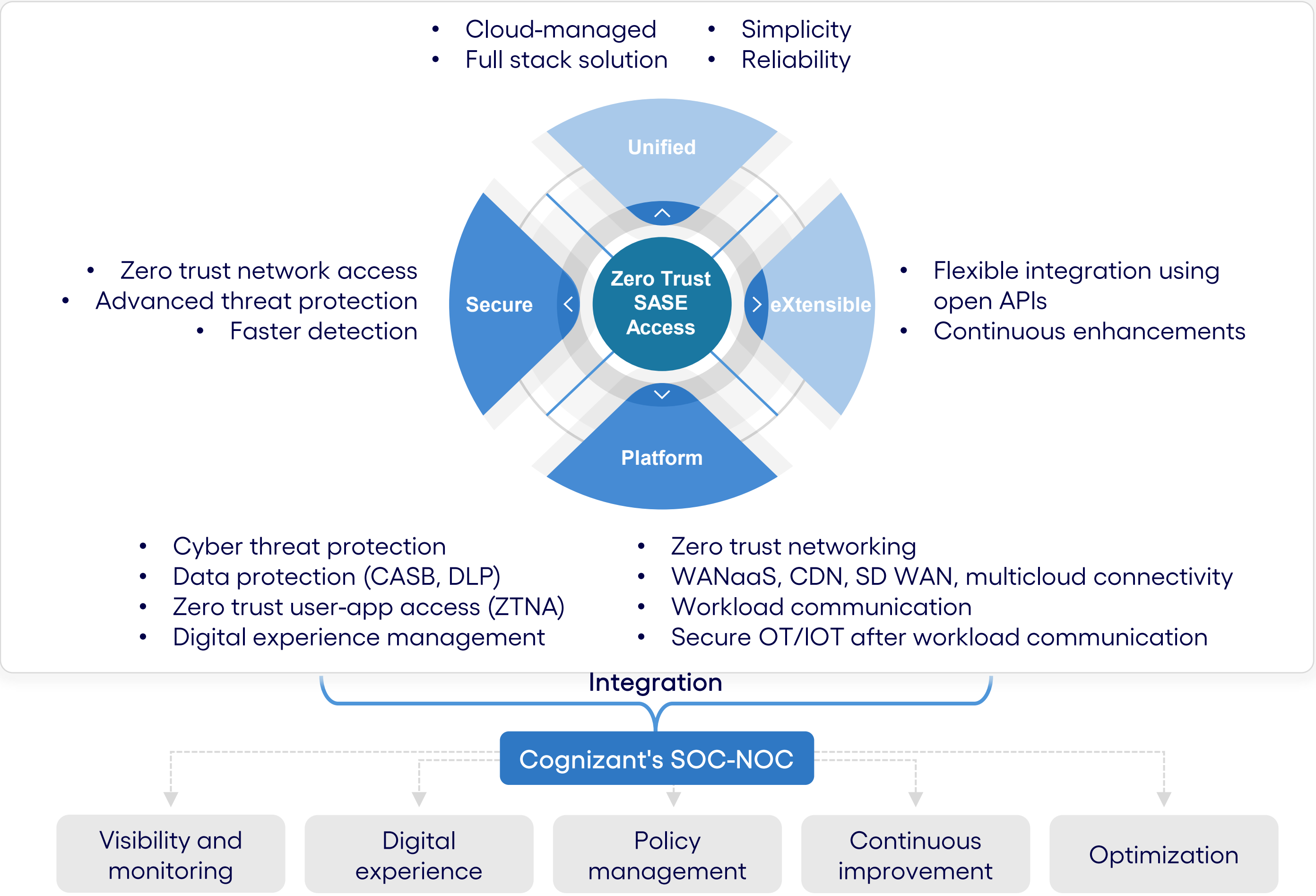
Key challenges:

- Legacy infrastructure: Outdated systems expose organizations to sophisticated threats
- Remote and hybrid work: Secure remote access is crucial, especially for IT and OT systems in industrial settings
- System integration: Combining IT and OT systems creates vulnerabilities in previously isolated environments
- Access management: Ensuring only authorized individuals can access critical systems is vital
- Supply chain vulnerabilities: Weak third-party defenses can compromise interconnected networks
- Cybersecurity skills gap: Shortage of skilled professionals leaves businesses vulnerable.

Solution

Cognizant delivers a customized Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) solution for the manufacturing industry, integrating zero trust principles with cloud-native security powered by Palo Alto Networks. This approach ensures secure, seamless access to cloud applications and IoT environments, while enabling advanced threat prevention, real-time visibility and centralized policy management. By leveraging Palo Alto Networks' robust security capabilities, the solution strengthens supply chain protection, simplifies Palo Alto Networks architecture and enhances performance across globally distributed facilities supporting secure, agile, and scalable manufacturing operations.

Cognizant's managed zero trust SASE solution



- Cloud-managed
- Full stack solution
- Simplicity
- Reliability

- Zero trust network access
- Advanced threat protection
- Faster detection

- Flexible integration using open APIs
- Continuous enhancements

- Cyber threat protection
- Data protection (CASB, DLP)
- Zero trust user-app access (ZTNA)
- Digital experience management

- Zero trust networking
- WANaaS, CDN, SD WAN, multicloud connectivity
- Workload communication
- Secure OT/IOT after workload communication

Key capabilities:

- Secure web access: Enables safe browsing and secure use of SaaS applications through advanced threat prevention, URL filtering and SSL decryption. This capability is delivered via Prisma® Access Secure Web Gateway (SWG), which provides inline protection against web-based threats.
- Zero trust remote access: Ensures secure, identity and context-aware access to internal applications without exposing them to the internet. This is powered by Prisma Access Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA), which enforces least-privilege access by connecting users directly to applications.
- Data Loss Prevention (DLP): Prevents unauthorized sharing or leakage of sensitive enterprise and manufacturing data across web, SaaS, and private apps. This capability is integrated into Prisma Access and Prisma SaaS through Palo Alto Networks enterprise DLP solution, offering both inline and API-based protection
- Browser isolation: Protects endpoints from malicious web content by executing web sessions in a remote, cloud-based environment. This is achieved through Prisma Browser, which isolates browsing activity and enforces granular access controls
- DDoS Protection: Detects and mitigates distributed denial-of-service attacks to maintain application and service availability. This protection is embedded within Prisma Access and enhanced by advanced threat prevention capabilities

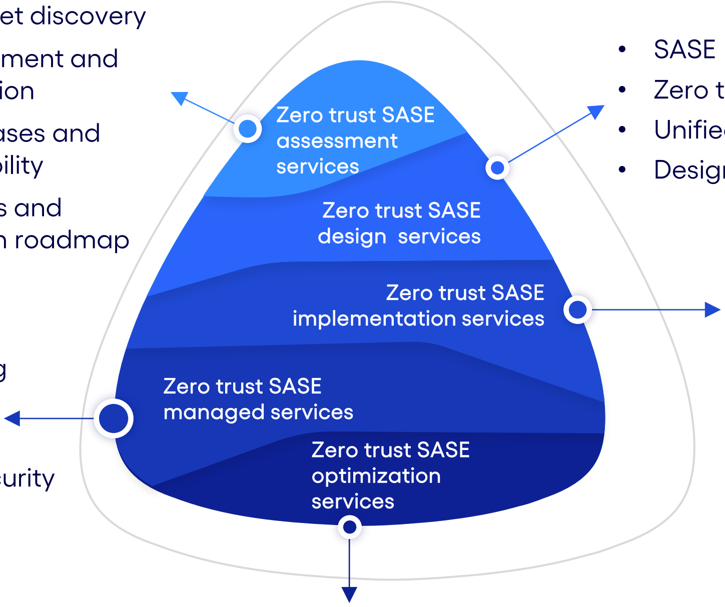
Use Cases

Our SASE services empower manufacturers with comprehensive solutions:

- Secure remote access to production systems
- Industrial IoT device protection against cyber threats
- Seamless cloud integration for manufacturing applications.
- Enhanced collaboration across distributed teams.
- Real-Time incident response for industrial control systems.

Our Offerings

Cognizant's managed zero trust SASE offering provides a suite of services that help organizations evaluate their existing network security models, establish a target state and develop a transformation roadmap, migrate to target state and efficiently manage with analytics and reporting.



Zero trust SASE assessment services

- Device and asset discovery
- Security assessment and policy formulation
- SD-WAN use cases and multicloud visibility
- SASE objectives and implementation roadmap

Zero trust SASE design services

- SASE blueprint
- Zero trust framework
- Unified management console
- Design documentation

Zero trust SASE implementation services

- Stage-wise SASE onboarding
- SASE blueprint execution
- Network security fine-tuning
- SASE-cloud integration
- Benchmarking and system hardening
- Platform validation

Zero trust SASE managed services

- 24/7 monitoring
- SASE platform management
- Automated security policy updates
- SLA metrics improvement

Zero trust SASE optimization services

- Cyber investment maximization
- Defensive enablement services
- Operational efficiency optimization

Benefits:

Adopting a Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) solution brings a multitude of benefits across architecture, deployment and commercial aspects, making it a transformative approach for modern enterprises.

Architectural benefits:

- Global Connectivity: SASE securely connects employees across multiple plants to SaaS and on-premises applications, supporting various networks like the internet, MPLS and cellular
- Zero trust network access (ZTNA): Implements least-privilege access controls, ensuring only authorized users and devices access specific resources, minimizing attack surfaces
- Cloud connectivity: Enables access to production applications migrated to the cloud while supporting on-premises infrastructure
- Data loss prevention (DLP): Prevents unauthorized access and exfiltration of sensitive data like production plans and intellectual property
- Enhanced security: Enables faster detection, identification, response and remediation of cybersecurity incidents
- Compliance with regulations: Helps organizations comply with data privacy and security regulations like GDPR and HIPAA, essential for Industry 4.0
- Availability: In the event of a service disruption, Prisma Access seamlessly transitions to the best available cloud location to avoid costly business disruptions and ensure your users get the best connectivity

Deployment benefits:

- Smooth transition: Quick deployment makes the process nearly hassle-free
- Improved user experience and collaboration: Enhances connectivity speed and performance, boosting employee satisfaction and productivity.

Commercial benefits:

- Cost reduction: Manufacturers can save annually by transitioning to SASE, freeing employees to focus on strategic projects

By adopting SASE, organizations can achieve a secure, scalable and efficient network infrastructure that supports modern business needs and enhances overall security posture.

Why Choose Cognizant?

With over 700 certified professionals and a proven track record of 25+ successful implementations, Cognizant’s SASE solutions are purpose-built for manufacturing, ensuring scalability, seamless integration, and robust end-to-end support. Cognizant and Palo Alto Networks have partnered to deliver AI-driven cybersecurity services, combining Cognizant's expertise with Palo Alto Networks advanced platforms to enhance security outcomes and reduce complexity for enterprises. This collaboration aims to provide tailored, AI-led solutions for better attack protection and faster issue resolution.

Your path to secure and efficient operations: Experience secure, future-ready solutions designed to meet the dynamic needs of the manufacturing sector. Transform your security landscape with Cognizant’s zero trust managed SASE solution. Our innovative framework provides seamless, secure access and robust threat protection, simplifying your security and infrastructure. Contact us today to discover how we can help you achieve unparalleled security and efficiency. To know more, please visit – Cybersecurity Solutions & Services | Cognizant

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