

Six Ways SD-WAN Can Improve Business Operations and Position Your Company for Growth



As companies grow increasingly dependent on cloud apps, dispersed teams and unified communications, ensuring connectivity isn't just important – it's mission critical. But traditional WANs aren't always up to the challenge, and using public Internet isn't always reliable or secure.

Consider the following statistics:



According to [Cisco](#), **the gigabyte equivalent of all movies ever made will cross global IP networks every minute** in 2021.



Cybercrime is predicted to grow by 15% per year reaching \$10.5 trillion in global damages inflicted by 2025.



[Gartner](#) predicts that **global IT spending related to remote work will increase nearly 5%** from 2020 to \$333 billion.

In this business environment, companies need a network solution that protects data and improves performance across multiple locations while also allowing agility and flexibility to grow and adapt.

Here are six ways that SD-WAN can give companies the flexibility, control and resiliency they need for long-term growth.

- 1 Improve network performance:** By implementing SD-WAN over your existing Internet connection, you can improve performance across applications and services. SD-WAN allows companies to use multiple transport services, giving improved performance even within a single session. This improved performance can not only improve workforce productivity – it can also improve the customer experience, especially in high-contact roles such as customer support.
- 2 Prioritize your most important services:** Keep customer experience in peak form and ensure that you are always available for teammates by putting your most important services, such as voice, front and center. SD-WAN allows companies to prioritize mission-critical apps and services for maximum performance and continuity.
- 3 Tighten up security:** An increase in remote work does not have to mean an increase in security risks. With SD-WAN, you can give your remote workforce a more secure environment without sacrificing performance. The SD-WAN connection allows IT to manage even a widely dispersed network from a single dashboard and roll out security updates in moments.



- 4 Scale up when it's time – not before:** For many growing businesses, scaling up is a challenge. No one wants to pay for services they aren't using, but it's vital to make sure that the workforce can keep working. SD-WAN allows you to scale up when it's time without worrying about overspending for services you don't need.
- 5 Stabilize business operations:** As teams become more widely dispersed, the risks of local events causing business disruptions increases. Companies with SD-WAN have multiple transport services available to keep critical apps up and running and avoid disruption. For instance, if the Internet connection fails, the SD-WAN will route traffic to other transport services, ensuring that business is always up and running.
- 6 Maximize remote worker productivity:** With the rise in remote work, companies need more ways to ensure that team members in even the most remote locations have the connectivity they need to stay productive. With SD-WAN, not only can companies use multiple bandwidth connections to improve performance in remote locations, but they can also prioritize the apps that remote workers need the most.



As business environments and networks become increasingly complex and remote, SD-WAN could be exactly the solution a growing business needs.

Allstream's® SD-WAN service, powered by Cisco Meraki™, can help you improve your business operations and position you for long-term growth. To find out more, contact us.

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Contact Sales

sales@allstream.com

U.S.: 1.888.781.1443

Canada: 1.800.625.0025

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