Fortinet and Array Networks
Integrated Solution

Executive Summary
As network attacks continuously increase in sophistication, persistence, and deception, enterprises and other organizations have come to routinely deploy next-generation firewalls (NGFWs) to combat and protect against these threats. Further, to support virtualization initiatives, large numbers of organizations are choosing to deploy their NGFWs in a virtualized form factor.

The Fortinet and Array Networks integrated solution enables customers to deploy FortiGate VM virtualized next-generation firewalls on Array AVX Series platforms for security, agility, and guaranteed performance.

Solution Components
Fortinet FortiGate NGFWs enable security-driven networking and consolidate industry-leading security capabilities such as intrusion prevention system (IPS), web filtering, secure sockets layer (SSL) inspection, and automated threat protection. Fortinet NGFWs meet the performance needs of highly scalable, hybrid IT architectures, enabling organizations to reduce complexity and manage security risks.

The FortiGate VM Series is a virtual appliance version of Fortinet’s market-leading, high-performance FortiGate NGFW that delivers advanced protection for north-south and east-west traffic in virtualized data centers and private cloud. FortiGate VM offers a consistent security posture and protects connectivity across public and private clouds, while high-speed VPN connections protect data. FortiGate VM shares the same advanced features of the FortiGate NGFW, enabling and enforcing security policies across all environments and providing single-pane-of-glass management. FortiGate VM ensures complete application security and secure connectivity by augmenting microsegmentation with advanced L7 security. FortiGate VM NGFWs offer complete end-to-end security for the data center, mitigating blind spots and implementing critical security controls. FortiGate VM is further supported by real-time intelligence provided by FortiGuard security services, with real-time updates, in-depth security research, and validated security intelligence.

In addition to NGFWs, businesses are increasingly deploying other networking and security functions as virtual appliances. Virtual appliance (VA) licenses are portable and can be quickly and remotely provisioned; capacity can easily be increased via software upgrades; costs for space, power, and cooling can often be significantly reduced; and VA software is usually available on a CapEx-reducing subscription basis.

Array AVX Series network functions platforms provide guaranteed performance for virtualized network functions through dedicated CPU, SSL, memory, and I/O resources. The AVX Series is an open platform that supports Array virtual ADC and SSL VPN functions, as well as third-party virtual appliances such as the FortiGate VM NGFWs.

Fortinet FortiGate VM and Array Networks
By deploying Fortinet FortiGate VM NGFW virtual appliances on Array AVX Series, enterprises and managed service providers can replace traditional hardware appliances with a single Network Functions Platform that significantly reduces costs associated with
space, power, and cooling. Consolidation and software agility are achieved, while maintaining performance equivalent to that of dedicated stand-alone appliances. As compared to deploying FortiGate VM NGFWs on general-purpose servers, Array's Network Functions Platform provides both guaranteed performance and significantly higher levels of performance.

Array’s vAPV virtual application delivery controllers and Fortinet FortiGate VM NGFWs can also be deployed together on Array’s Network Functions Platform to help ensure availability and high performance by load balancing traffic across multiple NGFWs.

In summary, Array Networks NFV infrastructure is purpose-built for running networking and security virtual appliances, and provides an ideal platform for deploying Fortinet FortiGate NGFW virtual appliances.

Figure 1: Fortinet-Array Networks integrated solution.

About Array Networks

Array Networks, the network functions platform company, develops purpose-built systems for hosting virtual networking and security functions with guaranteed performance. Proven at over 5000 worldwide customer deployments, Array is recognized by leading enterprises and service providers for next-generation technology that takes the guesswork out of NFV deployment and delivers agility at scale. Learn more at https://www.arraynetworks.com/.