Citrix NetScaler Gateway

Easy and secure application, desktop and data access from anywhere.

Citrix NetScaler Gateway provides easy and secure application, desktop, and data access from anywhere, on any device, to maximize user productivity and ensure business continuity.

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As trends such as mobility, bring your own device (BYOD), workshifting and globalization continue to move users further away from the datacenter, IT organizations are under increasing pressure to deliver business applications and data to users regardless of their location or device. Traditional remote access solutions fail to mitigate the risk associated with providing anywhere access to users and increase the potential for data leaks, which can cost organizations millions per incident—not including potentially severe legal penalties due to government regulatory requirements.

Today's mobile workforce requires access to their applications, desktops and data from any device while working on the go to remain productive. Citrix NetScaler Gateway addresses organizations' mobility needs by ensuring a simple and secure access experience for users while providing administrators with a high level of control. This solution provides unmatched capabilities when deployed with Citrix XenDesktop, Citrix XenApp, and/or Citrix XenMobile by enabling secure connections from any mobile device via Citrix Receiver.

NetScaler Gateway is a secure application, desktop and data access solution that gives IT administrators granular application-level and device-level policy and action controls over access to corporate content, while allowing users to work from anywhere using SmartAccess and the XenMobile Micro VPN technologies. It provides a single point of control and tools to help IT administrators ensure compliance with regulations and protect corporate information with the highest levels of security, both within and outside the enterprise. At the same time, NetScaler Gateway empowers users with a single point of access—optimized for roles, applications, devices and networks—to the enterprise applications and data they need. This unique combination of capabilities helps maximize the productivity of today's mobile workforce.

Anywhere access for users
NetScaler Gateway delivers the same rich application, desktop and data experience that users enjoy when connected to the local network. It automatically and seamlessly reconnects users when they change locations and devices or lose connectivity, reducing frustration and improving productivity. When paired with Citrix Receiver, NetScaler Gateway allows users to access all their corporate resources from any device while on the go. Users no longer need to configure complex and risky network tunnels to access their applications and data and are no longer restricted to a single device in a single location. With NetScaler Gateway, users can be productive anywhere, using any device.

Key benefits
- Enables easy and secure access from anywhere, from any device
- Ensures data security with adaptive and granular application-level and device-level controls
- Provides secure access and delivery of all applications and virtualized desktops as well as data

Seamless, secure access

Users connect with Citrix Receiver to access their applications, desktops, and data, NetScaler Gateway then dynamically adjusts the connection to facilitate user sessions between networks and devices. Single-sign on capabilities remove the hassle of multiple authentication checkpoints when switching between desktops and applications within Citrix Receiver.

Additionally, NetScaler Gateway and Citrix CloudBridge work together to provide mobile and remote users with a superior access experience. The CloudBridge plug-in speeds application response through the SSL VPN tunnel, thus enabling a powerful combination of secure and accelerated access to applications, desktops and data.

Security controls and simplified management for IT

The robust policy capabilities of NetScaler Gateway enable this solution to adapt easily to changing business requirements, allowing IT to maintain a single access infrastructure for all user communities while protecting sensitive data. Sophisticated endpoint analysis and authentication capabilities allow IT to detect client device configurations, network profile and user identity to determine trust level. Once trust level is established, adaptive policies apply appropriate controls over the levels of access to applications and data.

SmartAccess

SmartAccess automatically adjusts delivery of applications, desktops and data based on identity, network and device to ensure users remain secure in every location. It provides adaptive policy controls to configure the most secure access to resources by dynamically adjusting access levels based on device configuration, location, and identity. Administrators have complete flexibility to define various access scenarios and corresponding rules based on their organization's security policies, while users are free to work from any device.

Application and data security

All data transmitted between the client and datacenter is kept private and protected. All data is transferred through a SSL/TLS connection, and the XenMobile Micro VPN technology provides secure access from native mobile apps to content hosted in the datacenter through app-specific VPN connections rather than full, device-level VPN tunnels. NetScaler Gateway provides strong authentication with two-factor methods while authenticating users against LDAP and RADIUS servers to leverage existing directories within the organization.

Endpoint analysis

Integrated endpoint scanning ensures that devices are safe to connect to applications and data and users have a method to easily update their devices to meet established policies. Quarantine groups and remediation allow NetScaler Gateway to bring failed clients with limited access to remediation sites for compliance with the organization's security policies.

Fault tolerance

Secure access deployments that guarantee a high level of availability and reliability can be implemented by linking NetScaler Gateway appliances to create an active/passive pair, ensuring a fully redundant deployment that keeps sessions active if the

master fails. Optional global server load balancing by Citrix NetScaler appliances can be configured across multiple geographies in true active-active configuration to route client connections to the best VPN site based on datacenter availability, health, proximity and responsiveness. This provides full, cross-geographical high availability.

Simplified administration

NetScaler Gateway maximizes IT efficiency by simplifying common installation and management tasks into one console. Intuitive, wizard-driven configurations guide administrators through installation and setup. A single appliance can emulate multiple SSL VPNs by hosting one or more virtual servers, each with a unique IP, FQDN and certificate. NetScaler Gateway also includes historical charting, to provide administrators with a graphical view of system and user activities. Auto-updating of Citrix Receiver simplifies management on the user side and ensures users always receive the latest version of the client software.

Flexible deployment options

NetScaler Gateway is available as both virtual and physical appliances, giving IT greater flexibility and more options to meet specific requirements. The NetScaler Gateway VPX virtual appliance cuts power consumption and hardware costs while reducing hardware infrastructure downtime. The physical appliance option allows greater scalability and performance.

Conclusion

NetScaler Gateway provides the best end-to-end secure access solution for applications, desktops and data delivered by XenDesktop, XenApp and XenMobile, and addresses the requirements of security teams, network architects and server administrators. Simplified management and deployment options enable IT to easily manage and secure user access to corporate resources regardless of device or location, while security features such SmartAccess and the XenMobile Micro VPN enable tight, policy-based control and support compliance with corporate and government security requirements.

Additional resources

• http://www.citrix.com/products/netscaler-gateway/overview.html

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