

Recognition and insights from analyst report



Business

Building a secure foundation for digital innovation

The network is critical to digital business initiatives yet is often overlooked strategically. As demand grows and technology offerings are broader and deeper, enterprises rely more than ever on their network to connect users to workloads and applications.

In fact, businesses rely on the network for all digital initiatives and to enable their global operations; it is the foundation of cloud strategy, data exchange, infrastructure security and sovereignty – and the enabler of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) enterprise models.

However, in the discussions around the need to inject digital innovation into business, the role of the network is often overlooked. Video, internet of things (IoT) integration, as-a-service solutions, and cloud-native applications are all increasingly critical to business today. In addition, emerging technologies like GenAI will bring new usage and therefore new dependencies on the network.

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Network quality and availability is essential

What all these services have in common is that they depend on network quality and availability to deliver their business outcome. And as business strategies rely more and more on these services, companies' dependence on networks has never been higher.

Yet network services are not at par with the expectations that business users have today of other technologies. These include the attributes of a cloud experience, such as service composability, programmability, and modularity. The network needs to evolve: it needs to connect users, workloads, and applications in a way that supports their characteristics: flexibility, agility, and scalability. And it needs to do so securely, reliably, and rapidly.

Overcoming challenges

Enterprises need a network solution that can meet the needs of their applications and workloads. To do this there are several obstacles they need to overcome:



Lack of skills: getting the capabilities needed to run this sort of advanced networking is challenging, whether enterprises upskill existing teams or recruit new members of staff.



Procurement challenges: with cloud and as-a-service solutions now the norm in IT, businesses have grown used to more composable approaches for deployment. That's not common on the network side of technology, causing friction when acquiring and deploying that infrastructure to support IT.



Security risks: The number of threats continues to increase, with the latest Orange Cyberdefense Security Navigator report noting that incidents had gone up by 30% year-on-year. Of the total number of incidents, 34% affected infrastructure assets, including servers, networks and clouds.

As enterprises seek to unlock new digital opportunities, they need a foundational network layer that delivers a platform for ongoing success. This needs to be reliable, secure and scalable, but it also needs to be available in a way that aligns with how businesses acquire the rest of their technology.

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Recognition from Gartner

Gartner recognized Orange Business as a **Leader in the 2024 Magic Quadrant™** for Global WAN Services and positioned us highest for the Ability to Execute. I&O leaders can use this research to evaluate and select optimal global network service partners.

As per Gartner, “Providers in the Leaders quadrant are performing well and maintaining a stable organization, with a clear vision of market direction. They deliver comprehensive portfolios of quality network services across the broadest geographies. They address the global networking needs of a broad range of enterprises in terms of size, geographic distribution and vertical industry. Leaders shape the direction of the market by extending their coverage, developing new class-leading capabilities and commercial models, and deploying them at scale.”



Read the full Gartner assessment [here](#)



And to find out more about building a secure foundation for innovation read our [blog](#)

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“A reliable, agile, secure and high-performing WAN network is critical to support enterprise business operations. As a result, enterprises find it challenging to design and operate their networks to support dynamic business requirements, including hybrid work, and accelerating digital and cloud transformations”

2024 Gartner® Magic Quadrant™ for Global WAN Services

