

# Streamline IT integration during mergers and acquisitions

Bypass the risks of traditional network merging with a modern approach to secure access for mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures.

# Traditional IT challenges during M&A

# Manual logistics, network complexity, new risks

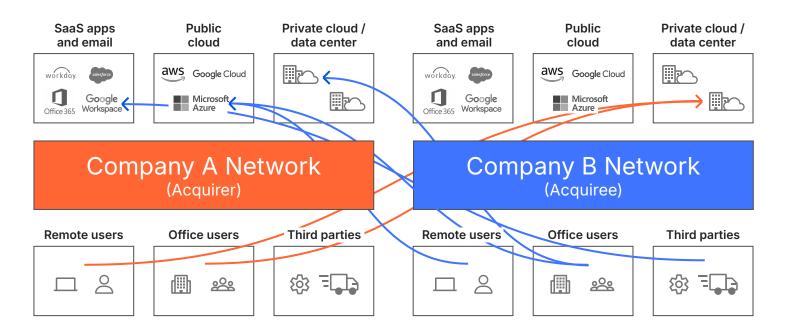
Even a single corporate network can be difficult to manage — combining two or more only multiplies the complexity. Integration teams wrestle with:

- Manual and time-consuming due diligence that stretches implementation timelines by months
- IP conflicts, address renumbering, and infrastructure incompatibilities that slow progress and limit scalability
- Expanded attack surface if the companies' security architectures don't align



## The "full network merge" approach is dated

During M&A, many organizations still default to connecting users to resources across both companies through a network merge. But this traditional approach adds layers of routing complexity, drags out migrations, and often forces IT to spin up additional VPNs just to keep things running. The result: inflated permissions, overloaded IT teams, disrupted employee productivity, and in some cases, deals compromised by poor integration.



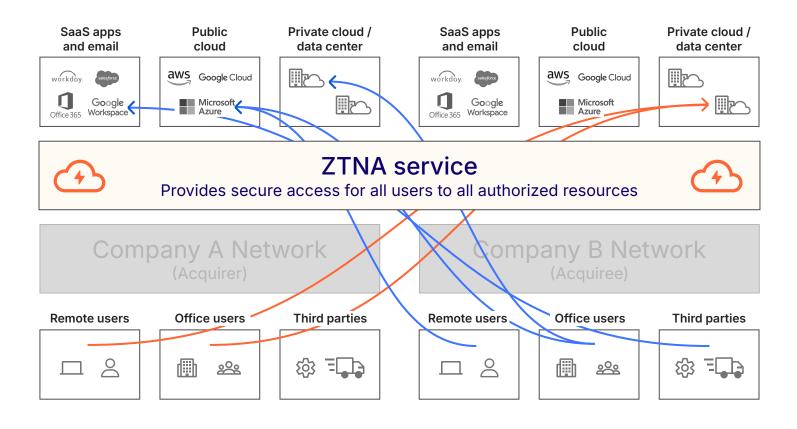
# Modernized M&A approach with ZTNA

# Mindset shift may avoid network merge entirely

IT integration during M&A has followed a similar playbook for so long, but the reality is that modern secure access methods can provide a faster path to better outcomes. Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA) delivers secure remote access through granular business policy based on context like identity or device posture, decoupling the access mechanism from the corporate network "perimeter" entirely.

#### Better security, performance, and visibility

ZTNA verifies context continuously on a per-resource basis, helping to eliminate lateral movement while logging every request. Unlike VPNs, no traffic is backhauled to datacenters, so performance for end users also improves. As an aggregation layer around all applications, ZTNA provides secure access for users to all authorized internal resources, while simplifying the M&A integration itself.



#### Value of a modernized approach



## Accelerate time to value

Maintain business continuity during M&A flux, ensuring employees stay productive.



## Simplify operations

Avoid complications from traditional network integration approaches.



#### Reduce risk

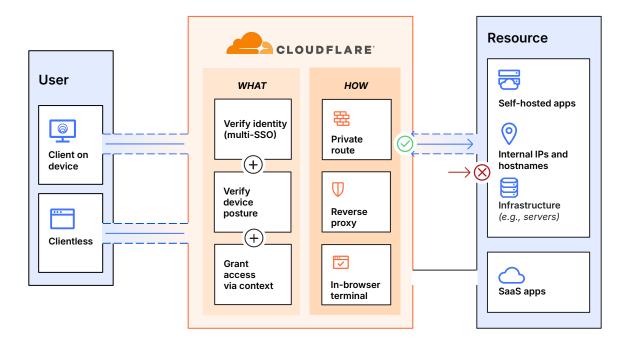
Keep sensitive data safe during a vulnerable time; maintain least privilege access.

# Accelerate M&A with a ZTNA-first strategy

#### Secure "Day 1" access for all users

Ensure smooth onboarding of new employees on Day 1, even if other <u>network modernization</u> projects remain for future consolidation efforts. Help your organization realize ROI from the merge by facilitating internal access without the complexity of fully combining networks. Set your business up for long-term success with the foundations of a zero trust model.

#### How Cloudflare's ZTNA service works



## Cloudflare's ZTNA capabilities that simplify M&A further



#### Integrate multiple IdPs

Bring together both organizations' existing identity providers; reduce urgency behind any IT migrations.



#### Clientless deployment

Maximize simplicity for end users of web apps, SSH, and RDP resources — no downloads or MDM rollouts required.



#### **Avoid IP conflicts**

Deterministically route traffic using virtual networks; alleviate concerns with overlapping IPs across multiple networks.

Want to go deeper on this use case?

Review our SASE platform reference architecture, or request a complimentary workshop.