



# Deploy a Secure Cloud Gateway in an Interconnection Environment



## KEY BENEFITS

### Predictable and reliable user experiences

Reduce latency to under 5 milliseconds without losing control of cloud traffic; ensure application availability and performance

### Controlled security

Expand access and security policies to all users of your public cloud applications

### Gateway to the cloud

Gain a common interface and operational efficiency across all your infrastructures with a standardized solution

**Organizations are increasingly moving applications and workloads to public clouds to take advantage of cloud flexibility and economic efficiency.** But those applications still require advanced services, including security, load balancing, and high availability—plus adding a cloud environment to the data center infrastructure introduces management headaches, compliance risks, and issues of policy consistency. Combining the F5® BIG-IP® platform with colocation and interconnection services from Equinix enables you to realize the transformative economics of the public cloud without sacrificing application performance, control, or security.

## Challenge

IT managers and application owners are contending with growing pressure from executive management to move a majority of workloads from private data centers to public clouds.

Typically, however, cloud deployments present several challenges:

- Ensuring secure access to cloud-based applications both over the Internet and from your private network.
- Providing the same robust application services, such as load balancing, security, and high availability, in both on-premises and cloud environments.
- Ensuring compliance standards are met in the cloud as well as in the data center.

## Solution

You can address these challenges by deploying the F5 BIG-IP platform with Equinix Interconnection services and architecture as part of your overall cloud implementation. Together, F5 and Equinix provide a secure cloud gateway that enables organizations moving to the cloud to maintain a single point of visibility, control, and high performance for applications, workloads, and data across multiple cloud providers. Ultimately this combination delivers enterprise-ready user experiences for public and private cloud-based applications.

**KEY FEATURES:**

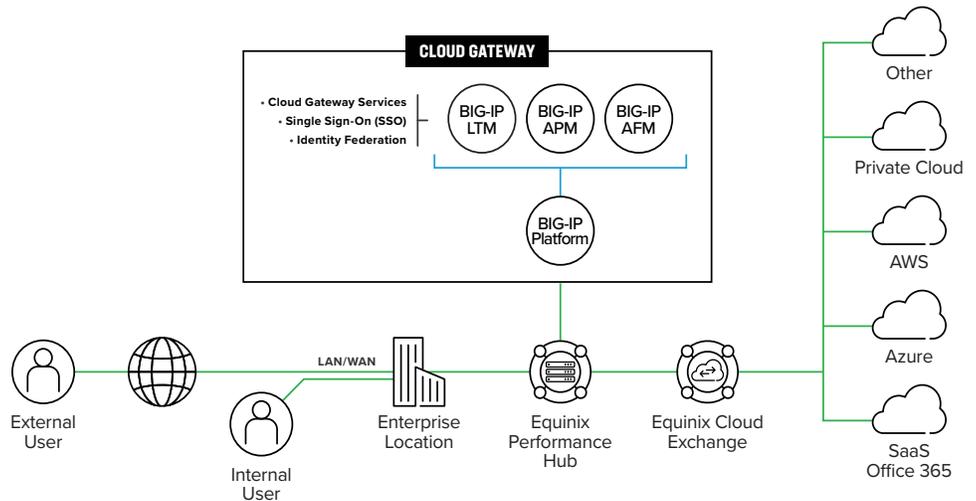
- Leverage agile frameworks to provide a robust synopsis for high level overviews.
- Bring to the table win-win survival strategies to ensure proactive domination.
- Capitalize on low hanging fruit to identify a ballpark value added activity to beta test.
- Podcasting operational change management inside of workflows to establish a framework.
- Collaboratively administrate empowered markets via plug-and-play networks.

**SECURE ACCESS AND ENSURE COMPLIANCE**

The BIG-IP platform is the standard among large enterprises and public sector organizations for providing high-performance traffic management, security, and high availability for mission-critical applications. Organizations looking to move and deploy applications to the cloud can deploy BIG-IP products into an Equinix Performance Hub to manage access, security, and traffic to and from the Equinix Cloud Exchange.

Performance Hub is a layer 2 VLAN at the edge of the network where customers can deploy F5 cloud gateway services to Cloud Exchange, which gives seamless, low latency transit (less than a millisecond) to public clouds such as Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Microsoft Azure as well as numerous SaaS services.

Organizations using an Equinix Interconnection Oriented Architecture™ in concert with F5 BIG-IP will realize significant cost savings, application performance enhancements, and enterprise-grade security. They can also benefit from a single point of entry and exit between the public cloud and the private corporate network.



**Figure 1:** BIG-IP products deployed in the Equinix Performance Hub provide cloud gateway services.

## DELIVER CLOUD GATEWAY SERVICES FOR SECURITY, IDENTITY, AND AVAILABILITY

BIG-IP products can be deployed to provide the advanced services your mission-critical applications need:

- **Single sign-on (SSO) and cloud federation**—Provide easy, secure access to various applications, either within the corporate data center or in multiple public or private clouds.
- **Bi-directional web application firewall services**—Deploy an industry-leading WAF to protect applications, both inside the corporate infrastructure and in the public cloud, from the rising tide of application-layer attacks.
- **SSL termination and content inspection**—Defeat the newest attack vectors, which is hiding in your SSL traffic. The BIG-IP solution enables decryption, inspection, and re-encryption of all SSL traffic to and from any data center and the cloud.
- **DDoS protection**—Protect mission-critical applications from revenue-robbing downtime by shielding those applications and the infrastructure from volumetric distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks.

With the BIG-IP platform acting as a high-performance cloud gateway, you can ensure corporate policy compliance and gain full audit capabilities. IT staff can tailor security policies using the F5 iRules® scripting language, and track users into and out of the system with BIG-IP® Access Policy Manager® (APM).

## EASE THE JOURNEY TO THE CLOUD

The enterprise-class application services provided by the BIG-IP platform complement the power and reach of Equinix's Interconnection data center offerings to help you take full advantage of hybrid environments. That means saving on operating and capital expenses with Equinix Performance Hub and Interconnection data center services while improving security, compliance, performance, operational efficiency, and control over traffic with the BIG-IP platform.

For more information, contact your [F5 sales representative](#).

