Solution Overview

Operating in a multi-cloud architecture provides greater flexibility for organizations, which do not want to be locked-into a single environment, process, or toolset. However, this can often create difficulties around implementing consistent security policies as administrators often have to learn and operate numerous, disparate interfaces without a centralized point of control. Together, F5 and VMware Cloud on AWS provide organizations the ability to deploy consistent security, availability, and performance policies across applications on-premises, and on VMware Cloud on AWS. In the same way that VMware has made it frictionless to migrate applications from on-premises to VMC on AWS, F5 has made it simple to use the very same toolsets, policy creation, and policy management methods used with vSphere on-premises in an F5 and VMware Cloud on AWS environment.

F5 will protect your VMware workloads on-premises and on VMware Cloud on AWS

Consistent security, anywhere

Organizations are choosing multi-cloud architectures with VMware Cloud on AWS for the ability to move, run, and protect production workloads at scale. Customers can securely run VMware workloads on VMware Cloud on AWS, the same as they would on-premises and they can additionally take advantage of native AWS services like Amazon EC2 and Amazon S3.

Having to maintain toolset and policy silos for the application services for each of these environments is unsustainable, which is why F5 has made it simple to standardize application services across each environment. Through services such as F5 BIG-IP, F5 Virtual Edition, and F5 BIG-IQ, organizations can deploy consistent security policies across these environments. BIG-IQ can manage any physical or virtual BIG-IP device so long as it can establish layer 3 connectivity for management by UI or through the APIs. Replicating standardized application services with consistent policies across all environments allows administrators to centrally manage workloads and applications regardless of their location.
Solution Overview

SovLabs provides a software-based solution that allows customers to consume F5 BIG-IP from the context of VMware vRealize Automation (vRA), a hybrid cloud management platform. As the best-in-class load balancing, security, and perimeter protection, F5’s BIG-IP is a highly sought-after integration for vRealize Automation and is integral to achieving a successful hybrid-cloud solution.

As VMware’s top automation vendor for cloud management solutions, SovLabs makes it easy for organizations to automate the deployment, configuration, and management of F5 BIG-IP with vRA allowing for a true hybrid cloud deployment. SovLabs worked with VMware and F5 to develop an industry-leading solution that provides a customizable, simplified integration that meets the unique requirements of each customer.

Additionally, SovLabs’ solution allows customers to keep the same experience as they move from on-premises to VMware Cloud on AWS, without having to manually re-configure and re-architect their new environment.

Automating F5 in Hybrid Environments

The cloud team works with the F5 team to create a blueprint with F5 BIG-IP resources.

A user requests the blueprint as a catalog item.

SovLabs business logic computes metadata, powering intelligent policies.

SovLabs policies assign resources and configure endpoints.

Workloads are provisioned, locally or in a cloud environment.

SovLabs policies drive post-deployment activities across multiple integrations.

The SovLabs RESTipe creates or assigns BIG-IP resources.

Configure, Deploy, and Automate F5 Using vRA

Without SovLabs, integrating the infrastructure automation tools that support F5 BIG-IP with VMware cloud deployments require custom scripts or workflows. These workflows take considerable time to build by developers or skilled cloud system administrators and require ongoing support and maintenance.

With SovLabs’ F5 Module for vRealize Automation, end-to-end automation of F5 BIG-IP is available in a fully supported, turn-key software package that deploys in minutes.

With the SovLabs code-less solution, organizations do not need expertise in high-level programming languages in order to use it. The SovLabs module integrates F5 BIG-IP with existing VMware vRealize Automation provisioning processes and can extend those processes to multi-cloud environments without the need to re-platform.