

# 4 MODERN NETWORK FEATURES YOU NEED NOW

... to support whatever comes next



## The way we work and do business has changed dramatically over the past year.

Facing uncertainty, companies have shifted to more cloud-based applications to support employees and deliver the digital experiences their customers have come to expect. Multi-cloud environments have made IT networks increasingly complex and more vulnerable to security threats.

Among the lessons learned during this period of uncertainty is that a secure, agile and modern network can help organizations quickly adapt to support unexpected priorities, and eliminate the complexities associated with managing multi-cloud environments or legacy solutions.

Here are four features to look for as you work to identify the solutions that will make up your modern network. Choosing solutions that include these features will help ensure you can meet your strategic business goals — and be ready for whatever the future holds.

### 1. A scalable backbone

#### Why you need it

[New technologies](#) are emerging rapidly. In the past several years alone, IoT, AI, blockchain, 5G, serverless computing, biometrics and more have started impacting the way companies operate and do business. To support these technologies while providing their employees with fast, reliable and secure access to applications — cloud-based or otherwise — companies need a scalable network.

#### What to look for

Look for a network that can support the rapid deployment of new applications without putting a strain on bandwidth or requiring infrastructure changes. You should be able to easily scale capacity as needed for cloud-based applications and other bandwidth-heavy uses.

#### HOW IT'S DONE:

##### Premier America Credit Union (PACU)

PACU's legacy IT network was preventing them from delivering the digital services their customers expected. [Learn how](#) they modernized their network with a solution that provided the scalable infrastructure they needed to support new services — and take their call center remote in just two weeks.

A technology partner with national reach will ensure you'll have the connectivity you need where you need it if you have to support new locations.

## 2. The flexibility to choose your connectivity

### Why you need it

Having the agility needed to support unexpected priorities and future growth requires you have the flexibility to use whatever type of connectivity best suits the needs of a particular location. For example, dedicated fiber internet may be perfect for an office in a metro area, but if you expand into a rural area without fiber infrastructure, you may need to use an SD-WAN solution to provide network access via a local wireless internet or broadband service provider.

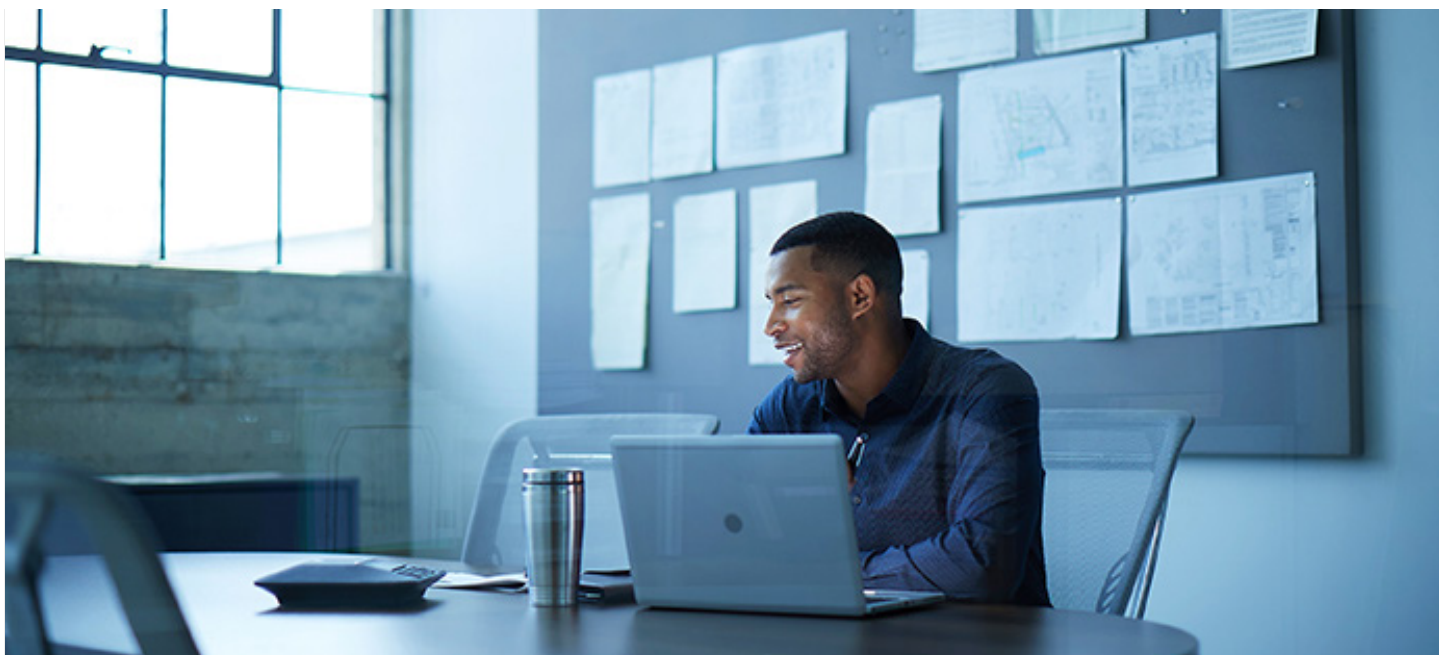
### What to look for

Make sure the network solution you select allows you to use the connectivity of your choice so you can select what works best now, and in the future when your needs may change. Also, a technology partner with national reach will ensure you'll have the connectivity you need where you need it if you have to support new locations.

#### HOW IT'S DONE:

##### CAPA

Construction materials supplier CAPA has to provide secure, reliable connectivity for numerous offices as well as remote locations where a secure connection is hard to come by. [Learn how](#) they addressed their issues with a single partner that enabled them to choose the best connectivity for each location.



A network solution with built-in security, ideally managed for you by the technology provider, ensures your network will receive protection from security threats.

### 3. Built-in security

#### Why you need it

Companies are continuing to redefine what constitutes an office. Organizations that are allowing all or some employees to remain remote have numerous endpoints that are vulnerable to security breaches. And as adoption of cloud-based applications continues to accelerate, so do security risks.

These factors make establishing and managing network security strategies a complex and time-consuming task for even the most skilled IT teams. A network solution with built-in security, ideally managed for you by the technology provider, ensures your network will receive protection from security threats.

#### What to look for

Look for a network solution that incorporates firewall and unified threat management (UTM) features like URL content filtering and advanced malware protection (AMP). The solution should also provide intelligent routing, which enables the creation of VLANs to divide traffic based on type. The VLANs add an extra layer of security by ensuring a potential breach in one part of the network will not affect the rest of it.

#### HOW IT'S DONE:

##### Catapult

Catapult, a business incubator and co-working space, needed to provide secure connectivity for members in its new state-of-the-art facility, but didn't have an IT staff to monitor and manage network security.

[Learn how](#) they addressed this and other challenges.



## 4. One partner to manage and do it all

### Why you need it

Finding one partner that can take care of all your network needs as well as manage service upgrades, maintenance and technical support will simplify network management, enable your IT staff to focus on more strategic priorities and provide you with a single source of support for any issues that may arise.

### What to look for

Make sure the partner has a full spectrum of solutions including networking, security and voice services will serve both current and future needs. The option to have all or part of the network managed for you is important if you're short on IT staff or prefer to outsource network management. If you have geographically disparate locations or expansion may be in your future, look for a technology partner with service nationwide so you don't end up with multiple providers.

#### HOW IT'S DONE:

##### H&B Hospitality

H&B Hospitality, which manages four Hilton Hotels & Resorts®-branded properties, struggled with the complexities of managing technology services from multiple vendors. [Learn how](#) they consolidated all their services with one reliable partner who does it all.

Modern network solutions with these four features will improve network security, provide increased agility and simplify your IT infrastructure while ensuring your company has what it takes to succeed no matter what the future holds.

Discover how to make a seamless transition to a modern network.

[Learn more](#)

#### About Spectrum Enterprise

Spectrum Enterprise, a part of Charter Communications, Inc., is a national provider of scalable, fiber technology solutions serving America's largest businesses and communications service providers. The broad Spectrum Enterprise portfolio includes networking and managed services solutions: Internet access, Ethernet access and networks, Voice and TV solutions.

Spectrum Enterprise's industry-leading team of experts works closely with clients to achieve greater business success by providing solutions designed to meet their evolving needs. More information about Spectrum Enterprise can be found at [enterprise.spectrum.com](https://enterprise.spectrum.com)

Not all products, pricing and services are available in all areas. Pricing and actual speeds may vary. Restrictions may apply. Subject to change without notice. ©2021 Charter Communications. All rights reserved.