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The Unified Network – An Operational Requirements Perspective

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Abstract:

The Army has a requirement to design, operate and maintain a unified network to counter emerging threats, enable new forms of maneuver and allow the commander to fully leverage capabilities across echelons to execute Multi-Domain Operations. As maneuver formations become cloud enabled, the ability to ensure reliability of communications while leveraging common data hosted both on premises at the unit and off premises in a cloud environment, with no loss of continuity, is essential.

Essential elements of the Unified Network include:

- To optimize the unified network strategy, The Army must approach domains of operating and securing the network as any other battlefield terrain, and abstract the concepts away from the idea of how it builds and maintains the network as a terrain.
- Viewing a Zero Trust Architecture as an overlay of the network terrain is the only way to fully unify all aspects of the network and optimize data flows and security at the same time.

A truly cloud native, Secure Service Edge (SSE) solution is designed to do just that.