Professional Services: Proof of Concept Testing

OVERVIEW
For organizations starting a next-generation firewall project, the process of testing a solution is a critical step before placing it in production. With the Proof of Concept (PoC) testing service, get assistance from Palo Alto Networks® product experts to take a close look at a proposed design, execute a conceptual design test and ensure that it matches with your requirements and expectations. Our next-generation firewall experts will work with you to understand your security requirements, network topology, and performance objectives. The consultant will analyze the proposed solution and provide recommendations to ensure a thorough Proof of Concept.

BENEFITS
Access to highly qualified professional and disciplined team of consultants, allowing your internal staff to focus on their day-to-day responsibilities.

Consultants, who are highly skilled in a wide range of technologies, eliminating the need for internal skills, training, and costly recruitment fees.

LAB DESIGN, SETUP, AND EXECUTION
The consultant will aid in the development of a detailed lab document detailing the topology, required lab infrastructure, as well as any supporting networking equipment that may be needed to test the objectives provided by the customer. Customers may choose to use the Palo Alto Networks HQ PoC center, or stand up the environment at an on-site lab. Palo Alto Networks consultants will assist in the setup of a suitable test environment for PoC testing. For on-site network testing, the consultant will work with your team to get an understanding and comprehensive view of your network, including operational and interoperability requirements, network topology, traffic patterns, usage, etc. This can include configuring and testing network connectivity for the environment and configuration of the network elements.

POC
The consultant will conduct a workshop with your team to develop an understanding of your PoC goals and requirements. The consultant will identify any gaps in your PoC requirements and develop a thorough PoC test plan that will be used extensively in order to conduct a successful PoC. The consultant will then create a detail test plan that includes all the “must-have” compared to “nice to have” functions, including working with your team on the priority of the testing order for the PoC. The test plan will also include specific OS versions that accommodate your install base, specific hardware, centralized vs. de-centralized environments, policy management, etc.

DOCUMENTATION
Once the PoC tests have been designed, detailed documentation will be generated. This documentation will specify, in a tabular form for each test, what equipment is required, specific PANOS versions, exactly what tests will be carried out, and the expected results from each one of the performed tests. Each performed test will result in a pass/fail and results comments will be recorded.

TEST REPORTING
Upon completion of the test plan and preparation of the report, the consultant will review the details with your team and provide recommendations for deployment or additional testing. In addition, the consultants will provide knowledge transfer to your respective operational and engineering teams on the next-generation firewall features and implementation of the tested design. Proof of Concept is an important component of your project plan.