

CHECKLIST

# Top 6 Considerations to Optimize Your Digital Acceleration Security Spend

Digital acceleration is a constantly evolving process of transformation as organizations strive to modernize application and cloud journeys to meet the needs of their customers or organizations today and tomorrow. Organizations must also accept that their deployment, consumption, and security requirements will evolve to secure those initiatives. With this, organizations must also change how they do business to right-size their investments to match their evolving needs at the speed of their digital acceleration demands. Organizations need to adopt usage-based security licensing programs whenever and wherever possible.

For organizations looking to modernize their business practices in lockstep with their digital acceleration evolutions, here are six key features to consider when choosing usage-based licensing programs for security solutions:

**Does the solution help you accurately size your deployment?**

Many organizations embarking on digital acceleration journeys often become paralyzed, delaying their digital acceleration projects while figuring out what security solutions they need, how many, and what size or capacity.

The reality is that many organizations won't know what they truly need until they deploy, secure, and operationalize their digital acceleration initiatives. As a result, organizations should look for usage-based licensing programs that provide the flexibility to size and scale solutions and services dynamically as needed.

**Does the solution allow the flexibility to scale up, down, in, and out?**

Often, we think of scaling as unidirectionally up. An ideal usage-based licensing program should allow organizations to scale in both directions, up-down and in-out. Scaling up-down increases or decreases the size of the system. On the other hand, scaling in-out horizontally increases the number of instances of the solution.

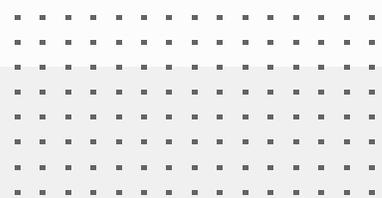
**Will the solution help you reduce deployment delays?**

For organizations undergoing rapid digital acceleration projects, such as implementing Infrastructure-as-Code (IaC) or simply a rapid expansion to meet customer demands for new services, procurement delays can have huge negative impacts.

Instead, organizations should look for programs that simplify the consumption of multiple services through a single credits-based system, in which they can acquire blocks of points upfront that can be drawn down against and refilled as needed, thus providing provisioning agility.

**Does the solution offer APIs to automate license life-cycle management?**

Automation is a must to support digital acceleration initiatives at scale, especially in deployments where rapid stand-up and tear-down are required, such as DevOps or IaC environments. An ideal usage-based licensing solution offers manual and API-based license life-cycle management, centralized visibility of licenses provisioned, and balance points for better efficiency and manageability.



### ✓ **Can the solution help you meet minimum use commits with cloud service providers?**

Many enterprise organizations make minimum use and spend commitments to cloud providers, such as AWS and Google Cloud, in exchange for better-negotiated rates. However, these organizations also struggle to meet these committed minimums annually. An ideal usage-based solution will help organizations draw down against these commitments while giving them the flexibility they need to deploy security wherever their applications live.

### ✓ **Does the solution support both virtual and hardware deployments?**

For the most flexibility, an ideal usage-based solution will extend coverage for security solutions that can be deployed anywhere and whenever needed, whether in the cloud or on-premises. Gartner recently introduced the concept of a “hybrid mesh firewall” (HMF). These firewalls should be deployed as a unified security platform that provides coordinated protection to multiple areas of enterprise IT, including corporate sites, such as branches, campuses, and data centers; public and private clouds; and remote workers. A single consumption-based solution that can cover as many deployments and needed services across HMF use cases provides organizations the most flexibility, convenience, and simplicity.

## **Fortinet delivers the most flexible usage-based security to empower digital acceleration**

Fortinet FortiFlex empowers organizations with the flexibility to dynamically right-size their services and spend in securing their cloud, hybrid cloud, and HMF environments for all digital acceleration journeys. With a flexible usage-based consumption program that covers a wide range of solutions and services, organizations can freely scale and secure their digital acceleration journeys however they choose, adjusting dynamically as needed—all without needing to go through excessive procurement cycles. Unused points at the end of the subscription term can be rolled over to the subsequent year upon renewal, thereby retaining value for organizations, unlike traditional term licenses. Along with a robust API for automating license provisioning, FortiFlex moves at the speed of digital acceleration.