ECESSA™

Innovative Solutions. Trusted Performance. Intelligently Engineered.

Comparison of Firewall and **Ecessa Solutions**

Technology Brief

We are frequently asked by IT professionals how Ecessa devices differ from firewalls and if both are needed for wide area network performance and security. The short answer is, these devices are purpose-built to solve different problems and they are both needed in most professional business networks.

How Are These Solutions Different?

Firewalls are used for exactly what their name indicates -- to create a barrier between your internal network and the outside world. Why? For security. Firewalls are an essential component of the modern business network. Over the past two decades, firewalls have evolved to keep up with more complex threats and sophisticated attacks. Improvements include Next Generation Fire Walls (NGFW) and Unified Threat Management (UTM) features. These innovations have resulted in highly specialized appliances that are great at inspecting large amounts of data, detecting the latest malware and email threats, alerting against potential Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks, and helping businesses meet new, stringent compliance requirements.

Ecessa SD-WAN solutions were purpose built to connect business to the outside world – the Internet, the Cloud, branch offices, data centers. Why? For connectivity. As more daily business applications moved to the Cloud (Salesforce.com, Office 365, Google Apps, Citrix), businesses needed to optimize and guarantee access to the Internet. To support this, Ecessa combines up to 25 connections of any types (MPLS, T1, Cable, DSL, Wireless) from any providers. These premises-based appliances use features such as automatic failover and failback, Quality of Service (QoS), load balancing, performance metrics and alerts, and Software Defined Wide Area Networking (SD-WAN) to optimize the performance of connections and eliminate outages.

Both firewalls and Ecessa products offer features that overlap. Why? For flexibility. Depending on your network architecture, an Ecessa device with a stateful firewall or a firewall with dual-WAN failover may meet your needs. More likely, you will need both to ensure a resilient, secure network that meets your unique business needs. The Ecessa solution with its stateful firewall adds an extra layer of security at the network edge, and its SD-WAN features can create private networks over your public broadband connections, but it does not offer advanced security features like NGFW or UTM. Likewise, the firewall will not offer inbound and outbound failover, load balancing, generic routing encapsulation (GRE) tunneling, packet-level control and other advanced SD-WAN features.

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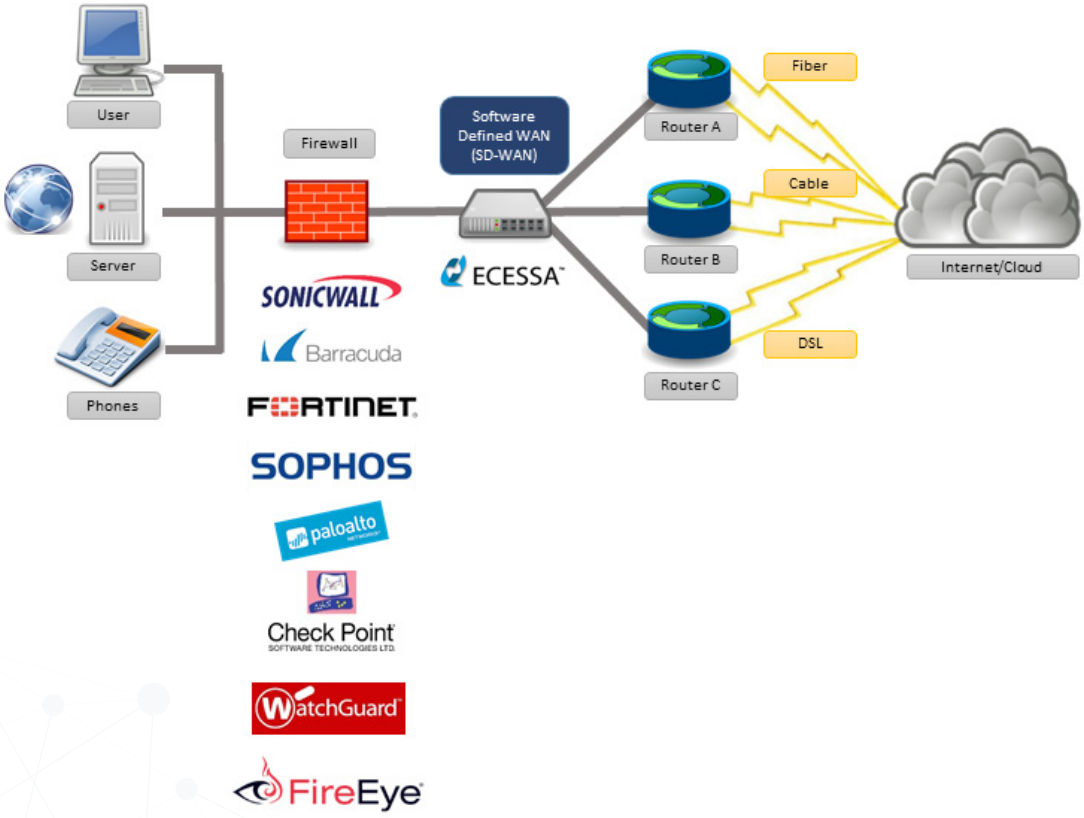
Which Solution Is Right For Your Business?

Performance demands on your network are increasing every day. To get the job done right and provide the best performance and protection for your business, you'll need both. They play specific roles and work well together. In fact, Ecessa has validated interoperability with most firewall vendors.



Best-in-class firewalls with advanced features are essential in today's network and you probably already have one you love – keep it. To improve access to the Internet, add bandwidth, eliminate outages, and possibly renegotiate ISP contracts to save investment, you'll need a best-in-class SD-WAN solution. Ecessa devices integrate easily into your existing network and do not require you to modify your architecture, change your IP addresses or remove any of your existing equipment.

Our advice: use the advanced feature sets of each device to fortify your network.

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Ecessa and Firewall Comparison

Below are some details highlighting the differences between firewalls and Ecessa solutions.

	ECESSA	cisco	SONICWALL	WatchGuard	FORTINET	paloalto NETWORKS	cisco Meraki	Check Point SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES LTD.	Barracuda
Networking: Capability to participate in enterprise network routing, IP assignment (DHCP), traffic management (QoS), DNS, NAT, and server failover features. SNMP compliant alerts.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Basic Security: Provide port based policy rules and ACL for securing the network; deny unauthorized users (DoS, DDoS attacks). DMZ capability for LAN.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advanced Security: Provide web and email protection (spyware and malware detection), content filtering, and application inspection; NGFW, UTM.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
VPN: Host VPN connections natively and interoperate with other vendors (IKEv1, IKEv2 w/ 128 & 256-bit encryption).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Connectivity: Integrate bandwidth from 3 or more connections; work with any technology (Broadband, MPLS, T1, DSL, Cellular, Microwave).	✓	✓							
Outage Avoidance: Customizable parameters for automatic failover and failback, inbound and outbound load balancing, authoritative DNS and more.	✓	✓							
Advanced SD-WAN Features: GRE tunneling and packet-level control to eliminate outages and ensure quality of service.	✓	✓							
Total Cost of Ownership: Relative cost of solution; HW plus SW licenses and support.	$	$$$	$	$$	$$	$$	$	$$$	$$$

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