

## SOLUTION BRIEF

# FortiOS: The Foundation of the Fortinet Security Fabric

### Executive Summary

Far too many organizations still rely on isolated and bolt-on products deployed across their networks to secure their digital environments. This complexity leads to fragmented visibility and control, creating security gaps that cyber adversaries can exploit to compromise your connected data and resources.

Fortinet is committed to a different approach. Since our founding, we have focused on the seamless convergence of critical networking and security tools. For consistent network-wide protection, especially in today's hybrid environments, organizations require a truly integrated platform where every security and networking element, regardless of where it has been deployed, is able to function as part of a holistic, integrated system.

### FortiOS 7.6 and the Power of the Fortinet Platform

For more than two decades, Fortinet has been developing and delivering the industry's most mature security and networking platform, the Fortinet Security Fabric. By consolidating and converging essential networking and security tools into a single, integrated solution, organizations can address the risks and challenges targeting today's complex IT and OT environments.

Unlike those vendors just now jumping on the platform bandwagon, we have been diligently building and refining our Security Fabric for years, resulting in the most extensive product coverage available. FortiOS 7.6, the latest update to our industry-leading operating system, injects new capabilities and services across the Fortinet Security Fabric. Its latest enhancements include adding new generative AI capabilities across all three of our pillars: Secure Networking, AI-Powered Security Operations, and Unified SASE. It also adds new managed services for our FortiGate, SASE, and SOC operations, new integrations for our Unified agent, and new advanced data protection solutions.

### The Fortinet Platform is Built on a Unified Strategy

By leveraging a single OS, agent, management tool, and data lake, the Fortinet Security Fabric overcomes the limitations of traditional siloed security solutions—as well as the poorly integrated solutions offered by other platforms. Its foundation is built around a unified approach unique to the industry. Its single OS, agent, management, and data lake enables exceptional integration across technologies, simplifies and consolidates management, increases ROI, and empowers your IT teams with unparalleled visibility and control:

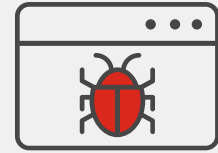
- **One Operating System (FortiOS):** FortiOS is the foundation of every tool and function built into the Security Fabric platform. The power of this unified OS approach can be seen in our industry-leading position across numerous Gartner Magic Quadrant categories, including Firewalls, LAN Edge, SD-WAN, and Secure Access Service Edge (SASE)—all powered by the same FortiOS. This integrated approach eliminates the complexity of managing disparate systems and ensures consistent security policies and enforcement across the entire network.
- **One Unified Agent (FortiClient):** The FortiClient agent provides powerful telemetry, visibility, control, and protection to IT teams by seamlessly integrating Endpoint Protection Platform (EPP) and Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA) capabilities. FortiOS 7.6 now adds Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) to FortiClient to add behavior-based detection for your endpoints, providing strong ransomware protection within the most comprehensive



Because of continued network and security complexity, it now takes an [average of 277 days](#) for organizations to identify and contain a data breach—and even then, only one-third of breaches are identified by an organization's internal security teams and tools.<sup>1</sup>

agent on the market. This Unified Agent enables all these many visibility and protection capabilities to be seamlessly integrated with the rest of your network security framework and SOC environment.

- **One Management Tool (FortiManager):** Fortinet's single-pane-of-glass management tool provides centralized control across your entire distributed environment, from your campus and data centers to your branch offices and remote users to your multi-cloud environments. FortiManager simplifies the management of on-premises, cloud-based, and cloud-delivered security solutions for comprehensive network visibility and control through a single console.
- **One Data Lake (FortiAnalyzer):** Our newly announced data lake serves as a central repository for Security Operations Center (SOC) analysis, streamlining threat detection, investigation, and response and empowering your security team to make faster and more informed decisions.



According to [Harvard Business Review](#), enterprises typically maintain nearly 100 different security tools, creating a level of complexity that hinders visibility and can result in serious threat exposure.<sup>2</sup>

## Enhancements to FortiOS 7.6

The Fortinet Security Fabric platform can be deployed across all critical use cases, delivering a broad range of integrated security and network functionality to every corner of your network. The latest enhancements in FortiOS 7.6 provide new or enriched capabilities in the following areas:

- **Operational efficiency**—Complexity is the enemy of security. FortiOS 7.6 addresses complexity by delivering more integrations across products to share information, enable automation, and bring AI to bear on the chaos of data. The new release includes SOC incident capabilities, DEM enhancements, additional Unified Agent functions, and new SASE Thin Edge use cases to reduce operational complexity
- **Risk reduction**—FortiOS 7.6 adds Remote Browser Isolation to provide a safe layer of protection between employees and web-based content and files. DLP enhancements further reduce the risk of sensitive information leaving the organization's control. And FortiLink NAC provides policy-based, automatic onboarding of IoT devices by applying zero-trust principles to agentless endpoints.
- **Addressing the cybersecurity skills gap**—FortiOS 7.6 enhancements in generative AI and new NOC and SOC services offload internal teams that are over-extended. Our new generative AI, FortiAI, helps guide SOC and NOC operatives and suggests next steps, facilitates faster decision-making, helps detect and remediate incidents quickly, and ensures organizations can easily adopt the technologies they require. Our managed services use Fortinet-badged professionals to deploy, configure, monitor, and report on Fortinet products, becoming an extension of our customer's or partner's teams.

## The Fortinet Advantage

Our relentless focus on organic innovation and development of the Fortinet Security Fabric platform—powered by FortiOS—complemented by tactical acquisitions for specific technologies or capabilities, has created the most holistic and integrated cybersecurity and networking solution in the industry.

This unique approach produces better security outcomes, more efficient operations, a better user experience, and a stronger ROI. FortiOS 7.6 builds on previous development with the latest in generative AI, managed services, and advanced functionality to further speed and simplify today's increasingly complex NOC and SOC operations.

<sup>1</sup> [Cost of a Data Breach Report 2023](#), IBM, July 2023.

<sup>2</sup> ["Where to Focus Your Company's Limited Cybersecurity Budget."](#) Harvard Business Review, 23 May 2023

