

# IT Leaders Take Integrated Approach to Networking & Security

In the era of the perimeterless network, IT leaders pursue SASE, zero trust, and managed services.

The pandemic has spurred new work and customer experience models, driving the growth of connected digital business solutions and altering the network perimeter and enterprise cybersecurity approaches. IT leaders charged with assuring network security believe they're ready to face a host of challenges. They're eyeing new security frameworks such as secure access service edge (SASE) and zero trust, which integrate wide-area networking with advanced security solutions, as ways to secure critical business infrastructure. Yet, according to a recent study by IDG and Comcast Business, IT leaders acknowledge that they will need the help of third-party partners for both strategic planning and implementation.



## Connectivity reshuffling priorities

The increased need for connected business solutions means reprioritization of network cybersecurity approaches for more than one-third of organizations.

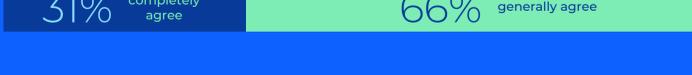


Accelerated digital adoption has increased the priority of network security measures.



## Security, management top concerns:

The network is valuable only if it is secure — 90% agree:



The network is valuable only if it is easy to manage — 97% agree:



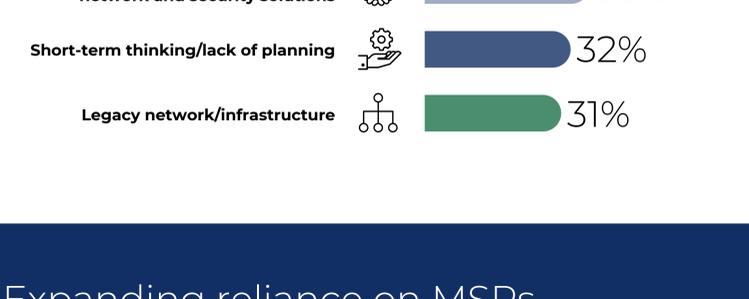
## What's driving the change?

Workforce changes are the biggest driver. Recent high-profile breaches may be elevating its importance to leadership.



## Challenges to be met

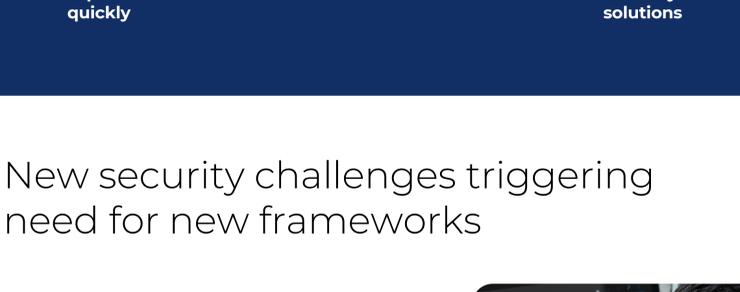
Skills, transparency, point solutions present challenges.



## Expanding reliance on MSPs



## Where businesses want help:

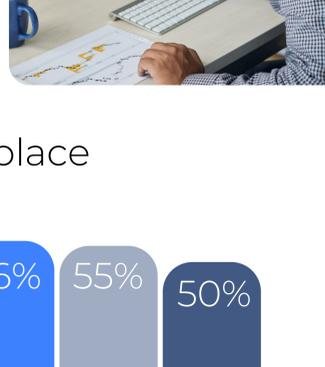


## New security challenges triggering need for new frameworks

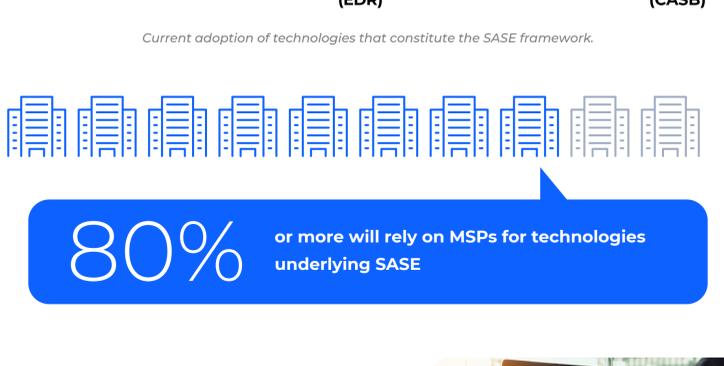
### SASE and zero trust

Gartner: By 2025 at least

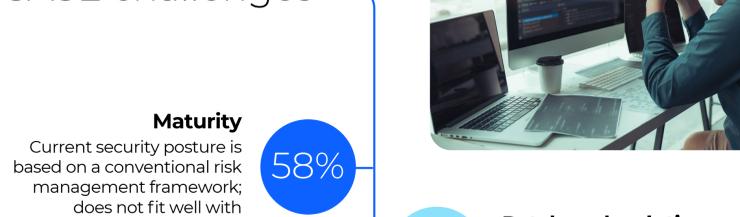
60% of enterprises will have explicit strategies and timelines for SASE adoption encompassing user, branch, and edge access, up from 10% in 2020.<sup>1</sup>



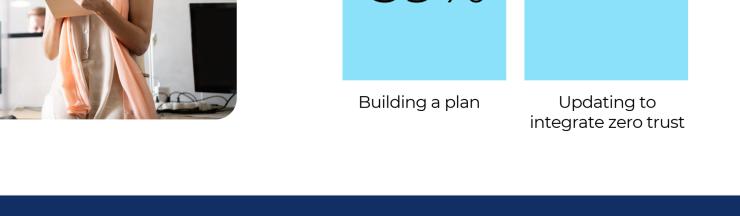
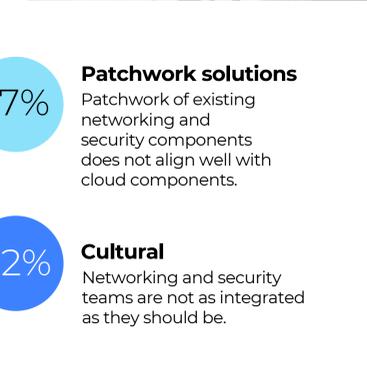
## SASE building blocks in place



Current adoption of technologies that constitute the SASE framework.



## SASE challenges



[Learn about Comcast Business Cybersecurity Services](#)

Sources:  
<sup>1</sup> 2021 Strategic Roadmap for SASE Convergence, Neil MacDonald and Nat Smith, Gartner, March 25, 2021.  
MarketPulse survey conducted by IDG and Comcast Business, July 2021, with 131 respondents from IDG's TechTalk community.