Plex Network Direct SD-WAN
A Plex Systems and Silver Peak Solution

Plex Systems and Silver Peak have partnered to create Plex Network Direct, a joint solution using Silver Peak’s Unity EdgeConnect SD-WAN Solution that enables Plex manufacturing customers to achieve optimized WAN access to the Plex Manufacturing Cloud. With Plex Network Direct, customers use EdgeConnect and standard Internet services to extend enterprise-grade network connectivity between their locations and Plex’s data center(s). This solution delivers a cost-effective way to achieve high-performance network connectivity, resiliency and fault tolerant access to the Plex Manufacturing Cloud.

Rather than maintaining expensive, dedicated MPLS express routes, manufacturers can use the Plex Network Direct solution with redundant public Internet service to ensure consistent Plex application performance and availability without compromising security. With Plex Network Direct, a physical or virtual Silver Peak EdgeConnect appliance is installed at each customer location, and a peer EdgeConnect instance(s) is deployed in the Plex data center. The EdgeConnect SD-WAN automatically creates a mesh of IPSec tunnels using all available Internet connections to interconnect the customer locations with the Plex data center. The entire EdgeConnect SD-WAN is controlled by Silver Peak Unity Orchestrator, which combines business intent with application visibility to ensure that Plex customer traffic is identified at the network edge, and transported between customer locations and a Plex data center according to the requirements of the SLA.

In order to meet the Plex application SLA, EdgeConnect intelligently steers traffic across the SD-WAN fabric to the Plex data center, making use of all available WAN resources to ensure the best user experience. In cases where multiple Internet connections are available, seamless failover can be configured between WAN links in order to achieve higher Plex application performance and availability. EdgeConnect has built-in capabilities like path conditioning and link bonding that enhance application performance and availability no matter where the app resides, even during a WAN service outage or brownout. For certain latency-sensitive applications where performance is impacted by long distances, Silver Peak Unity Boost, an optional, integrated WAN optimization performance pack, mitigates latency and ensures fast application response.

Benefits And Business Outcomes
Plex Network Direct will achieve many other tangible benefits:

• **Zero Touch Provisioning** – Quick and Simple Installation
• **WAN Hardening** – Edge-To-Edge Security with 256-bit AES encryption
• **Real-Time Monitoring and Historical Reporting** – Real-time and historical monitoring of SD-WAN and application performance measured from all connected customer sites and across all WAN transports
Option 1
- **Pros:** Inexpensive
- **Cons:** Reliability, limited monitoring
- **Net:** Good for most customers, limitations for largest customers, no service guarantees

Option 2
- **Pros:** Reliability
- **Cons:** Expensive, limited monitoring
- **Net:** Reliable option for guaranteed service, but very costly

**Plex Network Direct:**
- Uses inexpensive standard Internet service
- Delivers reliable, resilient network connectivity
- Provides real-time monitoring and measurements