

**Google Cloud Security Forum 2019:
Building a Robust Partner Ecosystem for the Enterprise
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Executive Summary

Continuing its series of events on Google Cloud Platform (GCP), the company hosted an event on Cloud Security. Accompanied by Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurian, many of its partners—[ATOS](#), [Check Point Software](#), [Citrix](#), [ForgeRock](#), [Fortinet](#), [McAfee](#), [Palo Alto Networks](#), and [Tanium](#) that have integrated their solutions with the GCP—shared their experiences with the audience. The goal of these integrations is to shore up its cloud security; making GCP more attractive to enterprise customers.

Announcements

Traditionally, most vendors have paid lip-service to enterprise IT security. As we have stated many times before, if we think of IT as a cake, security must be built into it, as eggs are baked into, and not added as an afterthought as icing is for the cake.

Google's mantra was:

- *Security in the Cloud*, give customers the most secure and compliant cloud,
- *Security of the Cloud*, offer products that enable layered defense for apps on Google Cloud, and
- *Security Everywhere*, create platforms and products that enable security in any environment.

The following Partners' announcements were noteworthy.

1. ForgeRock discussed its Identity Cloud, built on GCP, which includes the [Identity Platform-as-a-Service \(IDPaaS\)](#) and [ForgeRock Identity Cloud Express](#)—a SaaS, developer-focused solution for embedding modern identity capabilities into apps. ForgeRock also claimed deploying 100+ million users on its platform with GCP.
2. Fortinet announced a reference architecture for customers to connect distributed branches to GCP with Fortinet's SD-WAN. Adding to many Fortinet products that already support GCP, Fortinet made its web application firewall (WAF) available in the Google Cloud Marketplace. Thus, customers can design and build cloud on-ramps for GCP, providing secure, high-speed connectivity across Google Anthos deployments on-premise and in GCP, as well as SSL inspection for office connectivity through Fortinet's SD-WAN product. In addition to the WAF integration, Fortinet's FortiCWP product will soon integrate with GCP's Cloud Security Command Center (CSCC) to provide additional workload protection and visibility. Fortinet made similar integrations over the past several weeks with Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Microsoft Azure.
3. McAfee will integrate its endpoint security technology for Linux and Windows workloads, as well as its Mvision Cloud platform for container security, on Google Cloud infrastructure.
4. Palo Alto Networks and Google Cloud will jointly develop a new multi-cloud security framework for Anthos, which is Google Cloud's hybrid platform, and multi-cloud Kubernetes deployments. The framework will use Palo Alto Networks' Prisma Cloud security platform and its VM-Series virtual firewalls. It aims to help Google Cloud customers deploy a common compliance and runtime security posture across all of their workloads, the partners said.

The two companies also announced a new threat intelligence integration, combining Google Cloud's Event Threat Detection product with Palo Alto Networks [AutoFocus](#) threat intelligence service.

Analyses and Conclusions

Overall, we believe these are right moves by Google to more aggressively compete with the cloud leaders—AWS and Azure. Whereas other social media vendors seem to have taken privacy and security lightly, Google is exhibiting some maturity in its quest to become a credible Cloud Service Provider for the Enterprise. This strategy of building a robust security partner ecosystem will provide enterprise clients a comprehensive portfolio of solutions with choice and flexibility.