PULSE FIREMON

# The Future of Network Security

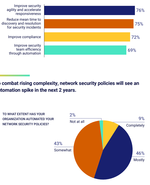
IT and security leaders face a transforming digital world. In order to meet the needs of an evolving landscape - an increasing number of security threats, increasingly hybrid architectures, the growing reliance and complexity of the cloud, and the rise of the distributed workforce—these executives must consider the best path forward to maintain security and enable agility.

**Pulse and Firelion surveyed 500 IT security leaders in North America and EMEA to learn how their network security operations have changed as a result of these trends, the solutions they're planning to implement in the next 12 months, and the most critical initiatives they're launching to optimize their network security posture.**

Data collected here: 29, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021
Respondents: 500 IT Security Leaders in North America and EMEA

## A. Amping Up Automation

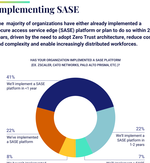
**The need for speed is driving widespread investments in security automation, with nearly 8 in 10 respondents saying they'll implement security orchestration and automation within 2 years and 98% of organizations having already automated security policies to some degree.**




**To combat rising complexity, network security policies will see an automation spike in the next 2 years.**

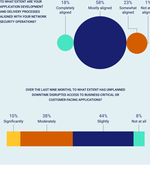
## B. Embracing Zero Trust

**Fueled by a more distributed and mobile workforce and increasing reliance on cloud based applications, 85% of organizations have either implemented a Zero Trust architecture or plan to do so within 2 years.**



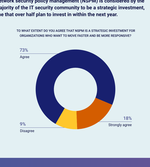
## C. Implementing SASE

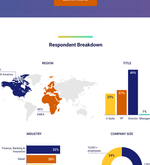
**The majority of organizations have either already implemented a secure access service edge (SASE) platform or plan to do so within 2 years, driven by the need to adopt Zero Trust architectures, reduce cost and complexity and enable increasingly distributed workforces.**



## D. Addressing Security-Development Misalignment

**Widespread lack of alignment between network security operations and application development and delivery processes slows deployment of applications and leads to unplanned downtime.**




## E. Managing Accelerating Heterogeneity

**More than half of organizations place the highest importance on having the best technology, even if that requires using multiple vendors, while more than 8 in 10 will use network security tools with an open API to integrate security with development, deployment and IT, and tools and processes.**







**As distributed work continues, so does the cloud transition—as well as rising network security challenges.**







**Network security policy management (NSPM) is considered by the majority of the IT security community to be a strategic investment, one that over half plan to invest in within the next year.**





Learn how Firelion helps global enterprises protect their networks, ensure compliance, and increase security agility

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### Respondent Breakdown