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The bridge to possible

ACI L4-L7 Policy-Based Redirect (PBR) Deep Dive and tips

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CISCO *Live!*

BRKDCN-3982

Session Objectives

- At the end of the session, the participants should be able to:
 - Understand ACI PBR use cases.
 - Understand how ACI PBR works.
 - Understand design considerations.
 - Understand how to configure ACI PBR for Multi-Site (New configuration workflow)
- What is not covered in this session.
 - Cloud ACI. We are going to focus on on-prem ACI.
- Initial assumption:
 - The audience already has a good knowledge of ACI main concepts: VRF, BD, EPG, ESG, L3Out, Contract, Multi-Pod, Multi-Site, Remote Leaf etc
- Note: This session uses ESGs mainly, but the PBR features are applicable to EPGs and uSeg EPGs.

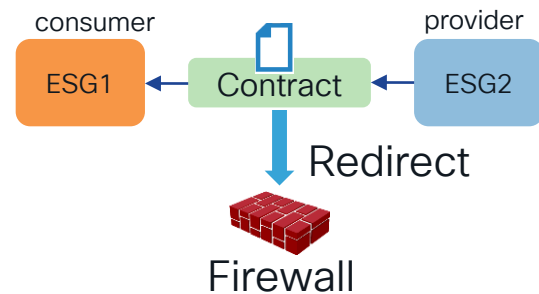
Agenda

- ACI PBR Use cases
- PBR Forwarding and zoning-rules
- FAQs
- Multi-location Data Center design

ACI PBR Use Cases

PBR (redirect) is one of the contract actions!

- Permit
- Deny
- **Redirect**
- Copy



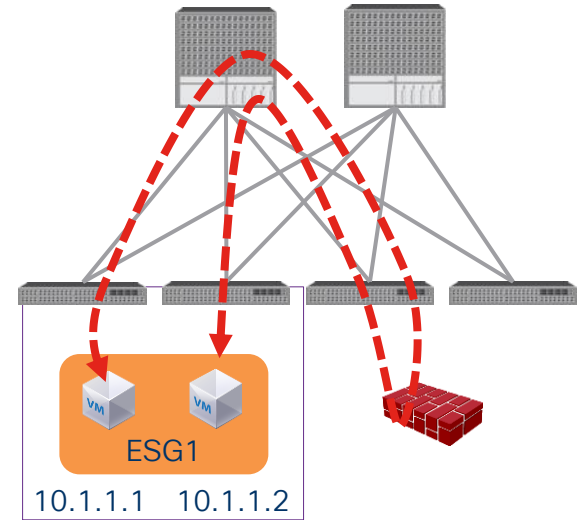
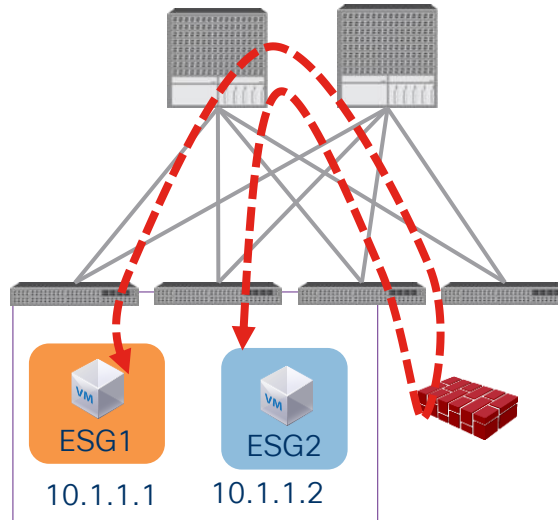
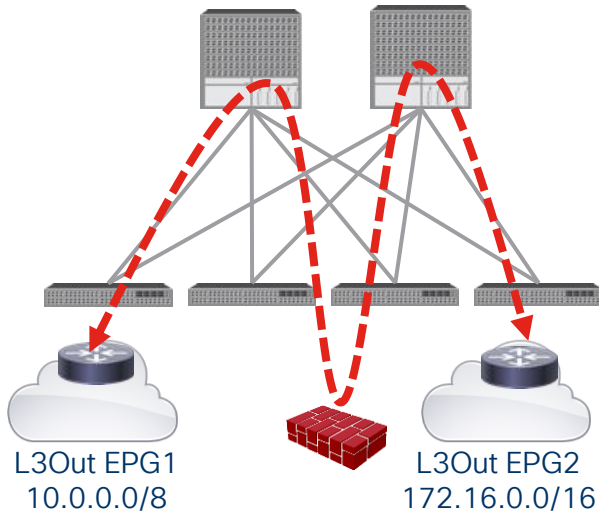
Where can we use PBR?

Wherever contracts can be applied!



PBR is a contract action. It's based on source, destination EPG/ESG and filter matching.

- Between EPGs or ESGs.
- Between L3Out EPGs.
- Between EPGs or ESGs in the same subnet.
- Between endpoints in the same EPG or ESG.

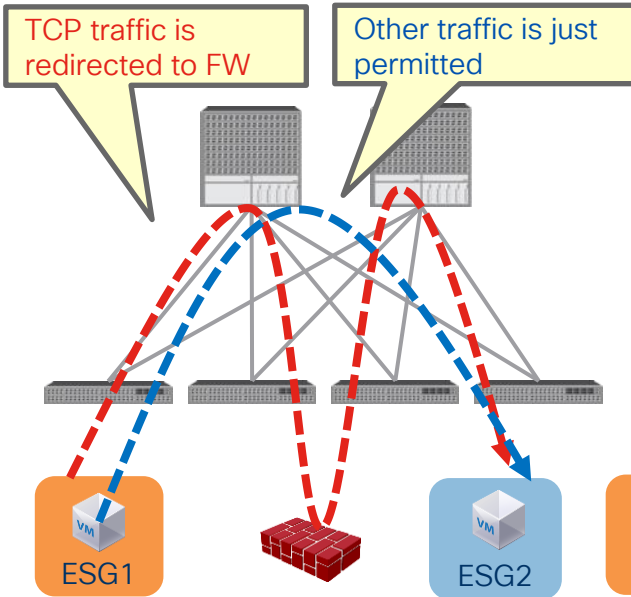


PBR use cases

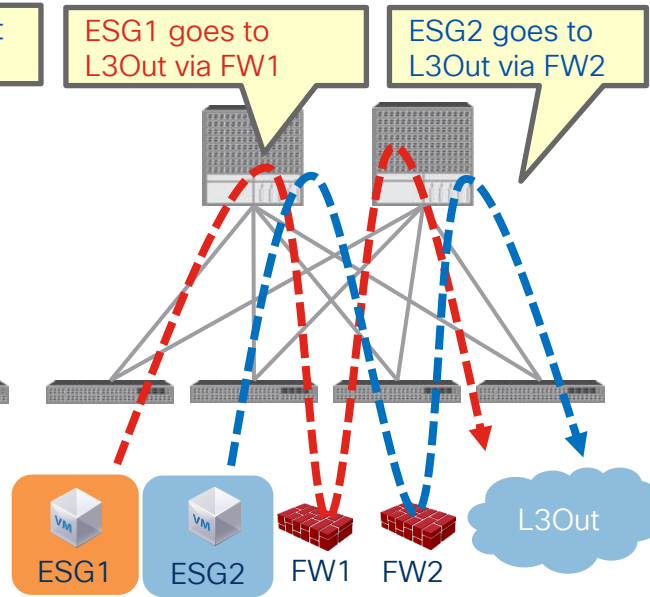


PBR can be applied to each direction

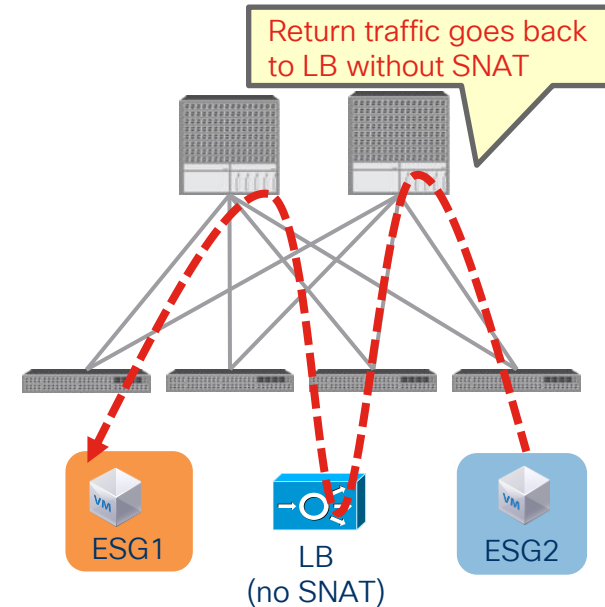
- Inspect specific traffic



- Use different Firewall

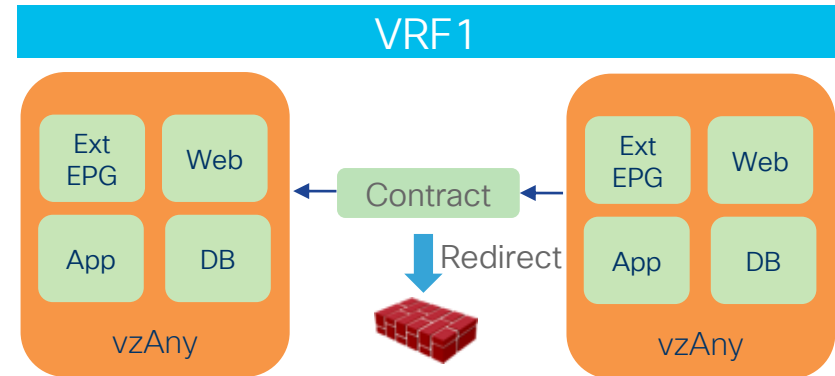
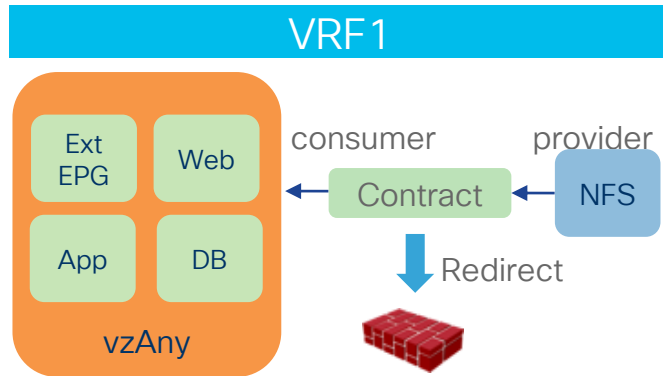


- LB without SNAT (uni-directional PBR)



Important note

- ACI must be Layer 3. (L2Out EPG is not supported)
- VRF must be in enforced mode. (PBR cannot be used in a VRF with unenforced mode)
 - If you want common permit or redirect rules in the VRF, you can use vzAny (All EPGs and ESGs in a VRF)
 - If you don't need contract enforcement for specific EPGs/ESGs in the VRF, you can still use Preferred Group.



PBR

Forwarding and zoning-rules

Zoning-rules (1-node Service Graph)

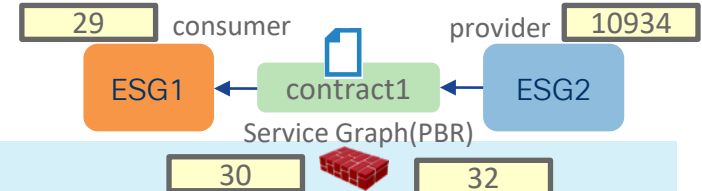
- Without PBR (permit action)



```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4157	29	10934	14	bi-dir	enabled	2195459	tenant1:contract1	permit	fully_qual(7)
4144	10934	29	14	uni-dir-ignore	enabled	2195459	tenant1:contract1	permit	fully_qual(7)

- With PBR (Service Graph)



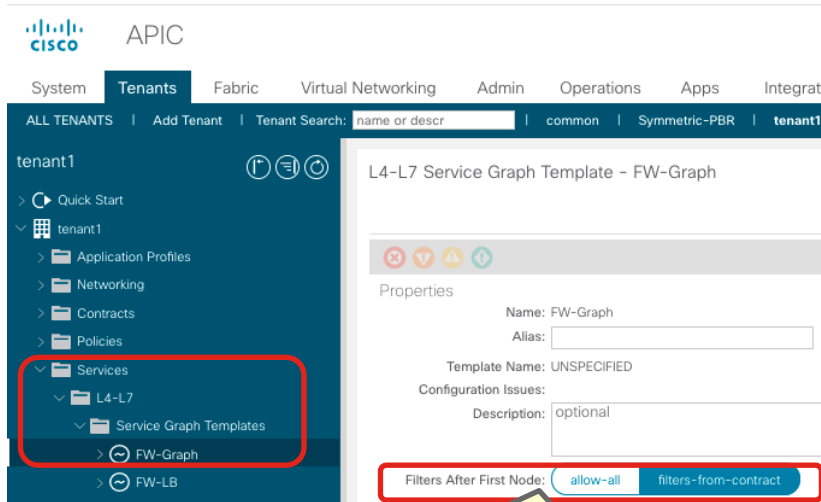
```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4144	29	10934	14	bi-dir	enabled	2195459	redir(destgrp-11)	fully_qual(7)	
4157	10934	29	14	uni-dir-ignore	enabled	2195459	redir(destgrp-12)	fully_qual(7)	
4140	32	10934	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459	permit	src_dst_any(9)	
4136	30	29	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459	permit	fully_qual(7)	

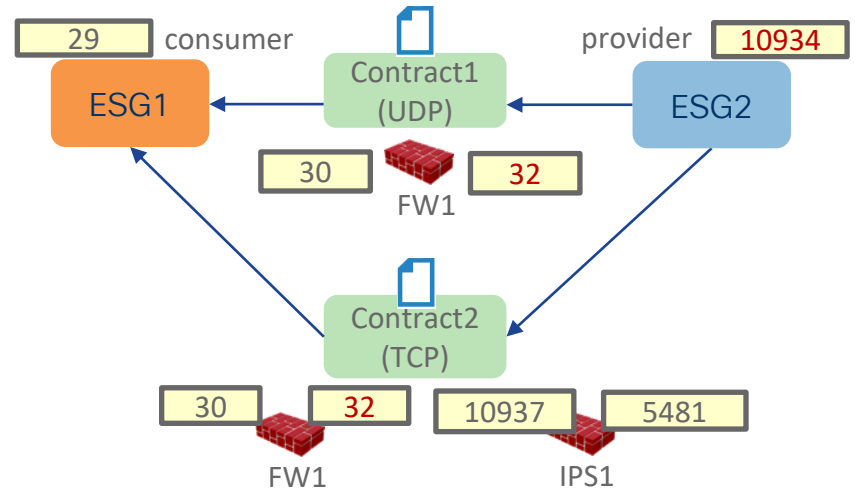
By default, unspecified default filter (any) is used for a zoning-rule entry without the consumer EPG.

Filter-from-contract

- To use the specific filter in the contract, “filters-from-contract” needs to be checked.
- Use case: use a different forwarding action based on the filter.



Default is “allow-all”



By default, forwarding actions are duplicated.

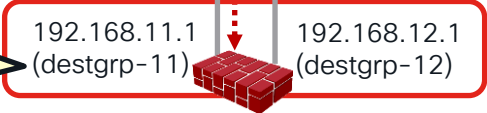
- 32-to-10934: permit (contract1 with UDP)
- 32-to-10934: redirect to IPS1 (contract2 with TCP)

PBR destination status

2: Periodic System-wide broadcast to all leaf nodes from the service leaf, announcing the FW's aliveness

1: Local tracking from the service leaf to node.

Health-group
If one of them is down, PBR to this node is disabled for both directions.



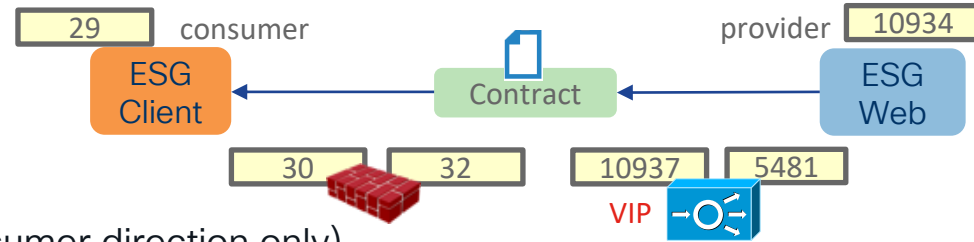
```
Pod1-Leaf1# show service redir info
=====
LEGEND
TL: Threshold(Low) | TH: Threshold(High) | HP: HashProfile | HG: HealthGrp | BAC: Backup-Dest | TRA: Tracking | RES: Resiliency
=====
List of Dest Groups
GrpID Name destination HG-name BAC operSt operStQual TL TH HP TRAC RES
=====
11 destgrp-11 dest-[192.168.11.1]-[vxlan-2195459] tenant1::HG1 N enabled no-oper-grp 0 0 sym yes no
12 destgrp-12 dest-[192.168.12.1]-[vxlan-2195459] tenant1::HG1 N enabled no-oper-grp 0 0 sym yes no

List of destinations
Name bdVnid vMac vrf operSt operStQual HG-name
=====
dest-[192.168.11.1]-[vxlan-2195459] vxlan-16678782 00:50:56:AF:6C:16 tenant1:VRF1 enabled no-oper-dest tenant1::HG1
dest-[192.168.12.1]-[vxlan-2195459] vxlan-16121790 00:50:56:AF:DF:55 tenant1:VRF1 enabled no-oper-dest tenant1::HG1

List of Health Groups
HG-Name HG-OperSt HG-Dest HG-Dest-OperSt
=====
tenant1::HG1 enabled dest-[192.168.11.1]-[vxlan-2195459] up
dest-[192.168.12.1]-[vxlan-2195459] up
```

Zoning-rules (2-nodes Service Graph)

- With Service Graph (PBR)
 - First node: FW (PBR for both directions)
 - Second node: LB (PBR for provider to consumer direction only)



- Consumer to provider direction
- Provider to consumer direction

```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4195	29	10937	14	bi-dir	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-11)	fully_qual(7)
4196	32	10937	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	src_dst_any(9)
4193	5481	10934	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	src_dst_any(9)
4198	10934	29	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-17)	fully_qual(7)
4181	10937	29	14	uni-dir-ignore	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-12)	fully_qual(7)
4194	30	29	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	fully_qual(7)

To permit traffic from the provider EPG to the LB (10934 to 5481), Direct Connect option must be enabled.

Direct Connect (False by default)



Direct Connect must be “True” for communication between the consumer/provider endpoint and the PBR destination.

- Tenant > Services > L4-L7 > Service Graph templates > Service Graph_NAME > Policy

APIC admin

System **Tenants** Fabric Virtual Networking Admin Operations Apps Integrations

ALL TENANTS | Add Tenant | Tenant Search: name or descr | common | Symmetric-PBR | tenant1 | PBR | floating

tenant1

Quick Start

tenant1

- Application Profiles
- Networking
- Contracts
- Policies
- Services**
 - L4-L7**
 - Service Graph Templates
 - FW-Graph
 - FW-LB**
 - Router configurations
 - Devices
 - Imported Devices
 - Devices Selection Policies
 - Deployed Graph Instances
 - DNS Server Groups (Beta)
 - Identity Server Groups (Beta)
 - Security

L4-L7 Service Graph Template - FW-LB

Topology **Policy**

Properties

Description: optional

Filters After First Node: allow-all filters-from-contract

Function Nodes:

Name	Function Name	Function Type	Description
N1		GoTo	
N2		GoTo	

Terminal Nodes:

Name	Provider/Consumer	Description
T1	Consumer	
T2	Provider	

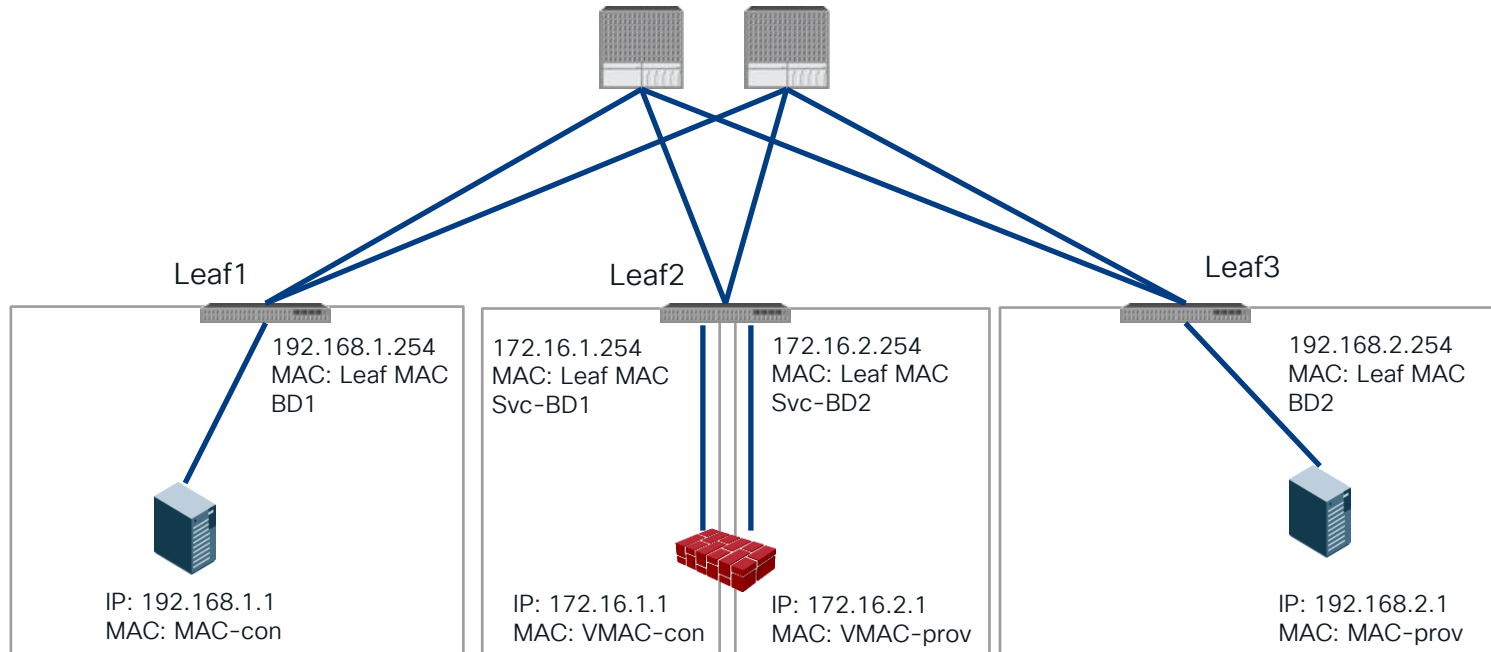
Connections:

Name	Connected Nodes	Direct Connect	Unicast Route	Adjacency Type	Description
C1	N1, T1	False	True	L3	
C2	N1, N2	False	True	L3	
C3	N2, T2	False	True	L3	

Default is "False"

How forwarding works

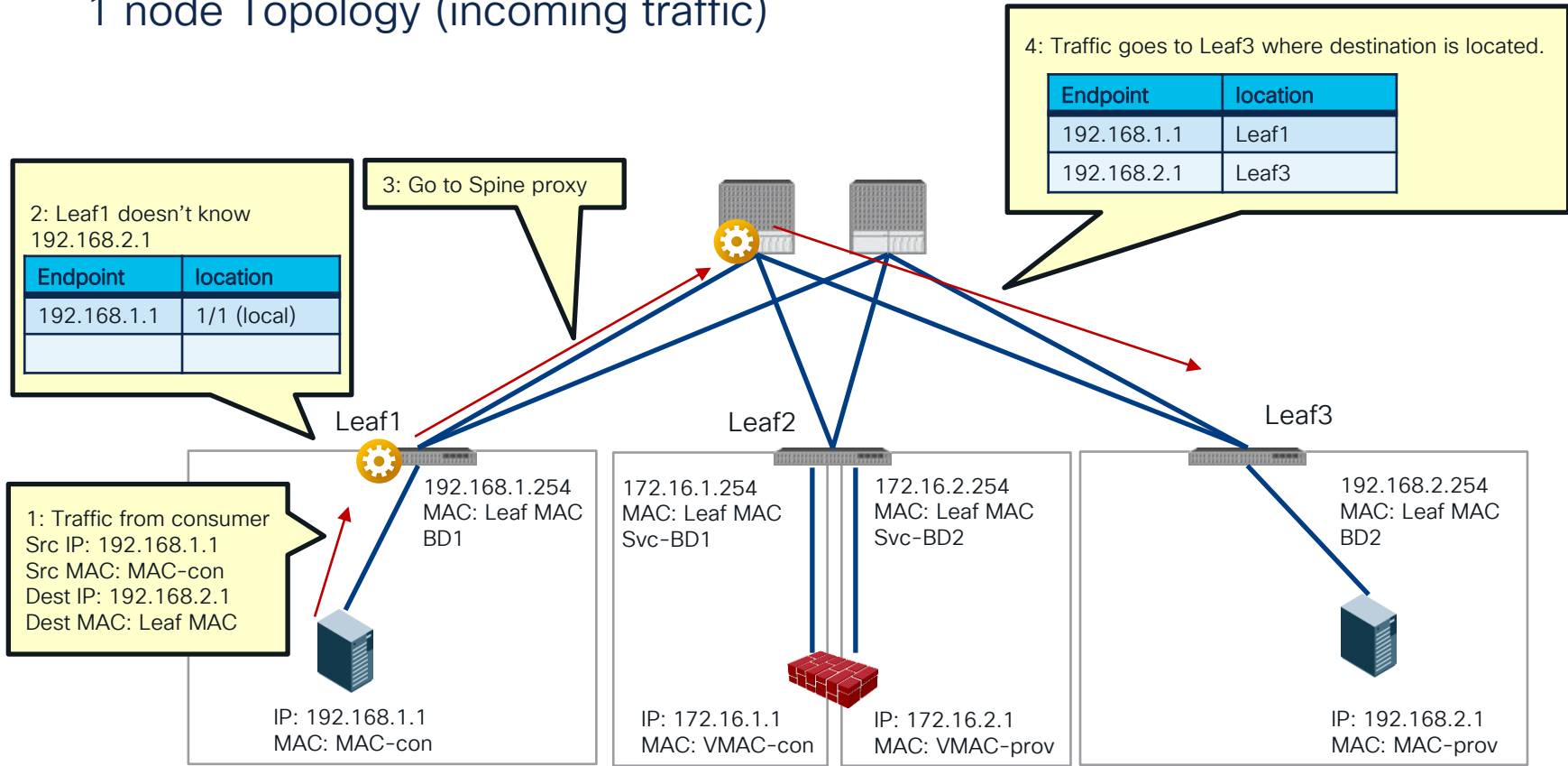
1 node Topology



How forwarding works

 = VXLAN Encap/Decap

1 node Topology (incoming traffic)

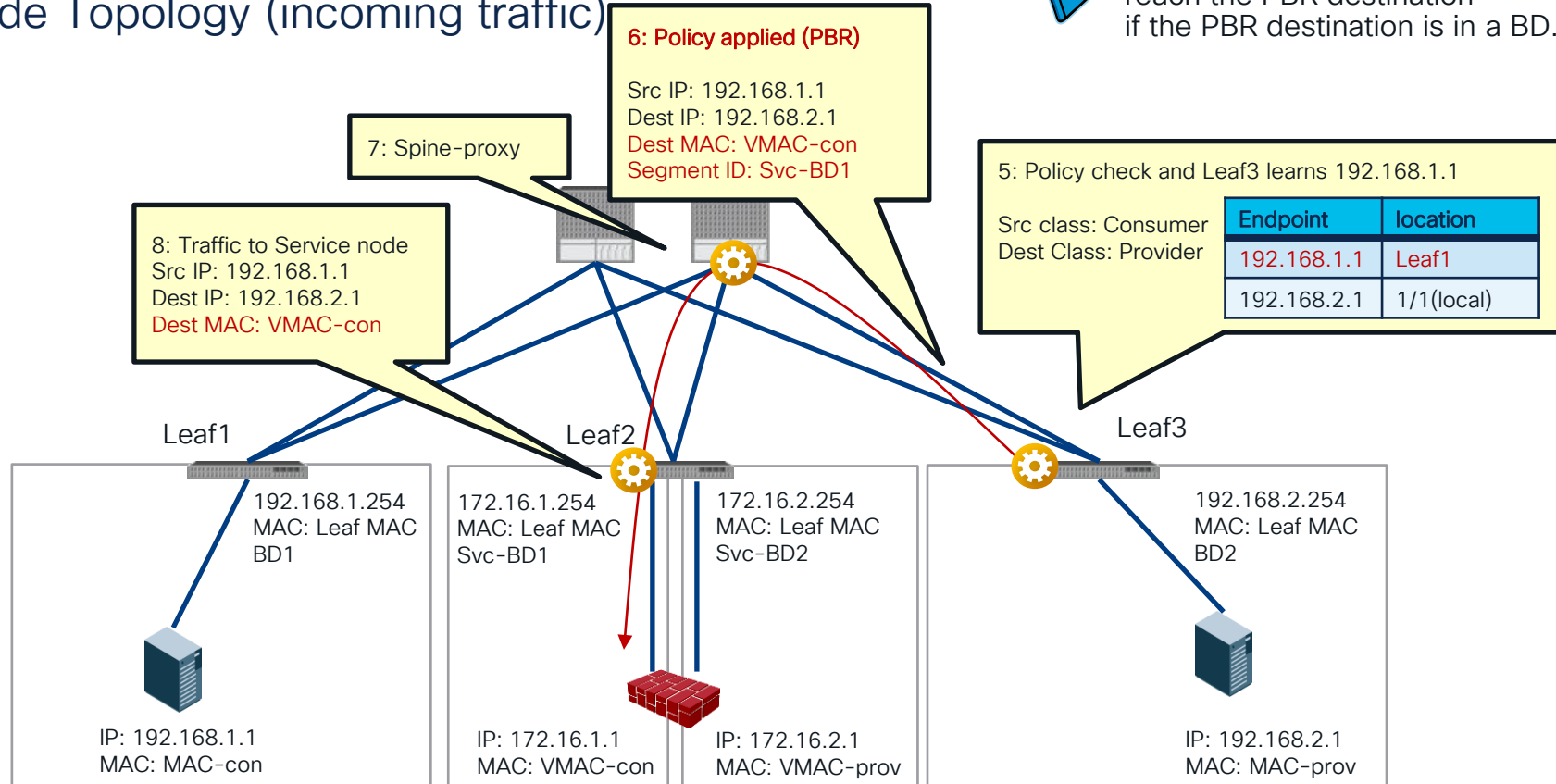


How forwarding works

1 node Topology (incoming traffic)



Leaf applies policy.
It's always spine-proxy to reach the PBR destination if the PBR destination is in a BD.

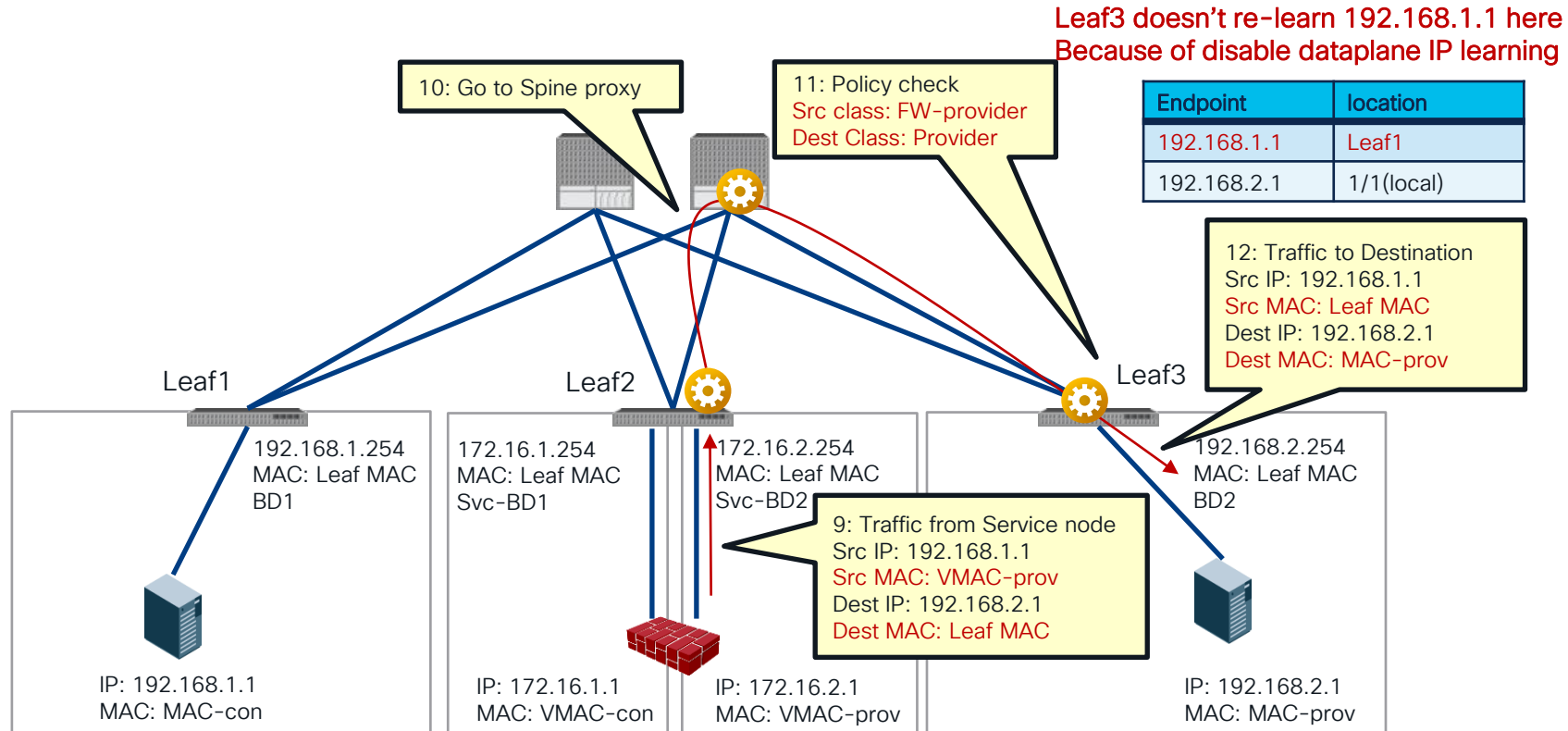


How forwarding works

1 node Topology (incoming traffic)

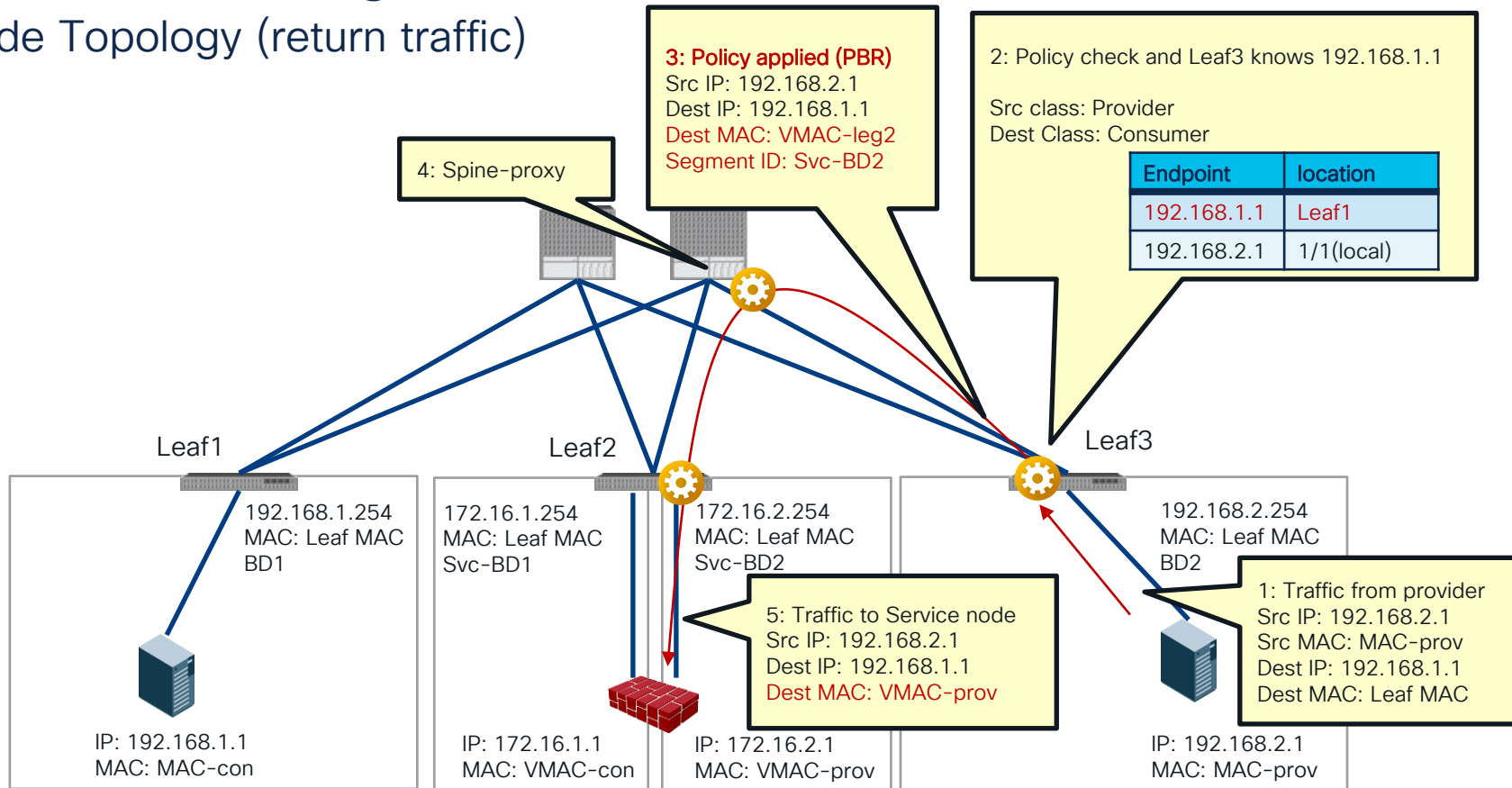


Dataplane IP learning is automatically disabled for the service EPG. (starting from 3.1)



How forwarding works

1 node Topology (return traffic)



How forwarding works

1 node Topology (return traffic)

Leaf1 doesn't learn 192.168.2.1 here
Because of disable dataplane IP learning

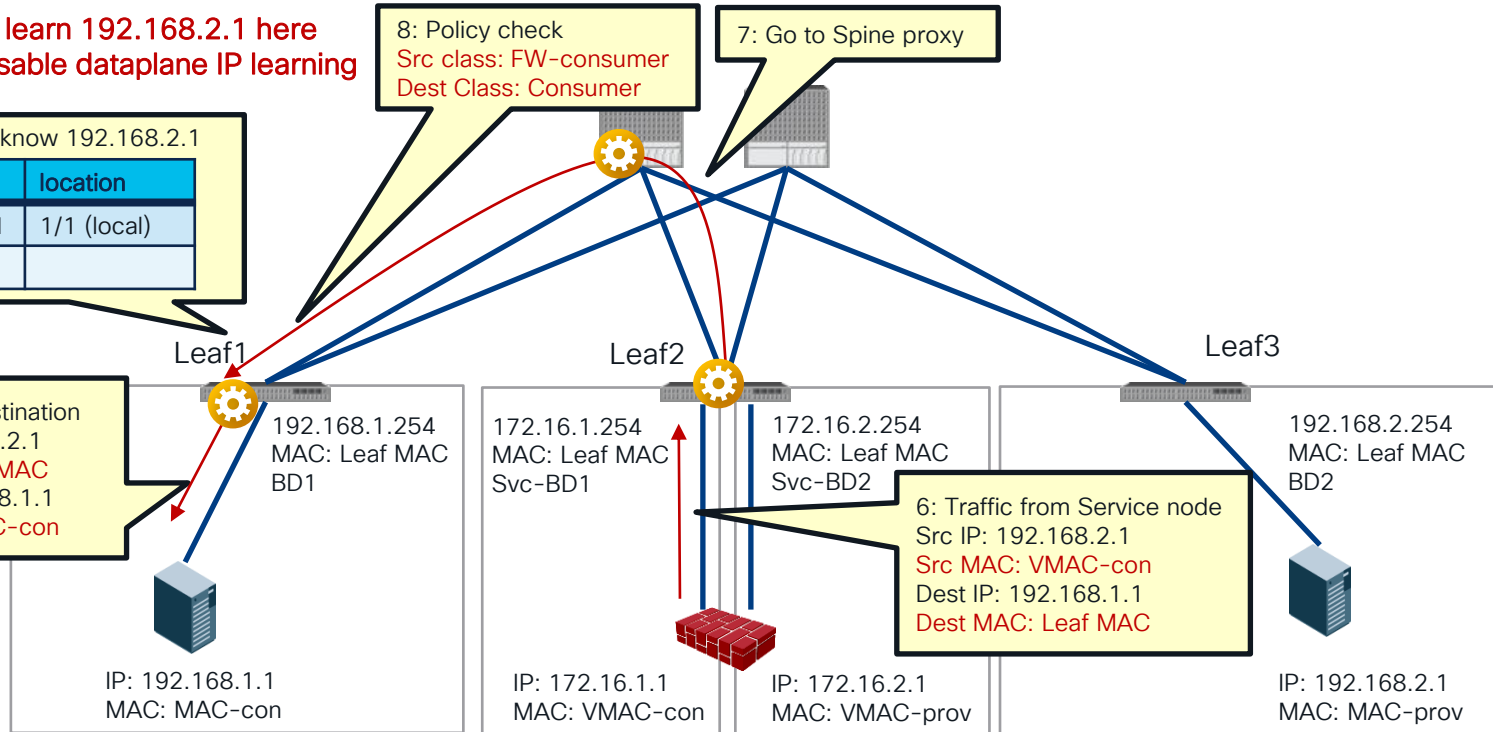
Leaf1 doesn't know 192.168.2.1

Endpoint	location
192.168.1.1	1/1 (local)

8: Policy check
Src class: FW-consumer
Dest Class: Consumer

7: Go to Spine proxy

9: Traffic to Destination
Src IP: 192.168.2.1
Src MAC: Leaf MAC
Dest IP: 192.168.1.1
Dest MAC: MAC-con



Where is the policy applied?



Please see
ACI Contract guide
for detail

Scenario	VRF enforcement mode	Consumer	Provider	Policy enforced on
Intra-VRF	Ingress/egress	EPG	EPG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If destination endpoint is learned: ingress leaf If destination endpoint is not learned: egress leaf
	ingress	EPG	L3Out EPG	Consumer leaf (non-border leaf)
	ingress	L3Out EPG	EPG	Provider leaf (non-border leaf)
	egress	EPG	L3Out EPG	Border leaf -> non-border leaf traffic
	egress	L3Out EPG	EPG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If destination endpoint is learned: border leaf If destination endpoint is not learned: non-border leaf Non-border leaf-> border leaf traffic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Border leaf
	Ingress/egress	L3Out EPG	L3Out EPG	Ingress leaf
Inter-VRF	Ingress/egress	EPG	EPG	Consumer leaf
	Ingress/egress	EPG	L3Out EPG	Consumer leaf (non-border leaf)
	Ingress/egress	L3Out EPG	EPG	Ingress leaf
	Ingress/egress	L3Out EPG	L3Out EPG	Ingress leaf

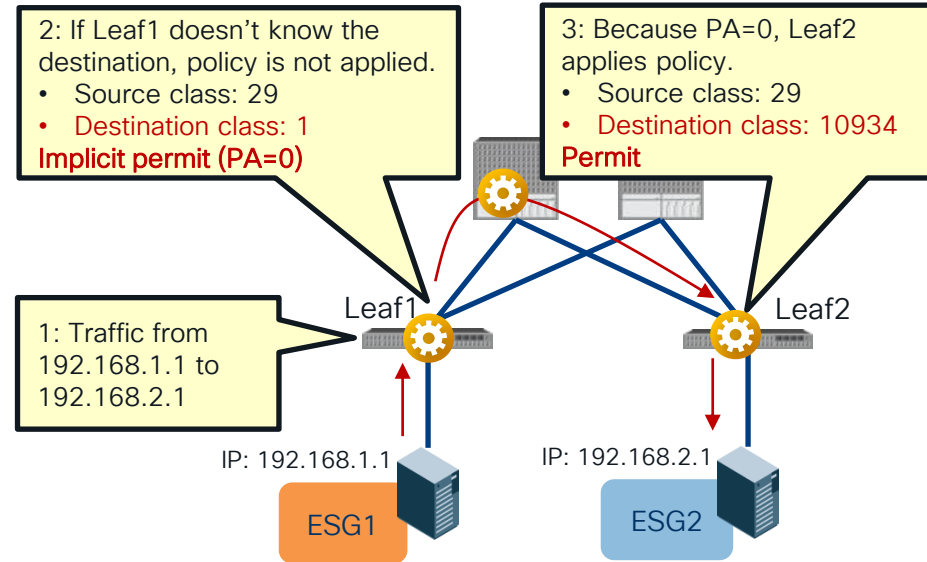
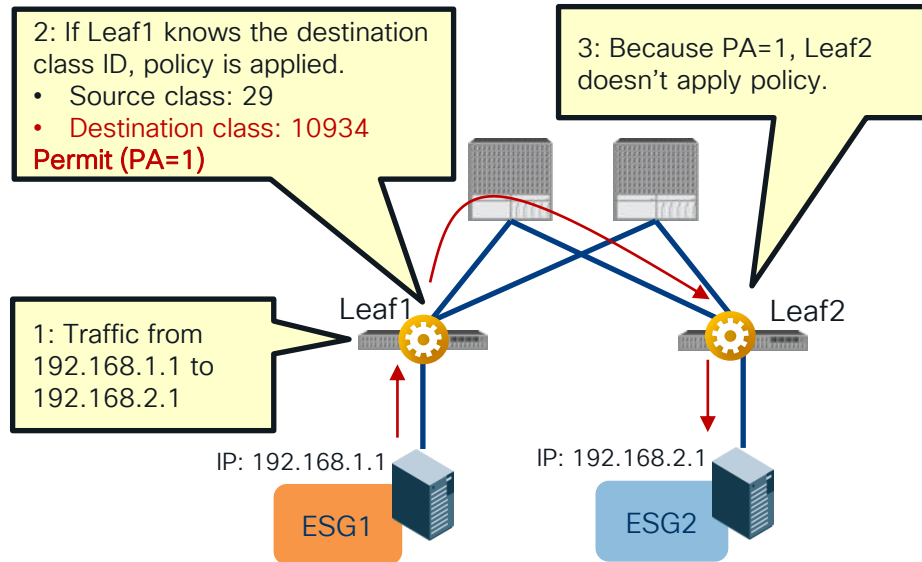
How ingress/egress leaf enforcement works?

Policy Applied (PA) bit



- Intra-VRF ESG-to-ESG ingress leaf enforcement

- Intra-VRF ESG-to-ESG egress leaf enforcement



Contract Priority

Look at your zoning-rule priority and then filter priority!

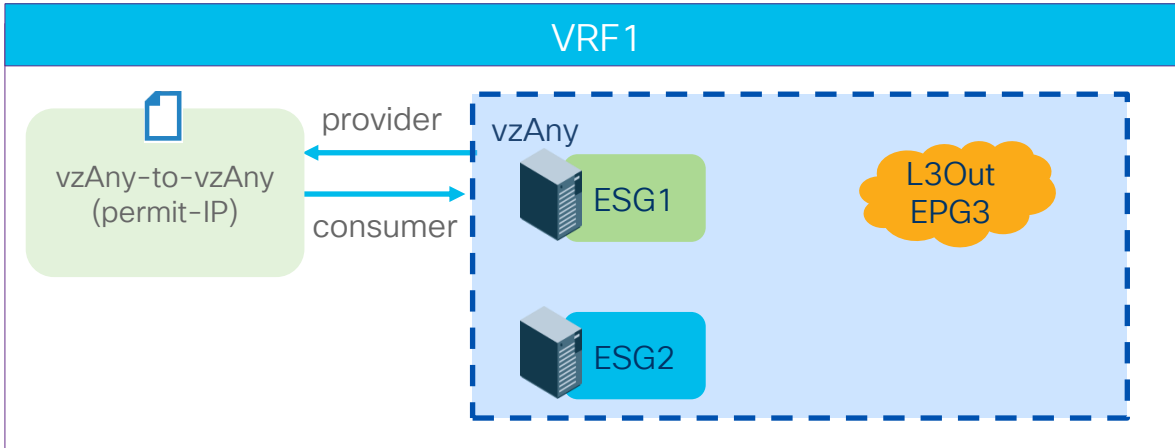


Please see
ACI Contract guide
for detail

- More specific EPGs win over vzAny and preferred groups.
 - EPG-to-EPG wins over EPG-to-vzAny/vzAny-to-EPG that wins over vzAny-to-vzAny.
 - Specific source wins over specific destination. (EPG-to-vzAny wins over vzAny-to-EPG)
- Deny actions win. Specific protocol wins.
 - If the zoning-rule priority is the same, deny wins over redirect or permit action.
 - Between redirect and permit, a more specific protocol and a specific L4 protocol wins.
- More specific L4 rules win.
 - Specific filter wins over “any” filter.
 - Specific destination wins over specific source (“s-any to d-80” wins over “s-80 to d-any”)

Example 1

What's the forwarding action?



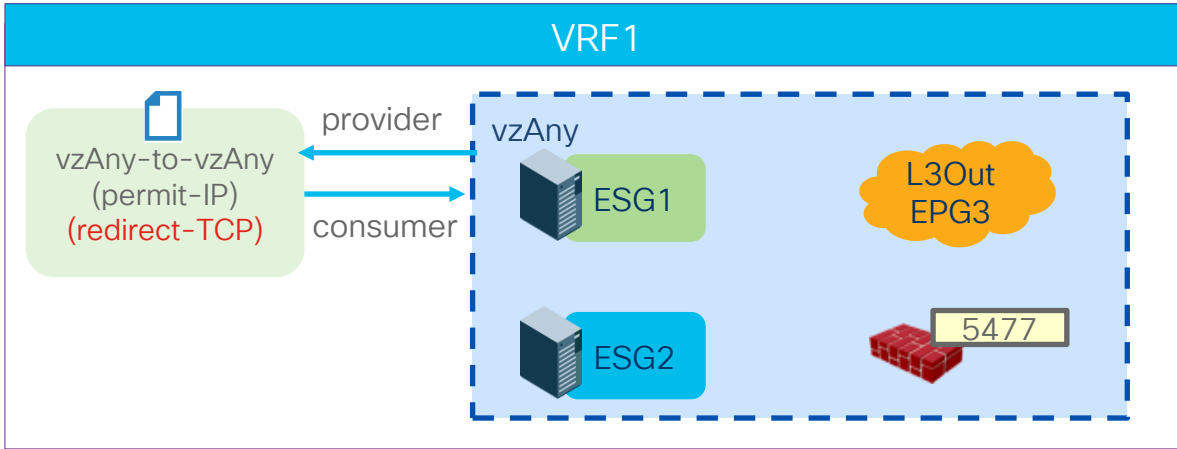
- ESG1-to-ESG2 (IP)
Permit
- ESG1-to-L3OutEPG3 (IP)
Permit
- ESG2-to-L3OutEPG3 (IP)
Permit

```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4194	0	0	74	uni-dir	enabled	2195459	tenant1:vzAny-to-vzAny	permit	any_any_filter(17)

Example 2

What's the forwarding action?



- ESG1-to-ESG2 (TCP)
Redirect
- ESG1-to-ESG2 (UDP)
Permit

More specific L4 rules win though the zoning-rule priority is the same.

```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

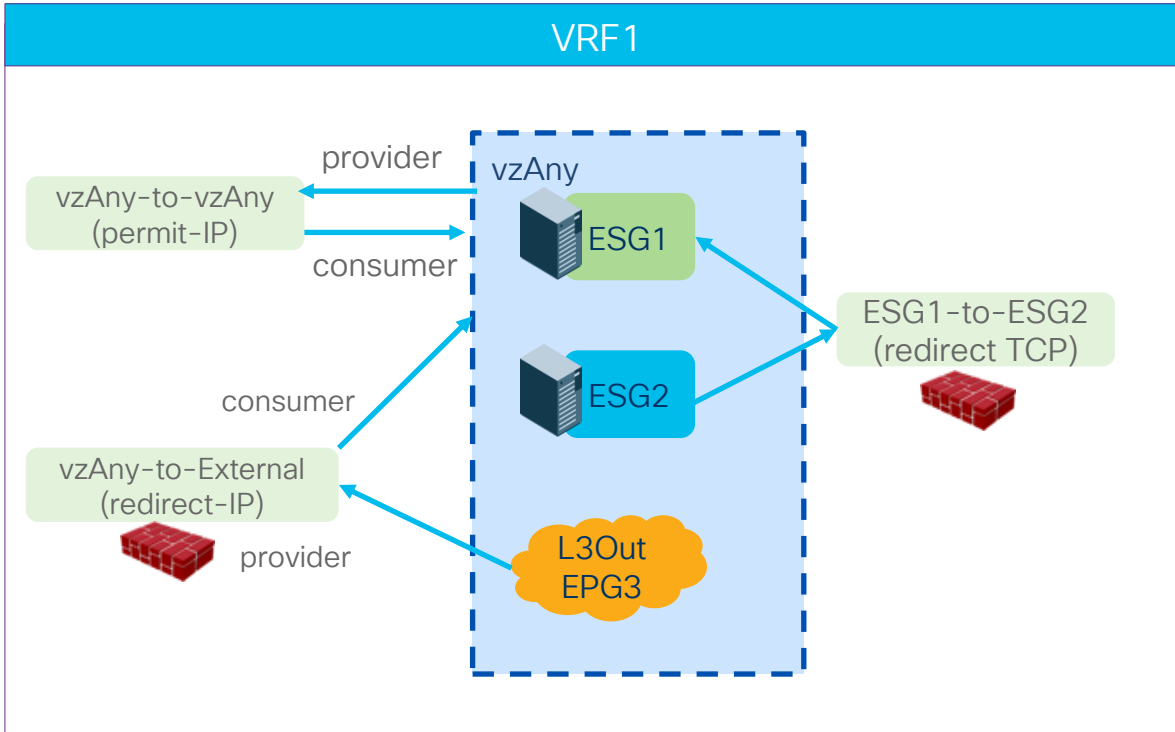
Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4194	0	0	74	uni-dir	enabled	2195459	tenant1:vzAny-to-vzAny	permit	any_any_filter(17)
4248	0	0	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-20)	any_any_filter(17)
4186	5477	0	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	shsrc_any_filt_perm(10)
4193	5477	0	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	shsrc_any_any_perm(11)

In this example:

- Filter ID 74: Permit-IP all
- Filter ID 14: Permit-TCP all

Example 3

What's the forwarding action?



- ESG1-to-ESG2 (TCP)
Redirect
- ESG1-to-L3OutEPG3 (IP)
Redirect
- ESG1-to-ESG2 (UDP)
Permit

Example 3

Why?



- **ESG-to-ESG (priority 7)** wins over External-to-vzAny/vzAny-to-External (priority 13 or 14) that wins over **vzAny-to-vzAny (priority 17)** .

```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

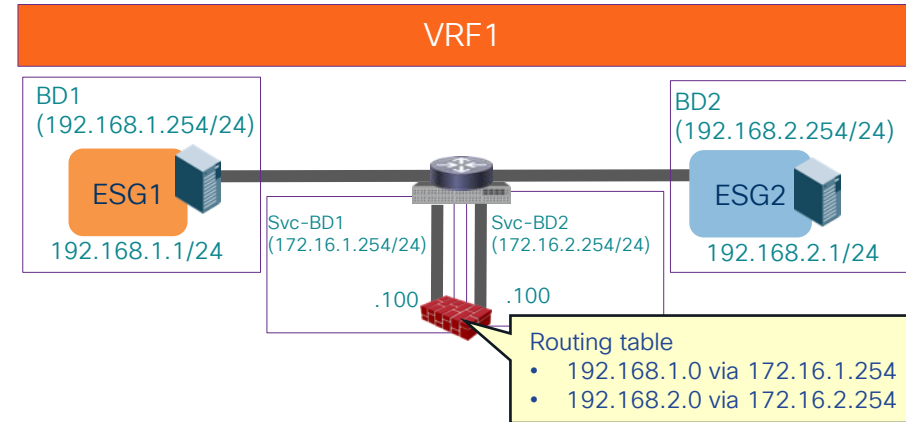
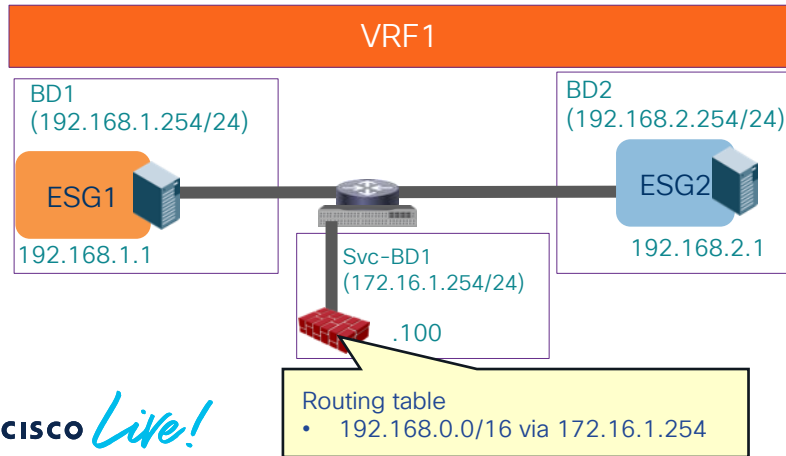
Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4194	0	0	74	uni-dir	enabled	2195459	tenant1:vzAny-to-vzAny	permit	any_any_filter(17)
4172	0	32782	74	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-1)	any_dest_filter(14)
4196	5477	32782	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	src_dst_any(9)
4201	32782	0	74	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-1)	src_any_filter(13)
4242	5477	0	74	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	shsrc_any_filt_perm(10)
4186	24	10936	14	bi-dir	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-1)	fully_qual(7)
4193	5477	10936	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	src_dst_any(9)
4209	5477	24	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	fully_qual(7)
4248	10936	24	14	uni-dir-ignore	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-1)	fully_qual(7)

FAQs and advanced use cases

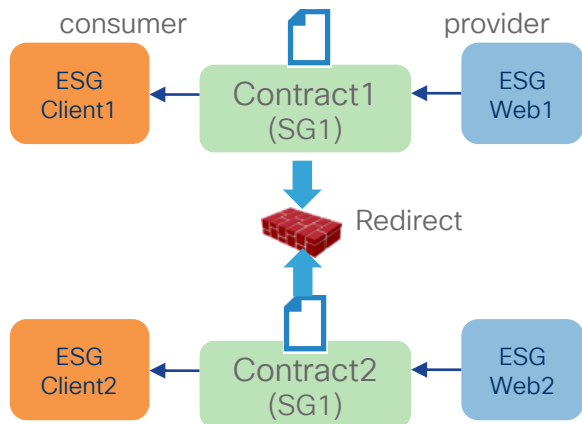
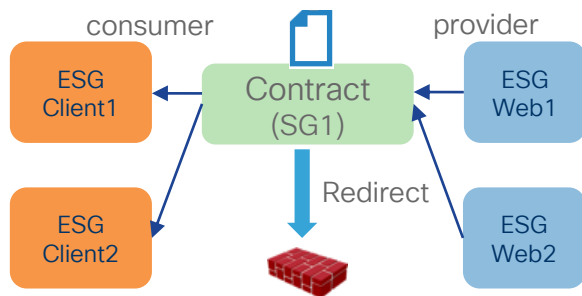
One-arm vs Two-arm?

- One-arm
 - Simple routing design on service node.
 - One-arm must be used for intra-subnet or intra-EPG/ESG contract.
 - Some firewall doesn't allow intra-interface traffic by default.

- Two-arm
 - Need to manage routing design on service node.
 - Different security level on each interface.



Can we reuse same PBR destination multiple times?

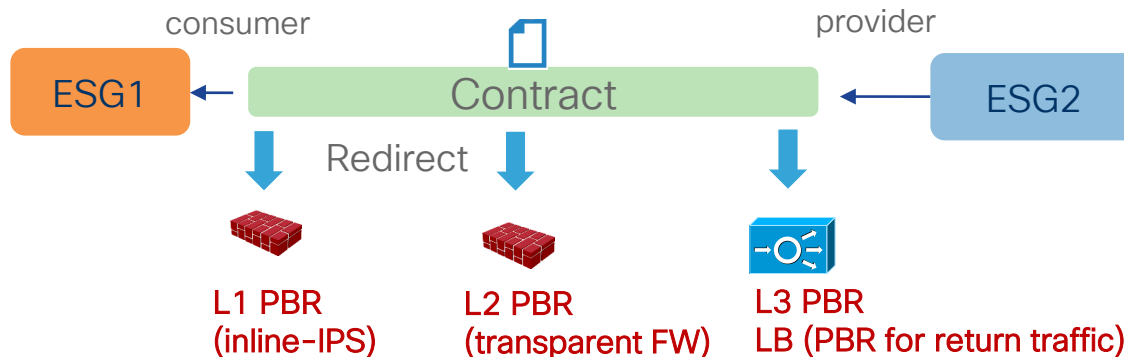


- Multiple consumer/provider ESGs/EPGs
- Multiple contracts can use the same PBR destination and Service Graph.
- Note
 - It could consume more TCAM resources if many EPGs consume and provide the same contract. The use of vzAny or ESG might be more efficient.
 - Depending on routing design, one-arm mode deployment may be required.

What types of devices can be PBR destinations?

L1/L2/L3 device

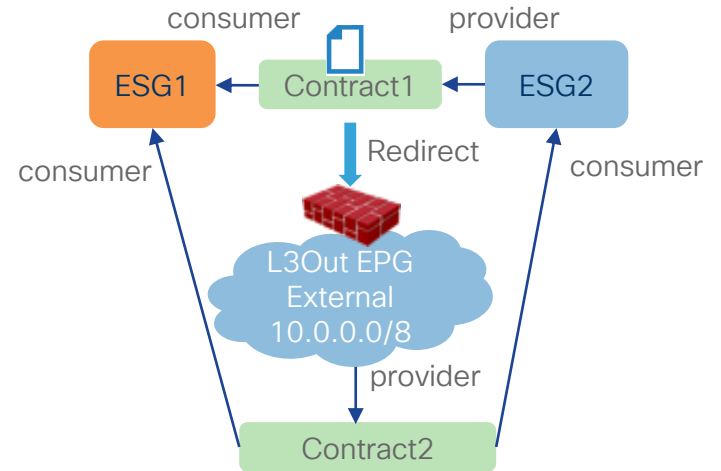
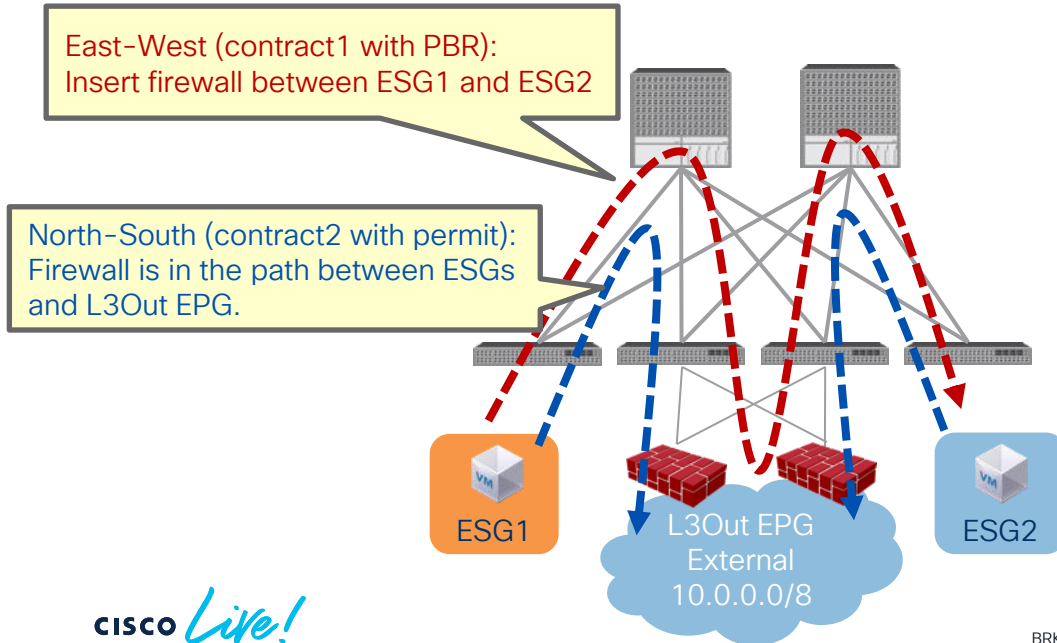
- Prior to ACI Release 5.0, a PBR destination must be an L3 routed device (L3 PBR).
- Starting from ACI Release 5.0, L1/L2 PBR is supported to insert L1/L2 devices.
 - Insert firewall without relying on BD/VLAN stitching.
 - L1/L2 service device BD must be dedicated BD that cannot be shared with other endpoints.
 - L1/L2/L3 PBR can be mixed in a service graph.



Can we use North-South firewall for East-West inspection?

PBR destination in an L3Out

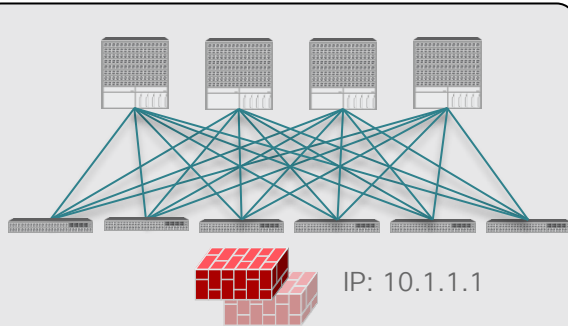
- Prior to ACI Release 5.2, PBR destination must be in a BD.
- Starting from ACI Release 5.2, PBR destination can be in an L3Out.



What are HA options?

One PBR destination IP
One Logical device with two concrete devices

Active/Standby Cluster

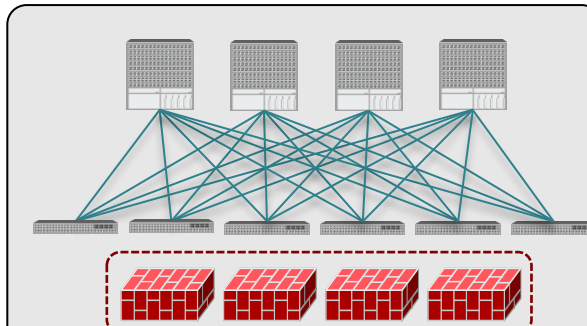


Active/Standby Cluster

- PBR is not mandatory
- The Active/Standby pair represents a single MAC/IP entry.

One PBR destination IP
One Logical device with one concrete device

Active/Active Cluster (‘Scale-Up’ Model)

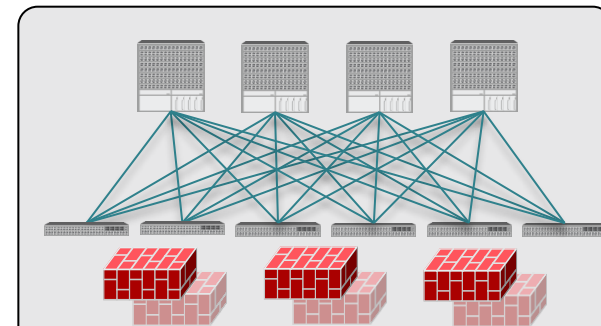


Active/Active Cluster IP: 10.1.1.1

- PBR is required if the cluster is stretched across pods.
- The Active/Active cluster represents a single MAC/IP entry.
- Spanned Ether-Channel Mode supported with Cisco ASA/FTD platforms

Multiple PBR destination IPs (Symmetric PBR)
One Logical device with multiple concrete devices

Independent Active Nodes (‘Scale-Out’ Model)



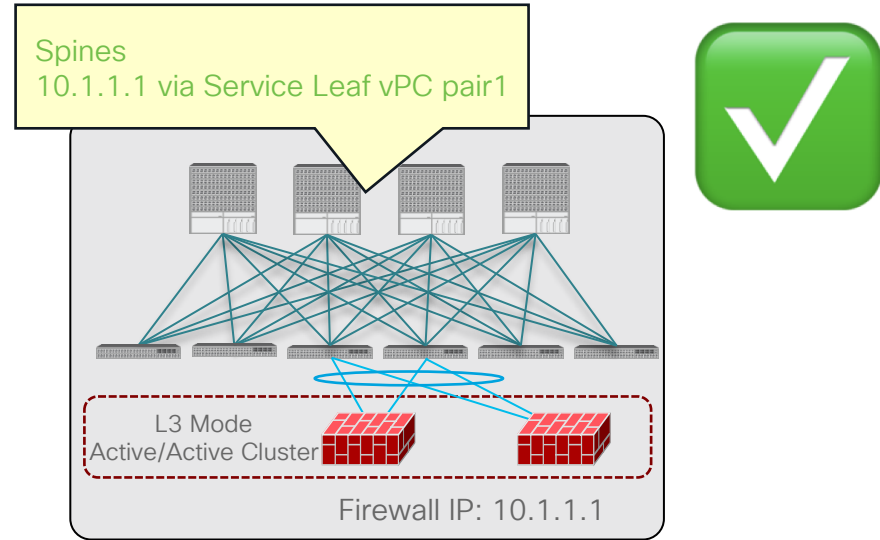
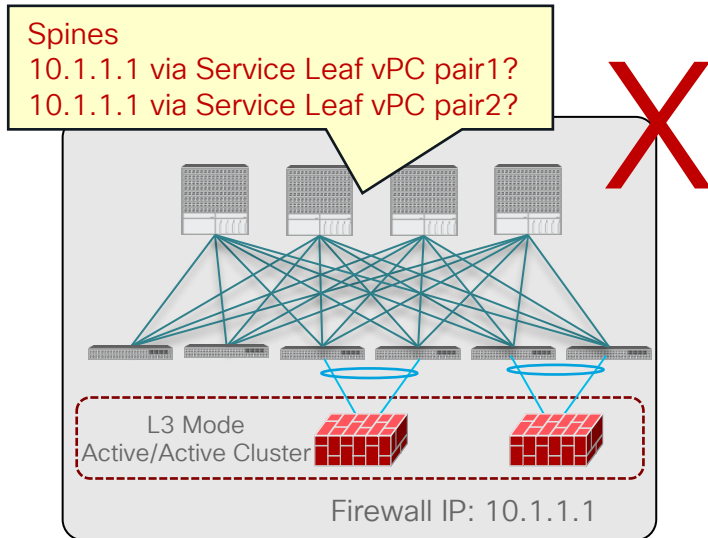
Active Node 1 IP: 10.1.1.1
Active Node 2 IP: 10.1.1.2
Active Node 3 IP: 10.1.1.3

- PBR is required.
- Each Active node represent a unique MAC/IP entry.
- Use of Symmetric PBR to ensure each flow is handled by the same Active node in both directions

Active/Active cluster

One PC/vPC to all devices in the cluster

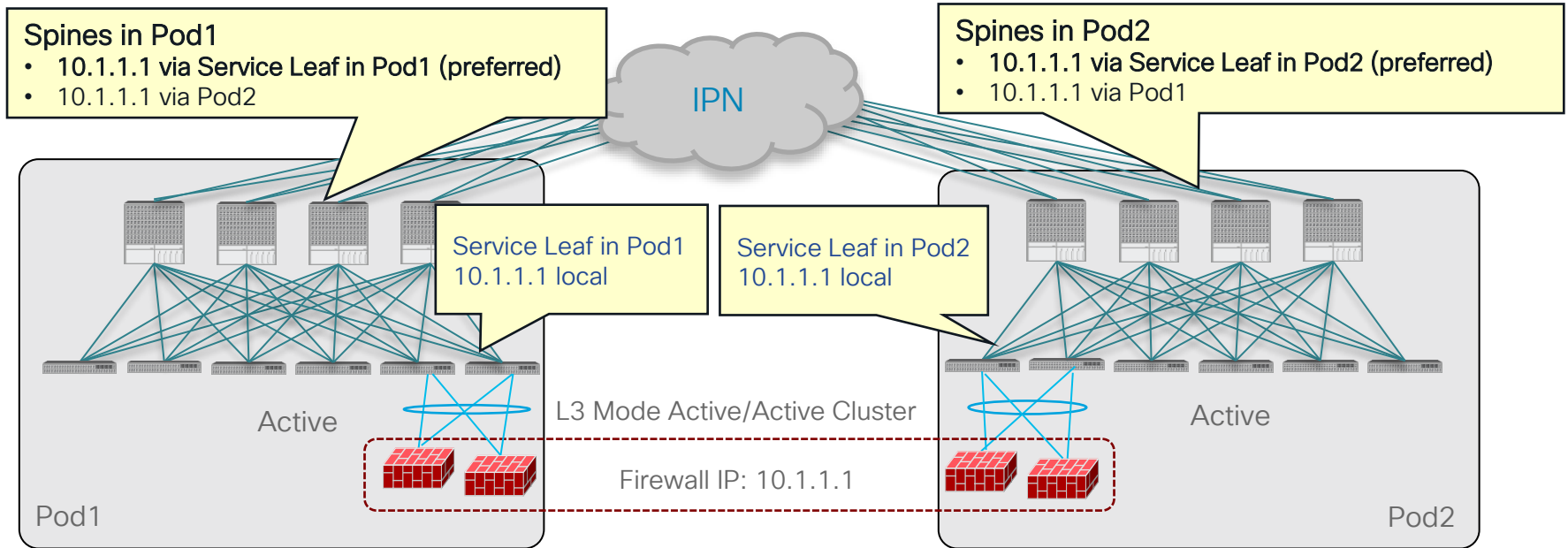
- Firewalls in the same cluster must be connected via the same PC/vPC in each pod. Otherwise, the same endpoint will be learned via different locations, which results in endpoint flapping.



Active/Active cluster across pods

Anycast service

- For Multi-pod, Anycast service feature must be enabled.



Independent Active Nodes

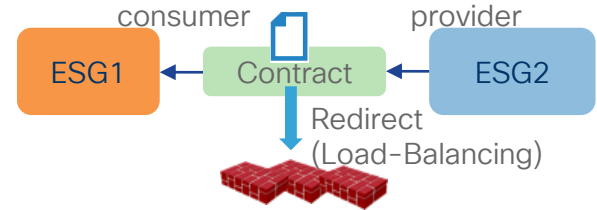
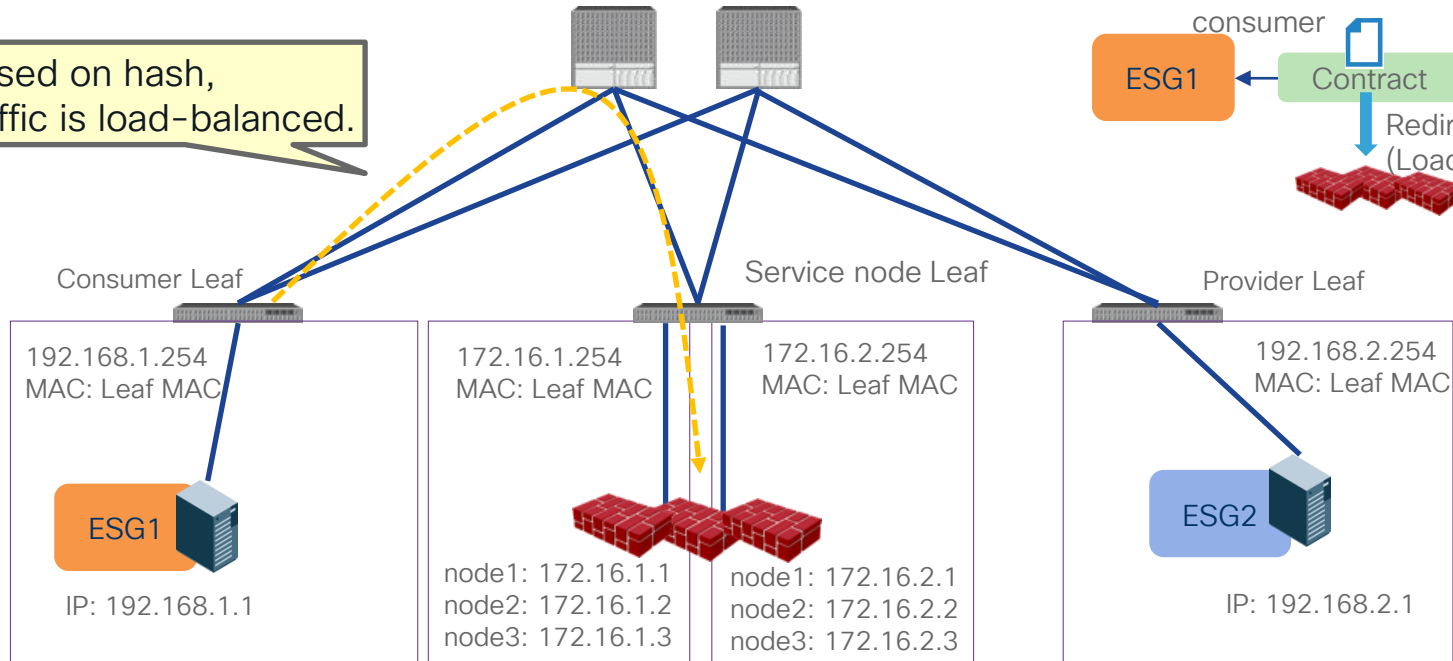
Symmetric PBR: Scale Firewall Easily

- Ensure incoming and return traffic go to the same firewall



PBR destinations can be distributed across multiple leaf nodes.

Based on hash, traffic is load-balanced.



Independent Active Nodes

Symmetric PBR: Hash algorithm option

- Source IP, Destination IP and Protocol number (default)
- Source IP only
- Destination IP only

Example: same user (IP) will go through the same device

Create L4-L7 Policy-Based Redirect

Name: FW-external

Description: optional

Destination Type: L1 L2 **L3**

Rewrite source MAC:

IP SLA Monitoring Policy: select an option

Enable Per-IP-Aware Redirection:

Hashing Algorithm: Destination IP Source IP **Source IP, Destination IP and Protocol number**

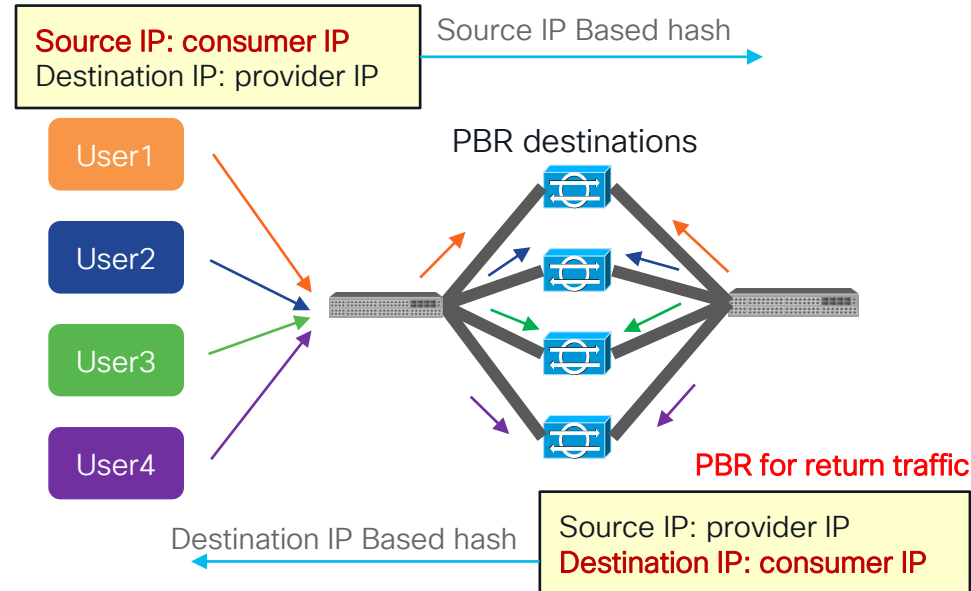
Enable Anycast:

Resilient Hashing Enabled:

L3 Destinations:

IP	Destination MAC Name	Redirect Health Group	Additional IPv4/IPv6	Description	Oper Status
----	----------------------	-----------------------	----------------------	-------------	-------------

PBR for incoming traffic

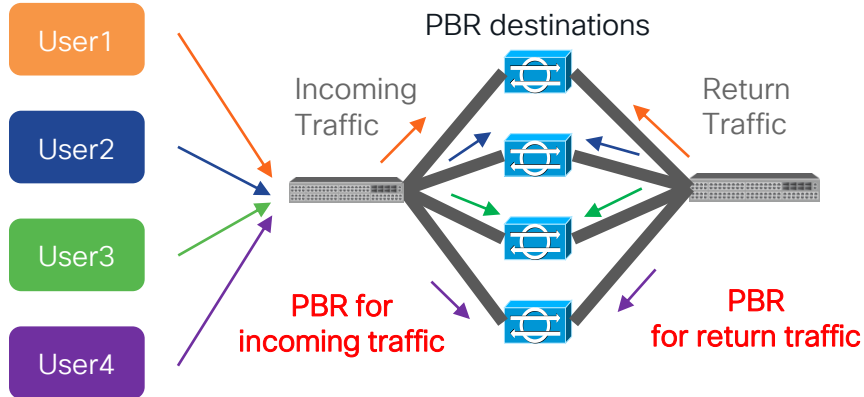


What happens if an L4-L7 device is down?

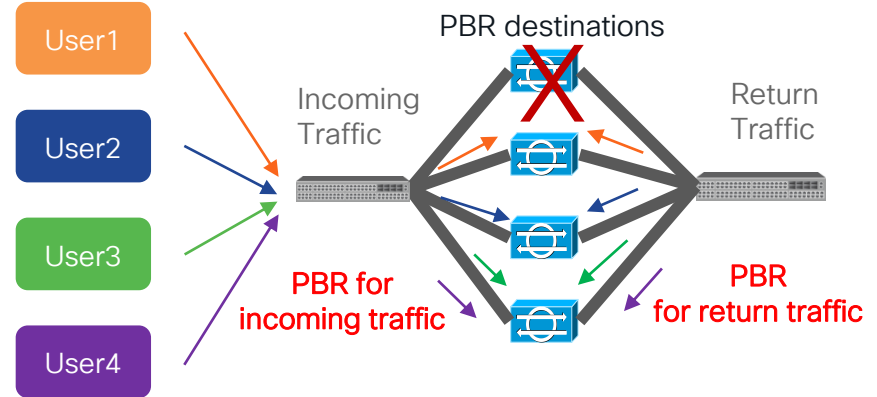
Without Resilient Hash (Default behavior)

- If one of the PBR nodes goes down, existing traffic flows will be reshaped. This could lead to the connection being reset.

Thanks to Symmetric PBR, incoming and return traffic go to same PBR node.



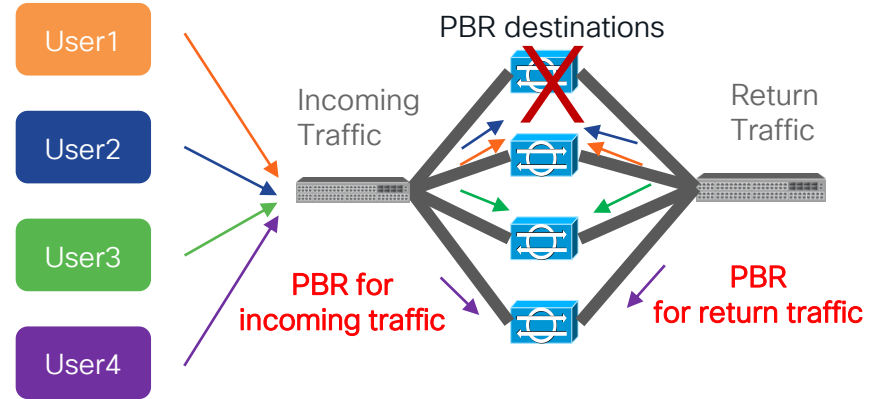
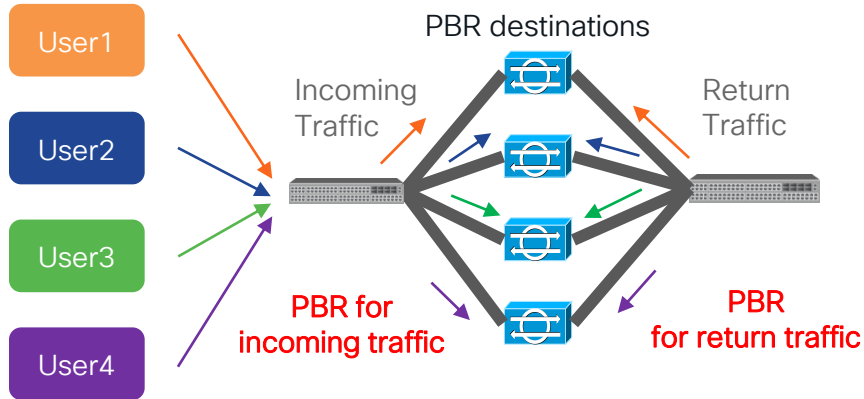
Some traffic could be load-balanced to different PBR nodes that don't have existing connection info.



I want to minimize impact on the existing flow!

With Resilient Hash

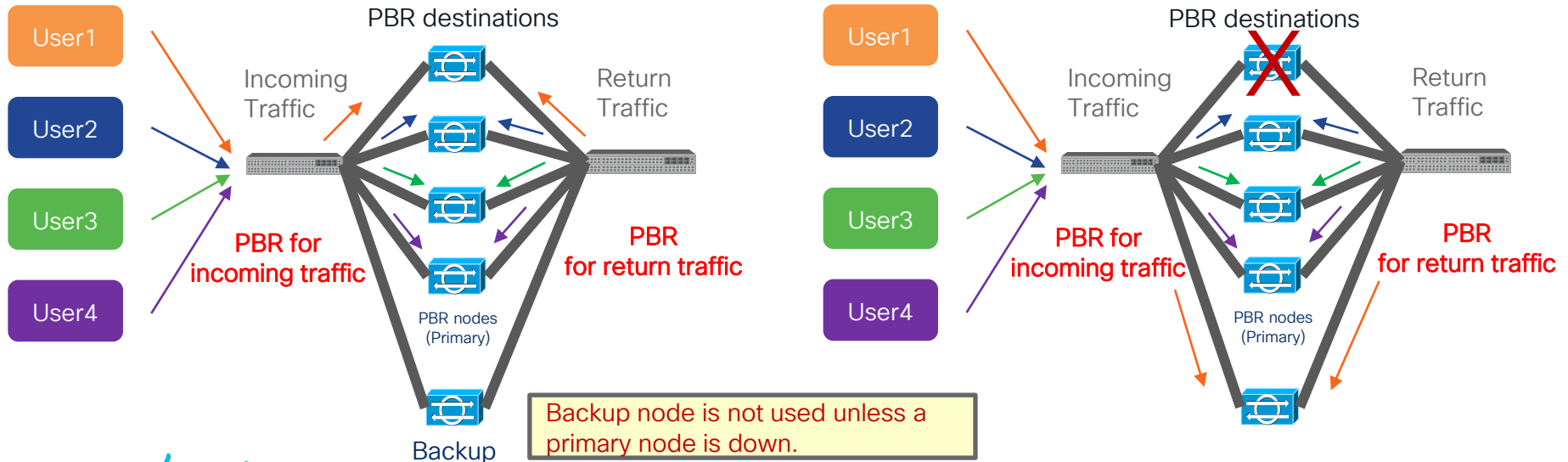
- With Resilient Hash PBR, only the traffics that went through failed node will be rerouted to one of the available nodes.



Can we use standby PBR destination?

Resilient Hash PBR with N+M backup

- As all the traffic that went through the failed node will go to one of the available nodes, capacity of the node is a concern. (The node would have doubled amount of traffic compared with usual)
- Instead of using one of the available primary nodes, a backup node in the group will be used. (N+M)

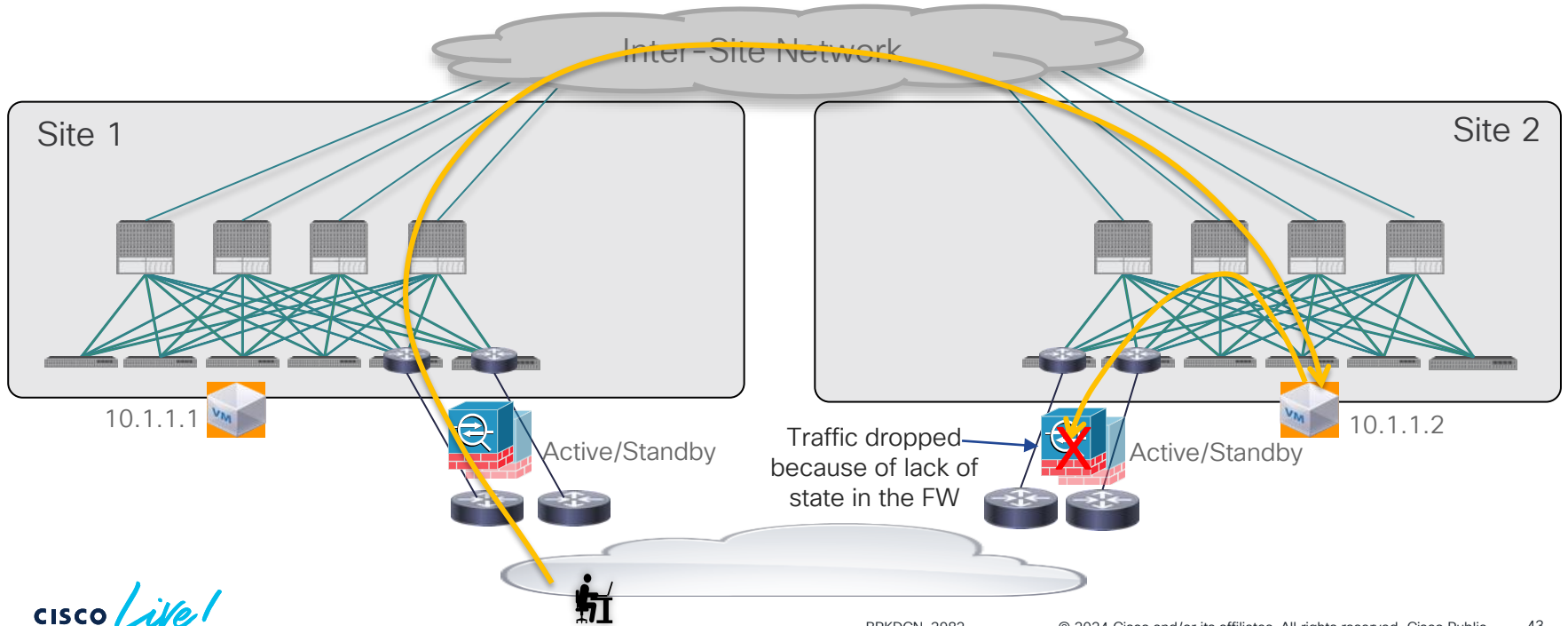


Multi-location Data Centers

Service insertion in multiple DC locations

What is the challenge of service insertion in multiple DC locations?

- Traffic Symmetry is important



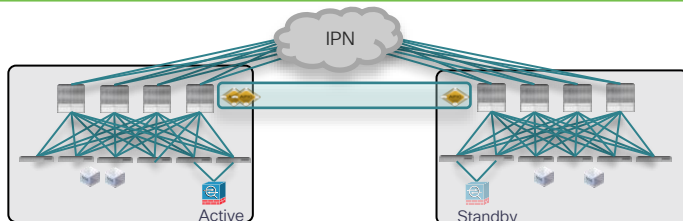
Multi-Location Data Centers

- Multi-Pod
- Multi-Site

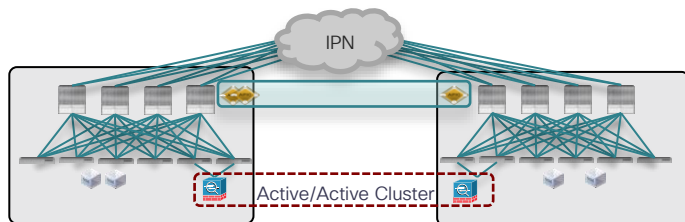
ACI Multi-Pod

Design options

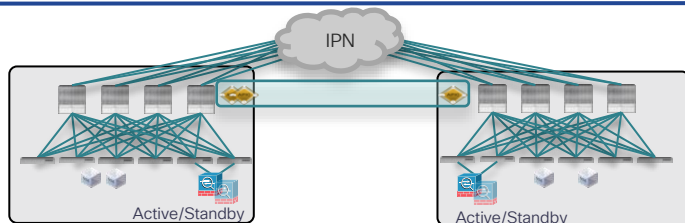
Typical options for an Active/Active DC use case



- Active and Standby pair deployed across Pods
- No issues with asymmetric flows



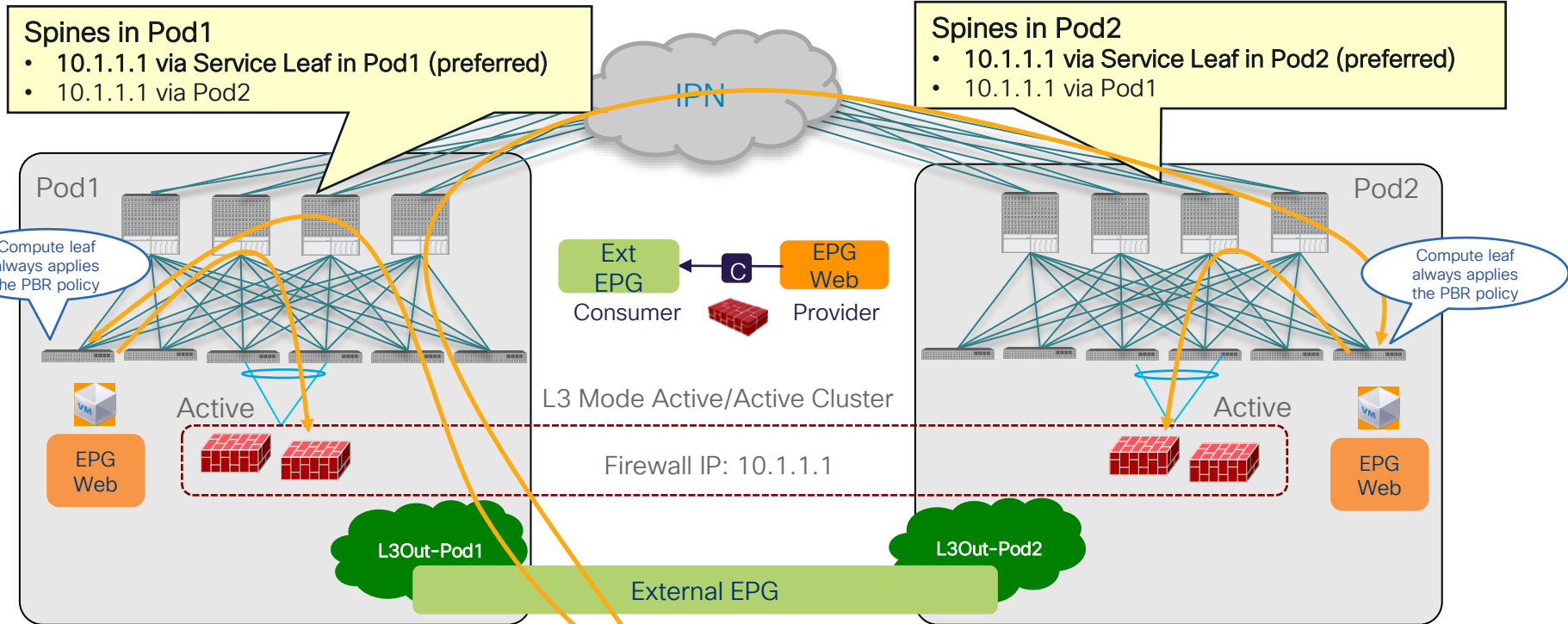
- Active/Active FW cluster nodes stretched across Sites (single logical FW)
- Requires the ability of discovering the same MAC/IP info in separate pods at the same time
- Supported from ACI release 3.2(4d) with the use of Service-Graph with PBR



- Independent Active/Standby pairs deployed in separate Pods
- Use of Symmetric PBR to avoid the creation of asymmetric paths crossing different active FW nodes

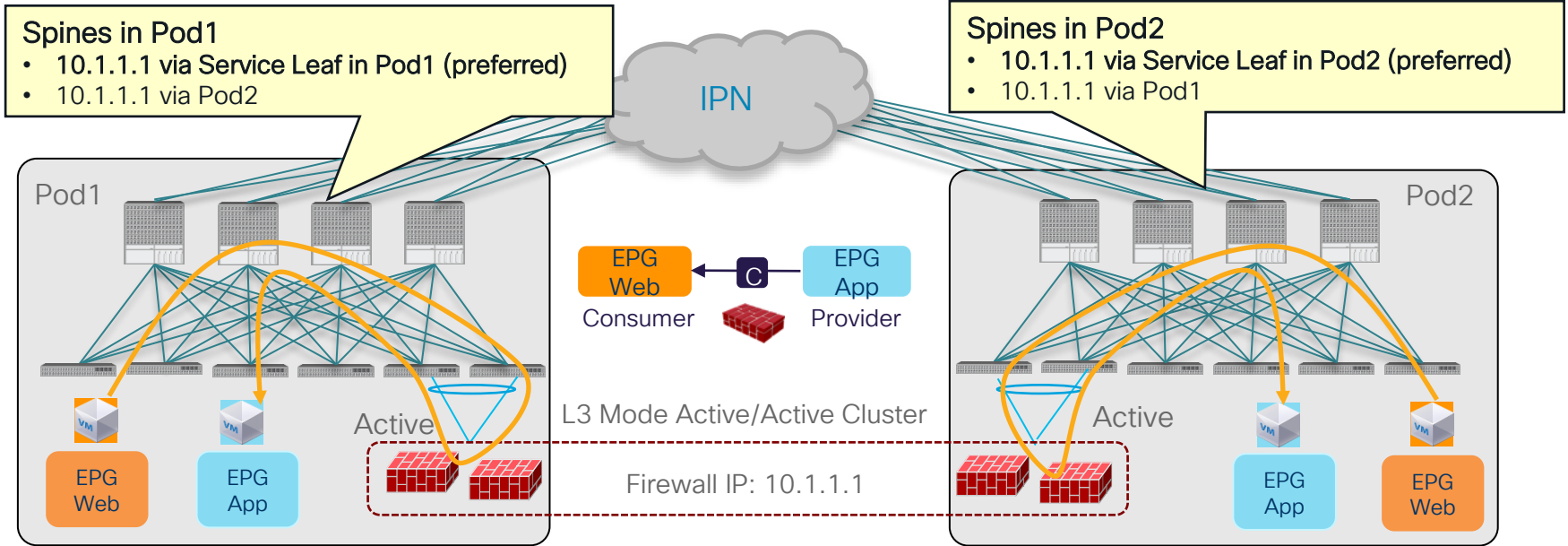
ACI Multi-Pod: Active/Active cluster across pods

North-South Traffic Flow



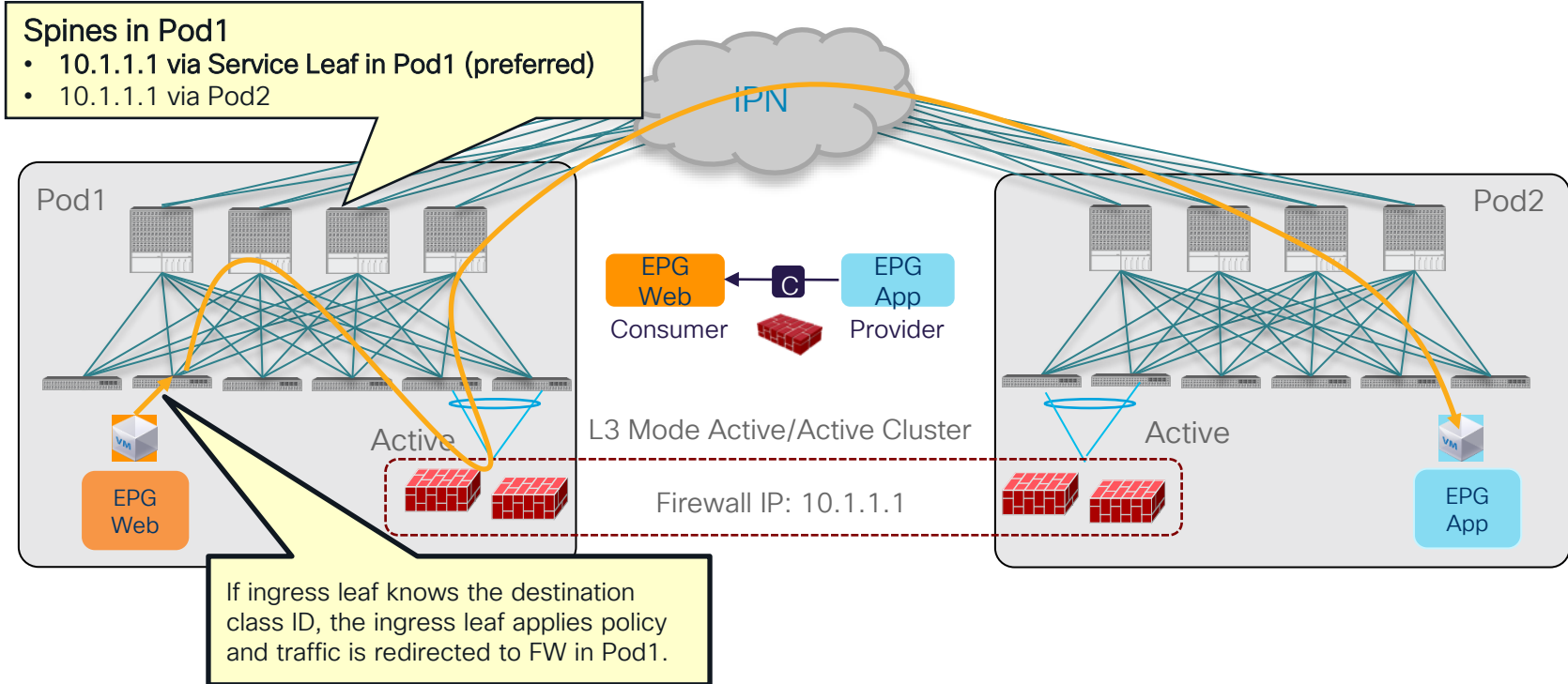
ACI Multi-Pod: Active/Active cluster across pods

East-West Traffic Flow (Intra-Pod)



ACI Multi-Pod: Active/Active cluster across pods

East-West Traffic Flow (Inter-Pod) incoming traffic



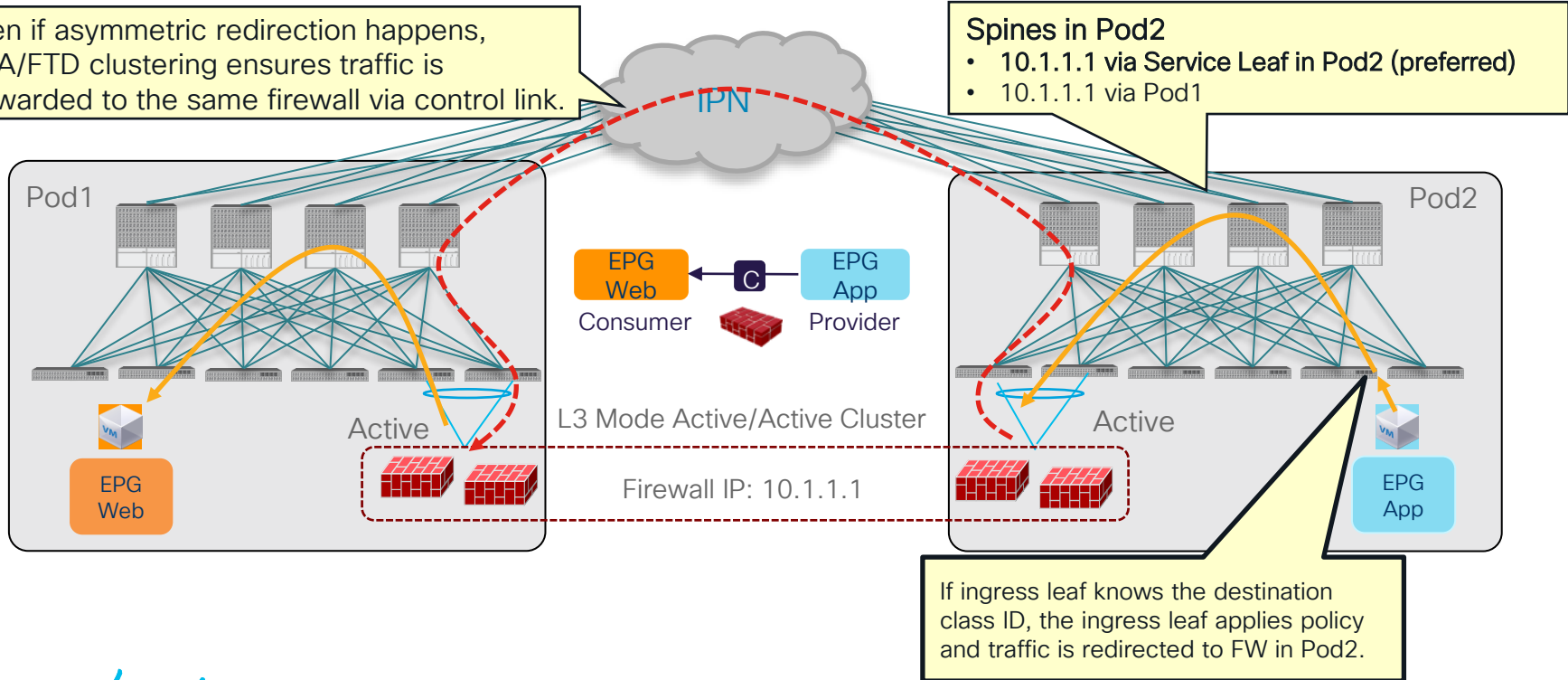
ACI Multi-Pod: Active/Active cluster across pods

East-West Traffic Flow (Inter-Pod) return traffic

Even if asymmetric redirection happens, ASA/FTD clustering ensures traffic is forwarded to the same firewall via control link.

Spines in Pod2

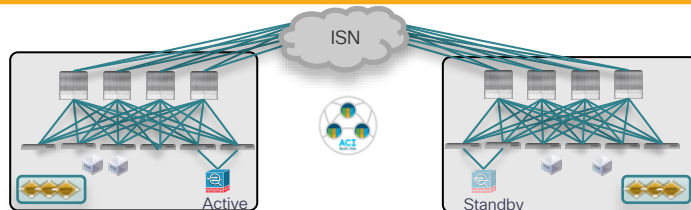
- 10.1.1.1 via Service Leaf in Pod2 (preferred)
- 10.1.1.1 via Pod1



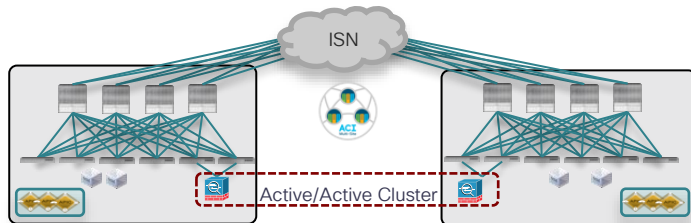
ACI Multi-Site

Design options

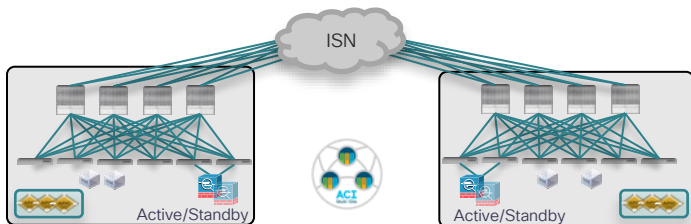
Deployment options fully supported with ACI Multi-Pod



- Active and Standby pair deployed across Pods
- **Limited supported options**



- Active/Active FW cluster nodes stretched across Sites (single logical FW)
- **Not supported**

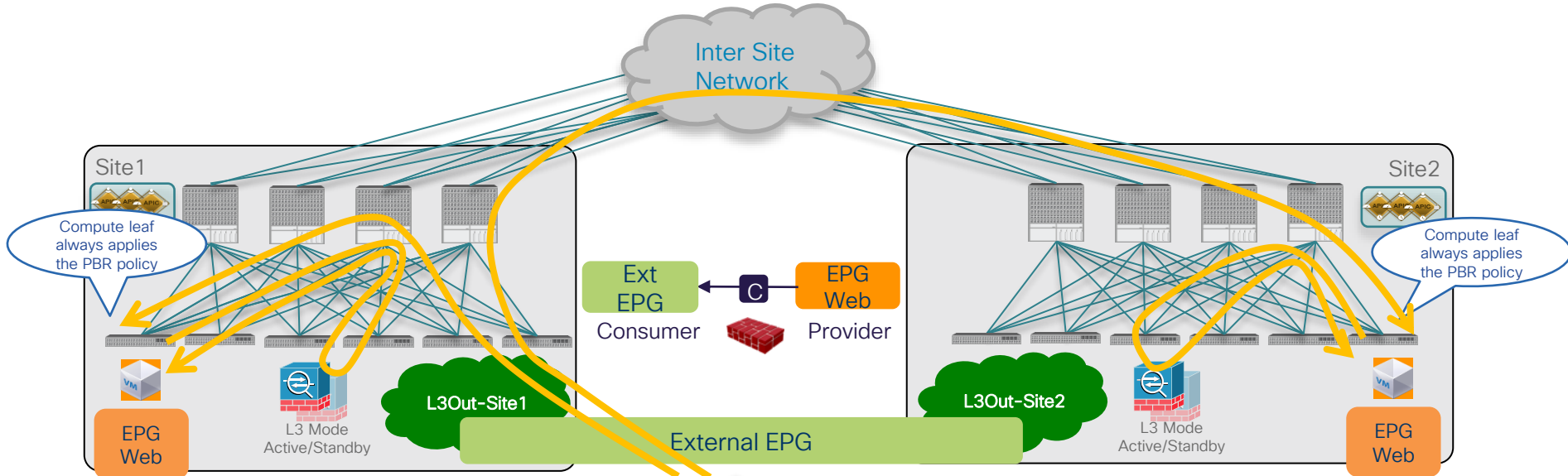


- **Recommended** deployment model for ACI Multi-Site
- Supported from 3.2 release with the use of Service Graph with Policy Based Redirection (PBR)

ACI Multi-Site: service nodes in each site

North-South Traffic Flow: compute leaf enforcement

- North-South (L3Out-to-EPG) intra-VRF and inter-VRF contract with PBR
 - For inter-VRF contract, L3Out must be the provider.



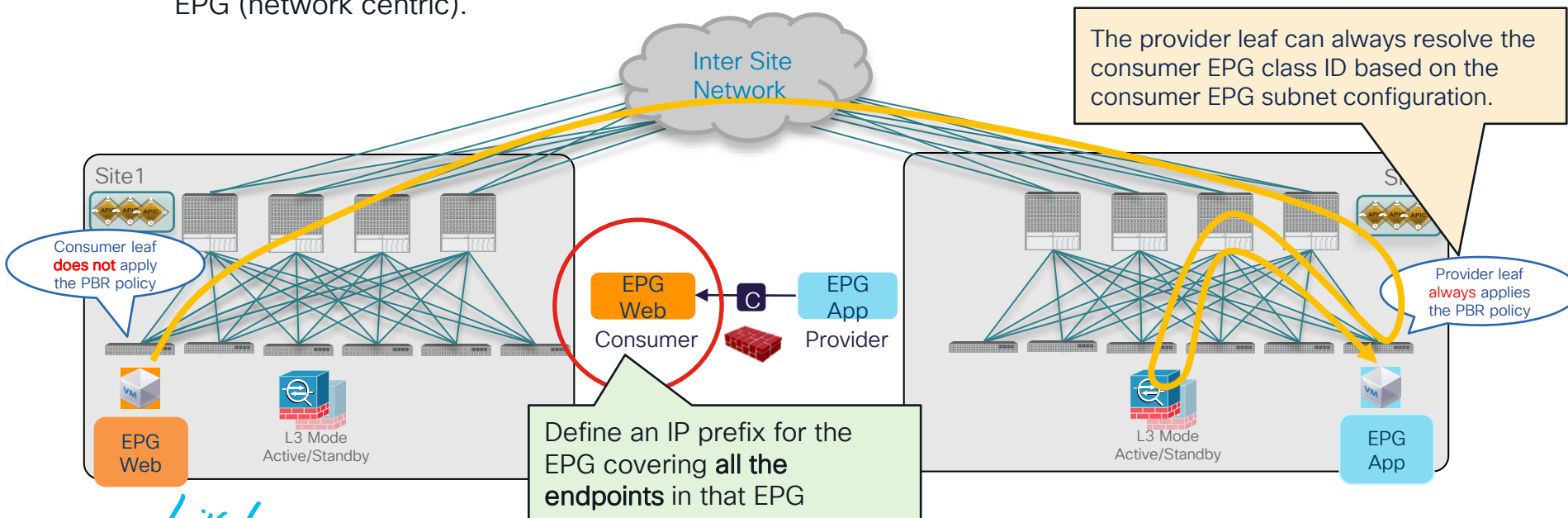


Policy is always applied on the provider leaf

ACI Multi-Site: service nodes in each site

East-West Traffic Flow: provider leaf enforcement

- East-West (EPG-to-EPG) intra-VRF and inter-VRF contract with PBR
- **The consumer EPG subnet must be configured**, which means the design must be 1 BD subnet = 1 EPG (network centric).



How to ensure the provider leaf enforcement?

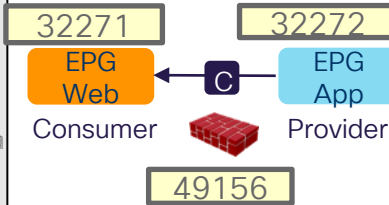
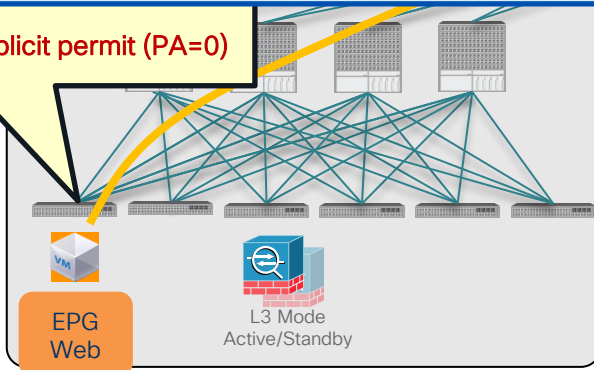
Special rule for consumer-to-provider traffic

- `redir_override`: If the destination is NOT a local endpoint, the leaf doesn't apply policy (PA=0)

```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4144	32271	32272	14	bi-dir	enabled	2195459		<code>redir(destgrp-1),redir_override</code>	fully_qual(7)
4157	32272	32271	14	uni-dir-ignore	enabled	2195459		<code>redir(destgrp-1)</code>	fully_qual(7)
4140	49156	32272	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	src_dst_any(9)
4136	49156	32271	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	fully_qual(7)

1: Implicit permit (PA=0)



2: Because PA=0, the provider leaf applies policy.
Redirect

How to ensure the provider leaf enforcement?

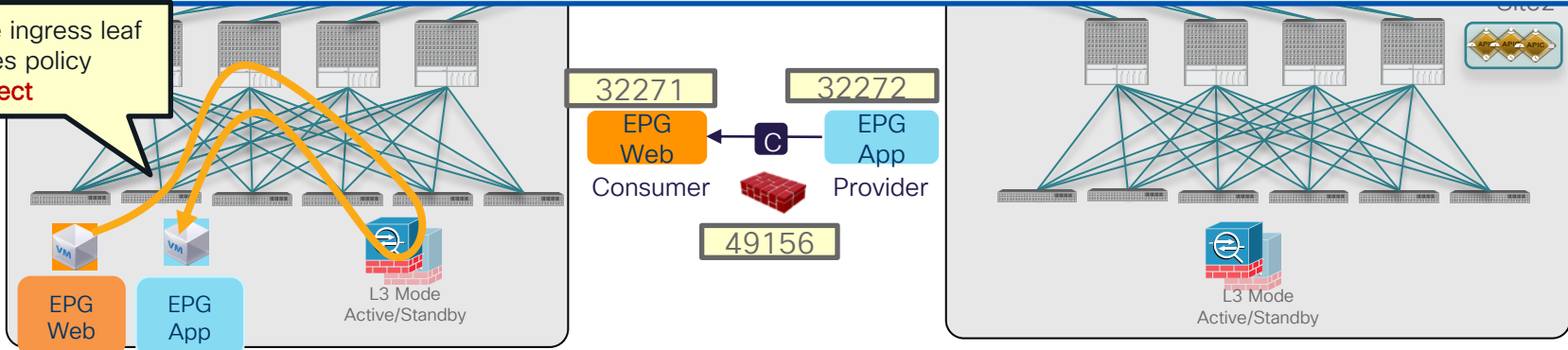
Special rule for consumer-to-provider traffic

- If the destination is under the same leaf, the leaf applies policy.

```
Pod1-Leaf1# show zoning-rule scope 2195459
```

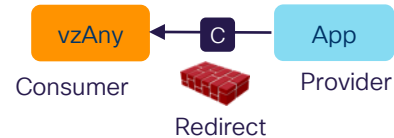
Rule ID	SrcEPG	DstEPG	FilterID	Dir	operSt	Scope	Name	Action	Priority
4144	32271	32272	14	bi-dir	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-1),redir_override	fully_qual(7)
4157	32272	32271	14	uni-dir-ignore	enabled	2195459		redir(destgrp-1)	fully_qual(7)
4140	49156	32272	default	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	src_dst_any(9)
4136	49156	32271	14	uni-dir	enabled	2195459		permit	fully_qual(7)

1: the ingress leaf applies policy
Redirect



Multi-Site PBR Update

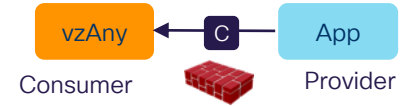
- vzAny-to-EPG
- vzAny-to-vzAny
- Configuration workflow



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-EPG PBR

Challenges

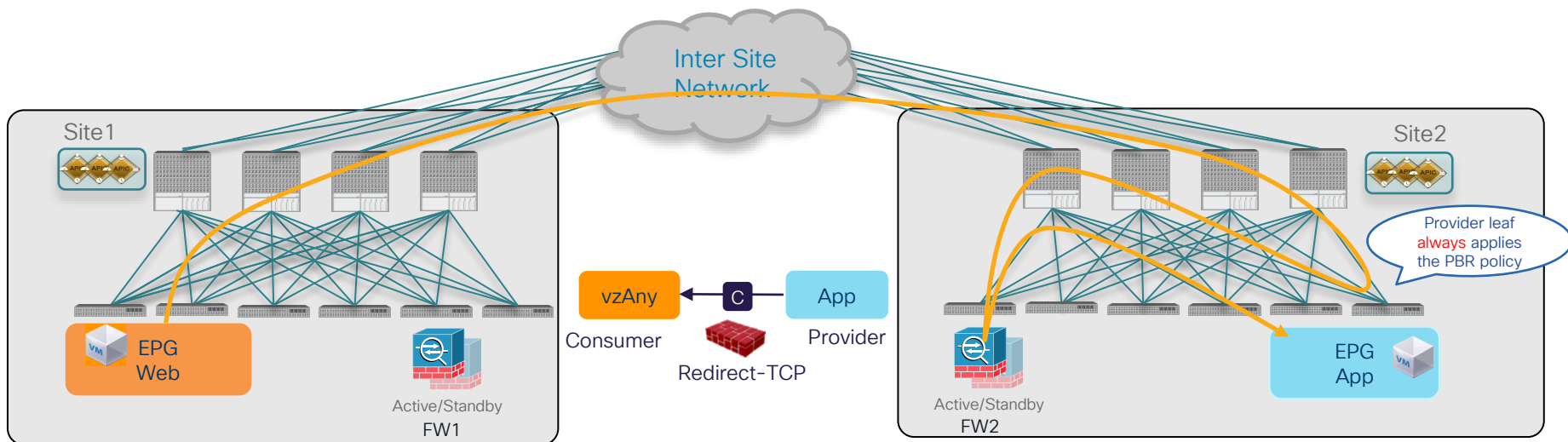
- How to keep traffic symmetric
→ Provider leaf enforcement
- How to ensure the provider leaf nodes can resolve destination class ID without EPG subnet.
→ Conversational learning



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-EPG PBR

Consumer to provider direction

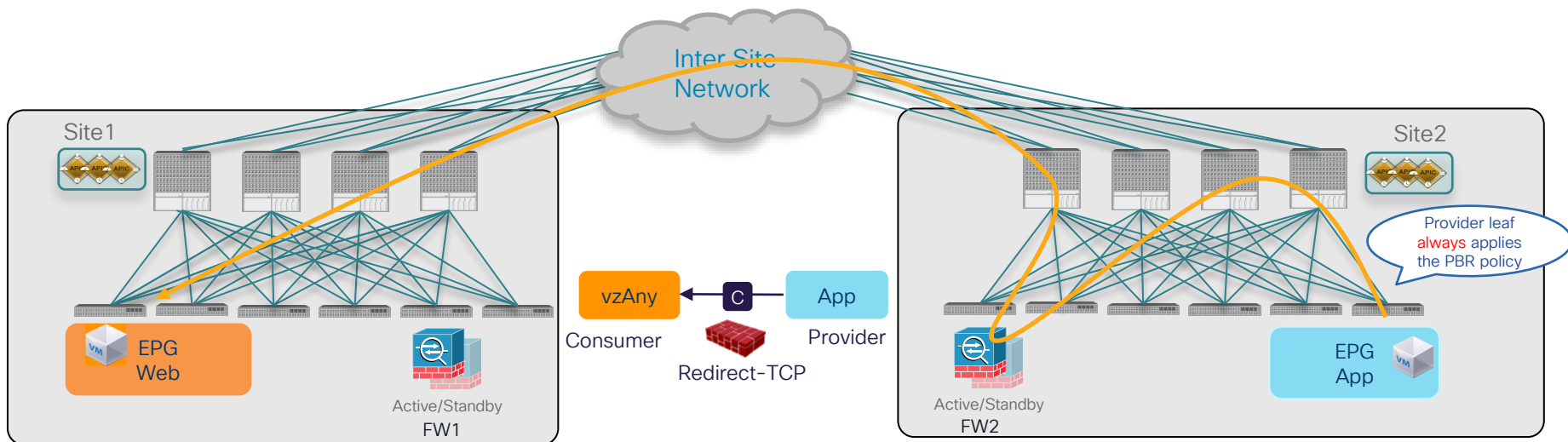
- Provider leaf enforcement to keep traffic symmetric.



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-EPG PBR

Provider to consumer direction

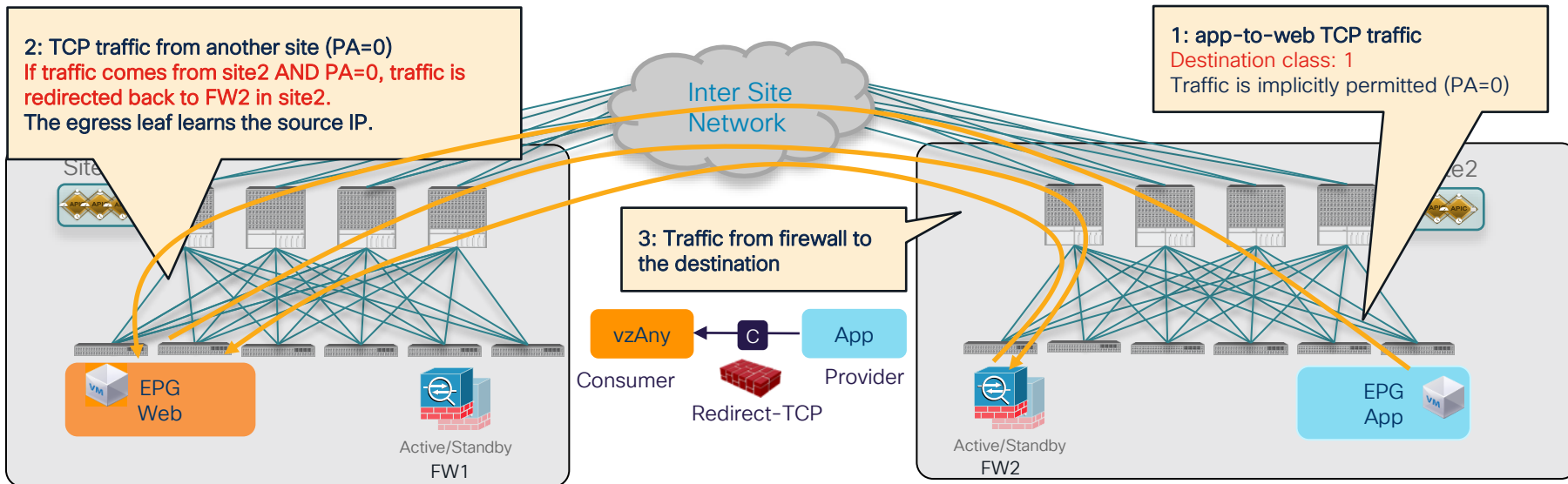
- Provider leaf enforcement to keep traffic symmetric.



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-EPG PBR

What if the provider leaf doesn't know the consumer endpoint? (1/2)

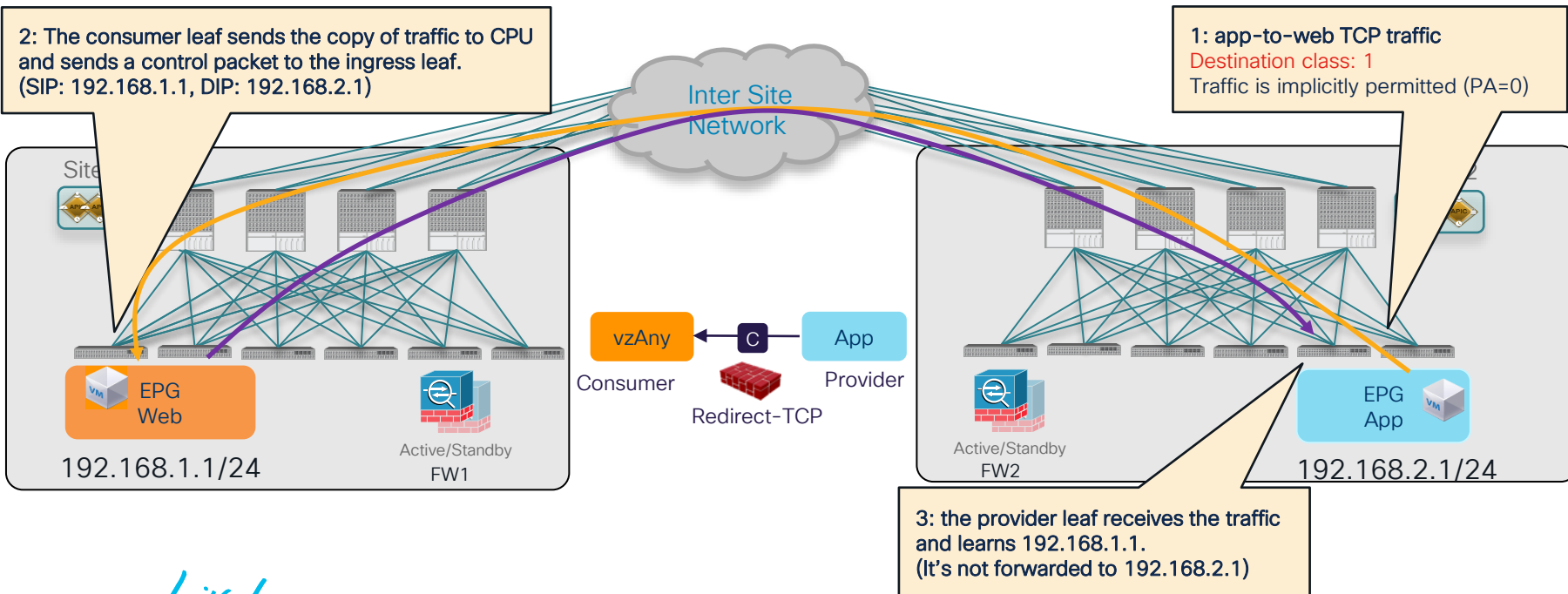
- Force traffic inspected by the service device in the provider site



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-EPG PBR

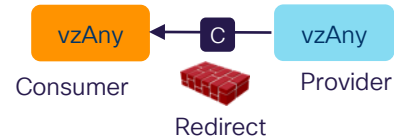
What if the provider leaf doesn't know the consumer endpoint? (2/2)

- Conversational Learning to get the ingress leaf learn the destination EP.

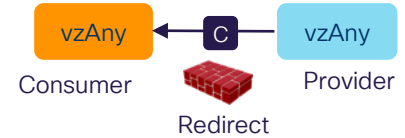


Multi-Site PBR Update

- vzAny-to-EPG
- vzAny-to-vzAny
- Configuration workflow



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR Challenges



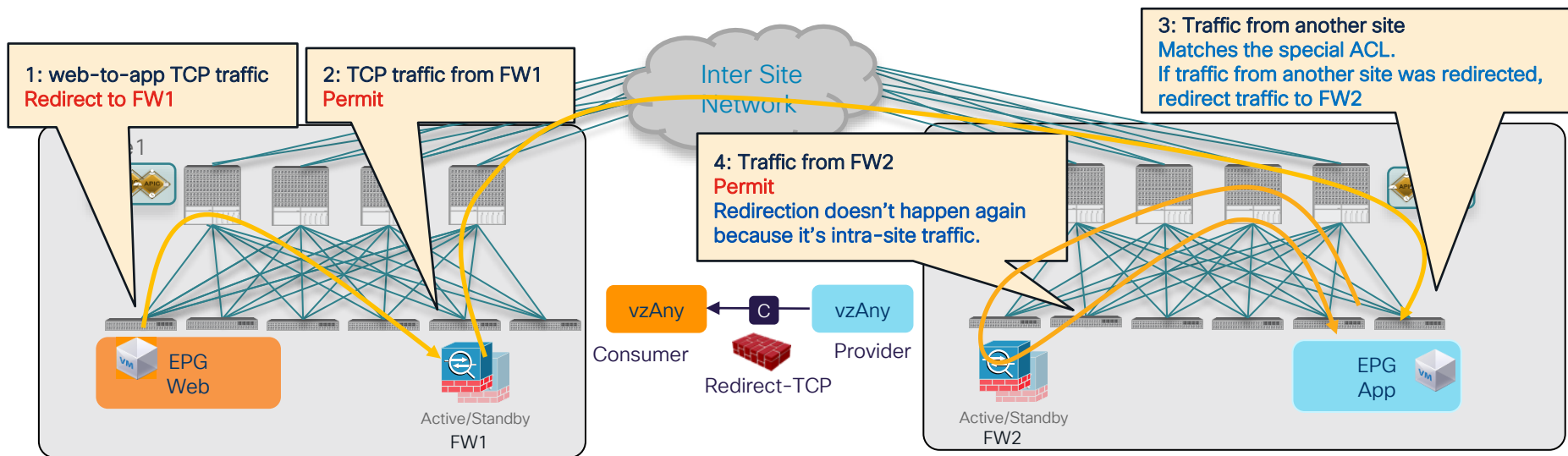
- How to keep traffic symmetric
 - redirect “inter-site” traffic in both source and destination sites.
 - Note: If it’s intra-site traffic, redirect doesn’t happen twice.
- How to ensure the ingress leaf nodes can resolve the destination class ID without the EPG subnet.
 - Conversational learning

ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

NDO 4.2(3)/ACI 6.0(4)

Consumer to provider direction

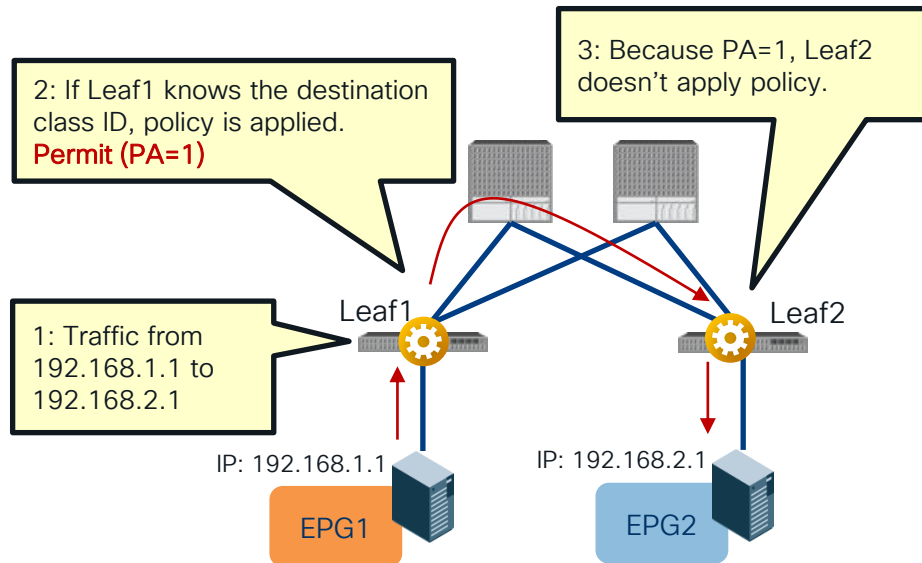
- Redirect “inter-site” traffic in both ingress and egress sites.



How to identify traffic was redirected?

Policy Applied (PA) bit

- PA bit (2 bit): Source Policy (SP) bit and Destination Policy (DP) bit



	SP	DP	Behavior
PA=1	1	1	The egress leaf doesn't apply policy because policy was applied.
PA=0	0	0	The egress leaf should apply policy because policy is not applied yet.



“SP=0, DP=1”

is used for traffic from service EPG to indicate traffic needs to be redirected again

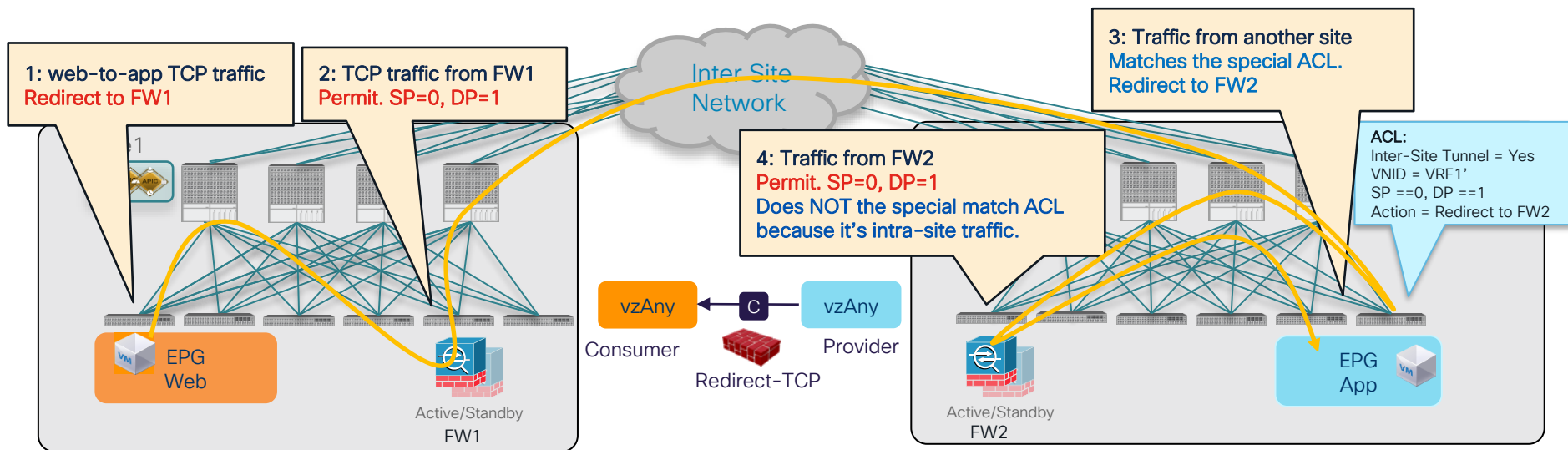
ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

NDO 4.2(3)/ACI 6.0(4)

Consumer to provider direction



SP=0, DP=1
for traffic from
the service EPG



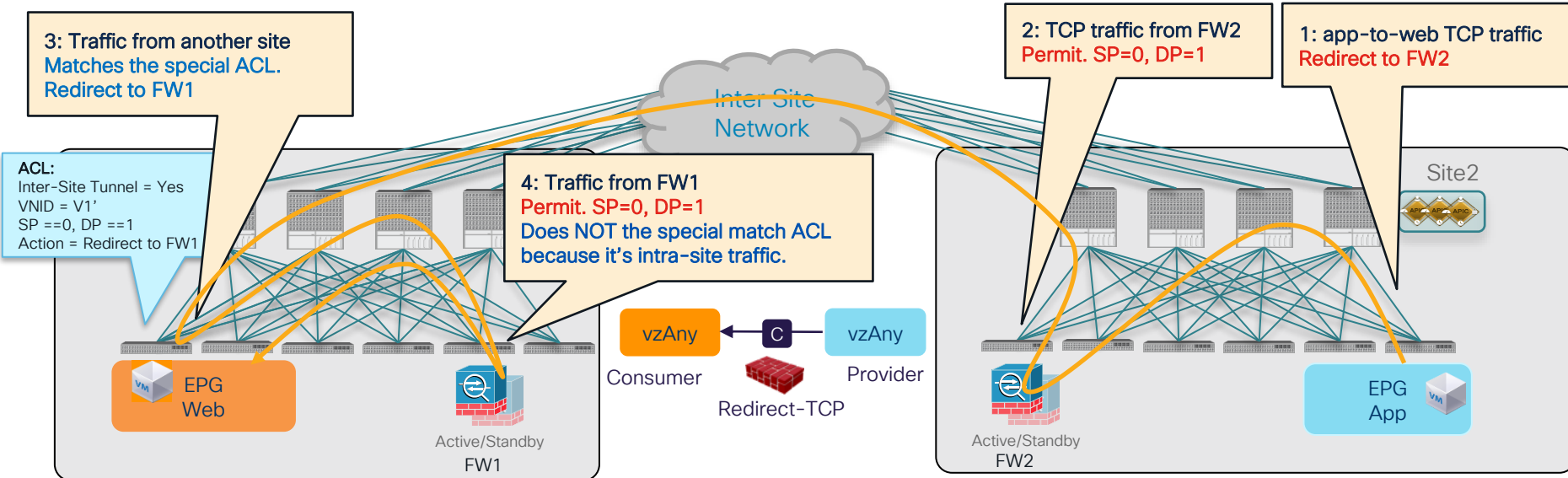
ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

NDO 4.2(3)/ACI 6.0(4)

Provider to consumer direction



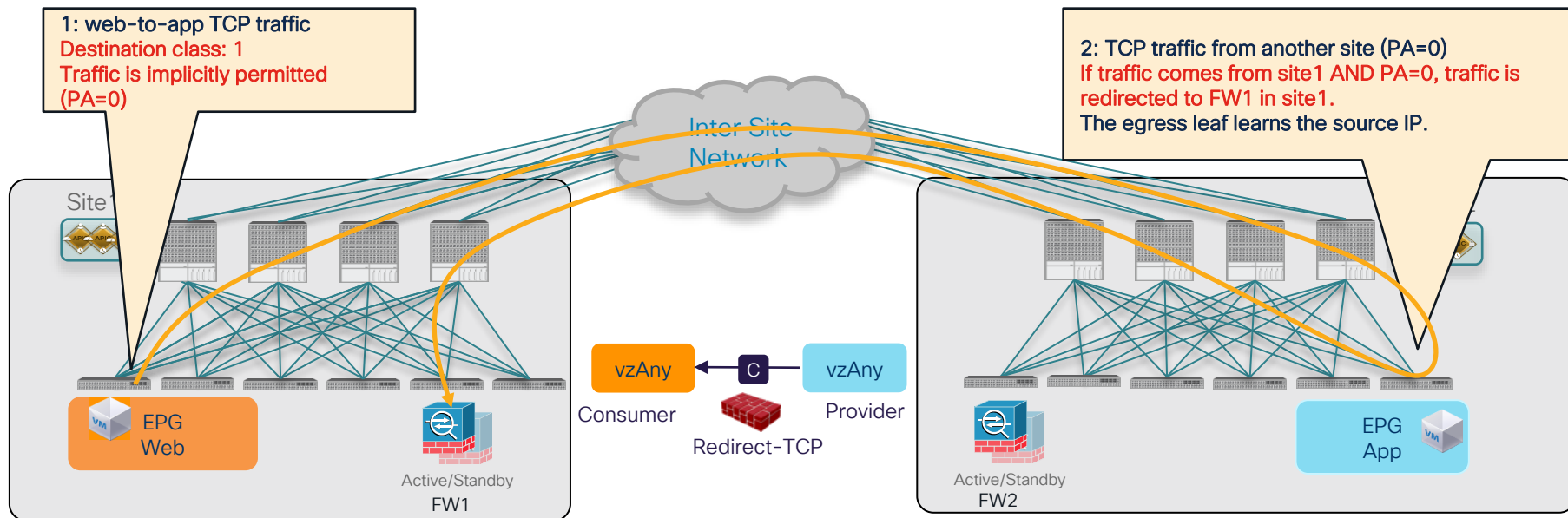
SP=0, DP=1
for traffic from
the service EPG



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

What if the ingress leaf doesn't know the destination class ID (1/3)

- Force traffic inspected by the service device in the source site.

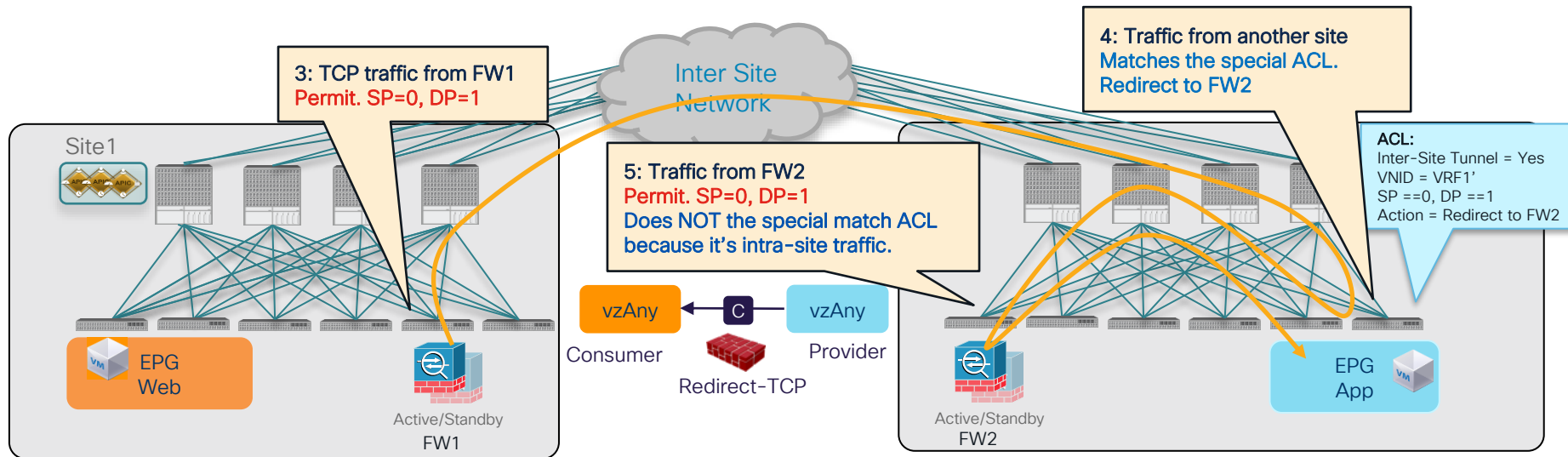


ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

NDO 4.2(3)/ACI 6.0(4)

What if the ingress leaf doesn't know the destination class ID (2/3)

- Force traffic inspected by the service device in the destination site

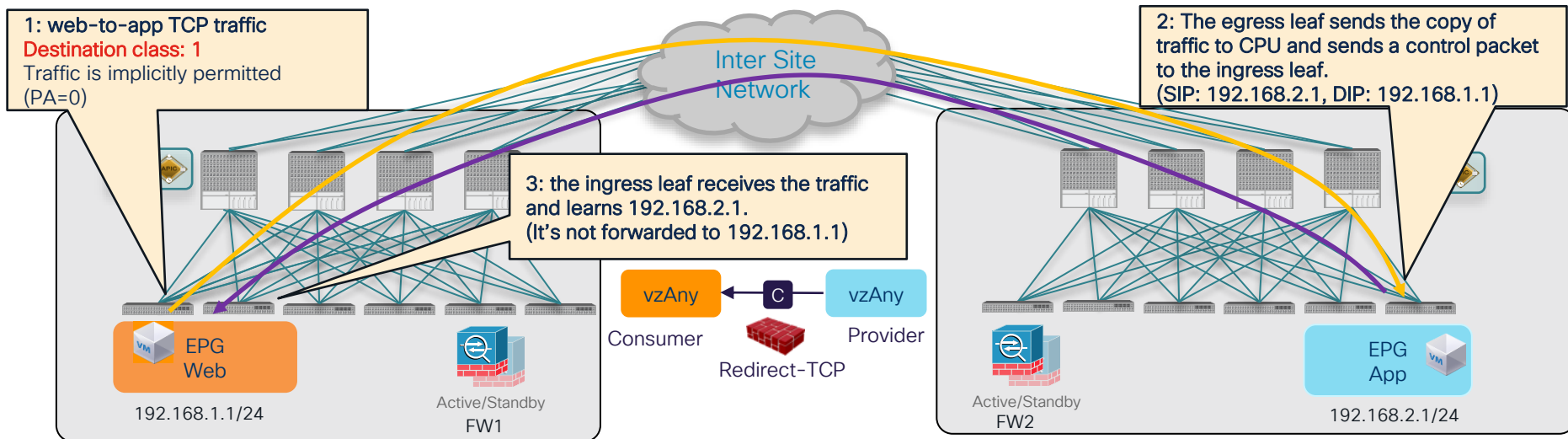


ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

NDO 4.2(3)/ACI 6.0(4)

What if the ingress leaf doesn't know the destination class ID (3/3)

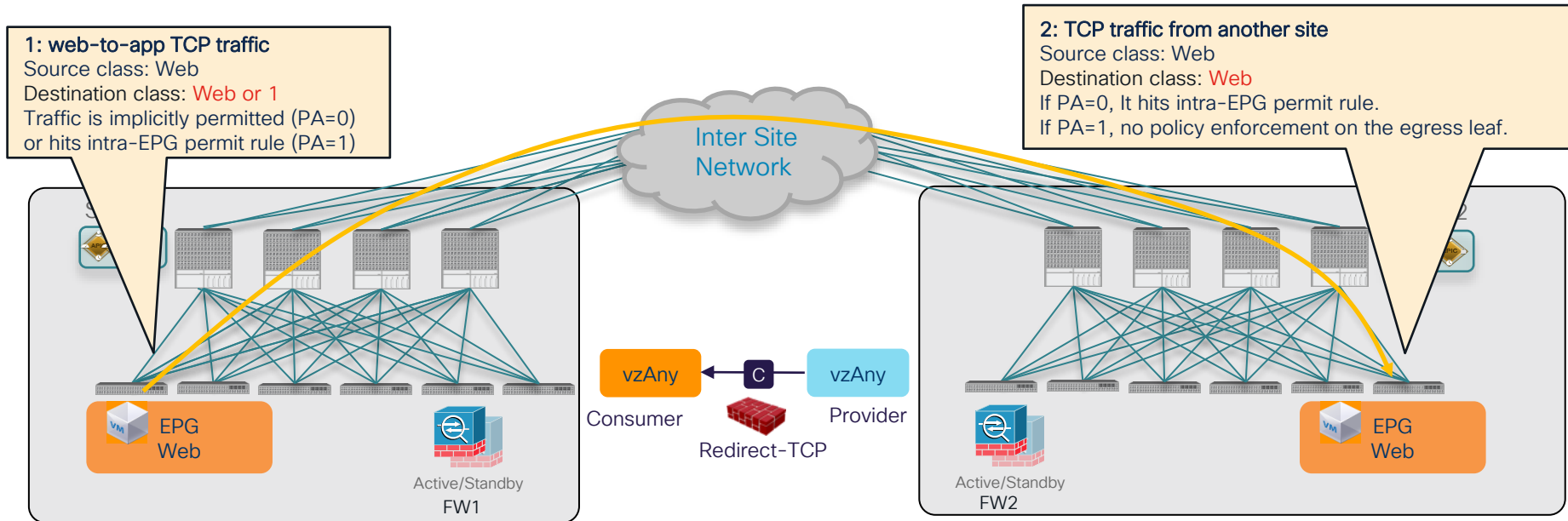
- Conversational Learning to get the ingress leaf learn the destination EP.



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

Intra-EPG traffic

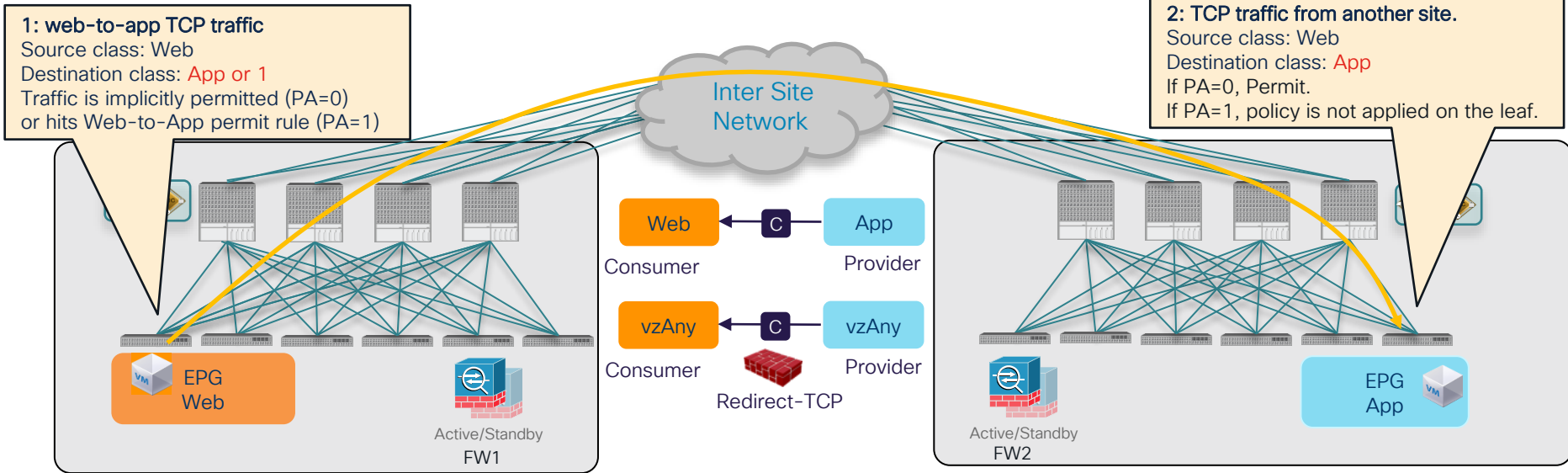
- Intra-EPG permit rule (priority 3) wins over vzAny-to-vzAny rule (priority 17).



ACI Multi-Site vzAny-to-vzAny PBR

Bypass firewall for specific EPG-to-EPG traffic

- EPG-to-EPG permit rule (priority 7 or 9) wins over vzAny-to-vzAny rule (priority 17).



ACI Multi-Site

vzAny PBR and L3Out-to-L3Out PBR

	vzAny-to-vzAny	vzAny-to-EPG	vzAny-to-L3Out	L3Out-to-L3Out
Redirection	Both sites	Site for the specific EPG	Both sites	Both sites
Service node	One-node One-arm	One-node One-arm	One-node One-arm	One-node One-arm
VRF	Intra-VRF	Intra-VRF	Intra-VRF	Intra-VRF and Inter-VRF

- No need to configure EPG subnets.
- By configuring specific EPG-to-EPG permit contract, firewall can be bypassed.
- Each site needs to have PBR destination with decent high availability within the site.
- ESG is not supported in Multi-Site (Roadmap)

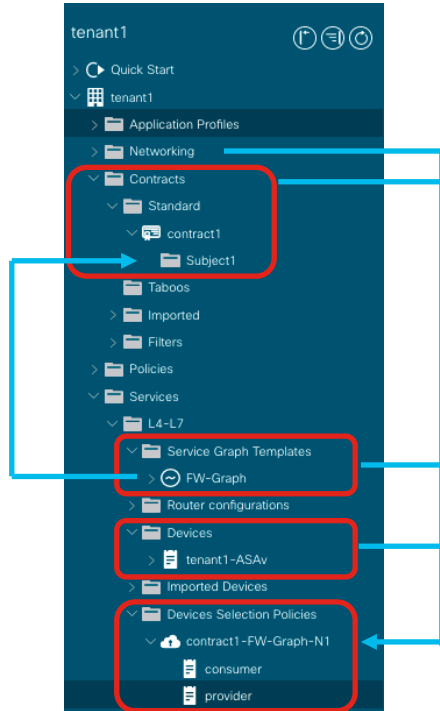
Multi-Site PBR Update

- vzAny-to-EPG
- vzAny-to-vzAny
- Configuration workflow



NEW

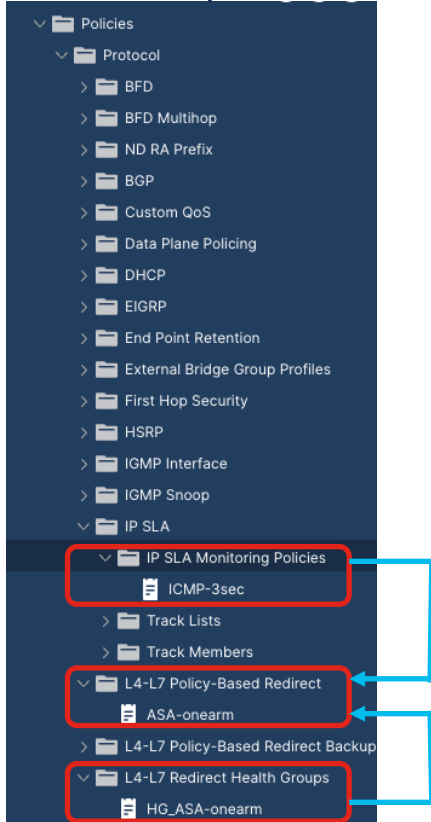
Recap: Configuration for Service Graph



- Contract
- Service Graph template
 - Service Graph template is attached to a contract subject
- L4-L7 Device
 - Physical domain (static path) or VMM domain (VM name and interfaces)
 - Cluster interfaces
- Device Selection Policy
 - It's based on
 - Contract name
 - Service Graph template name
 - Node name in the Service Graph

Recap: Configuration for PBR

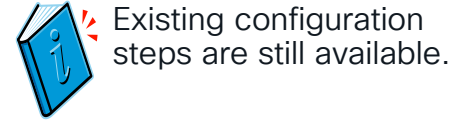
PBR requires additional configurations





- L4-L7 PBR Policy
 - PBR destination IP (and MAC)
 - PBR related options (hash option, resilient hash etc)
 - Tracking configuration (IP-SLA, Health-group)
- IP-SLA policy (optional)
 - Protocol: ICMP/TCP/HTTP/L2Ping
 - Interval etc
- L4-L7 Redirect Health-group (optional)

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

Existing and new L4-L7 Configuration steps



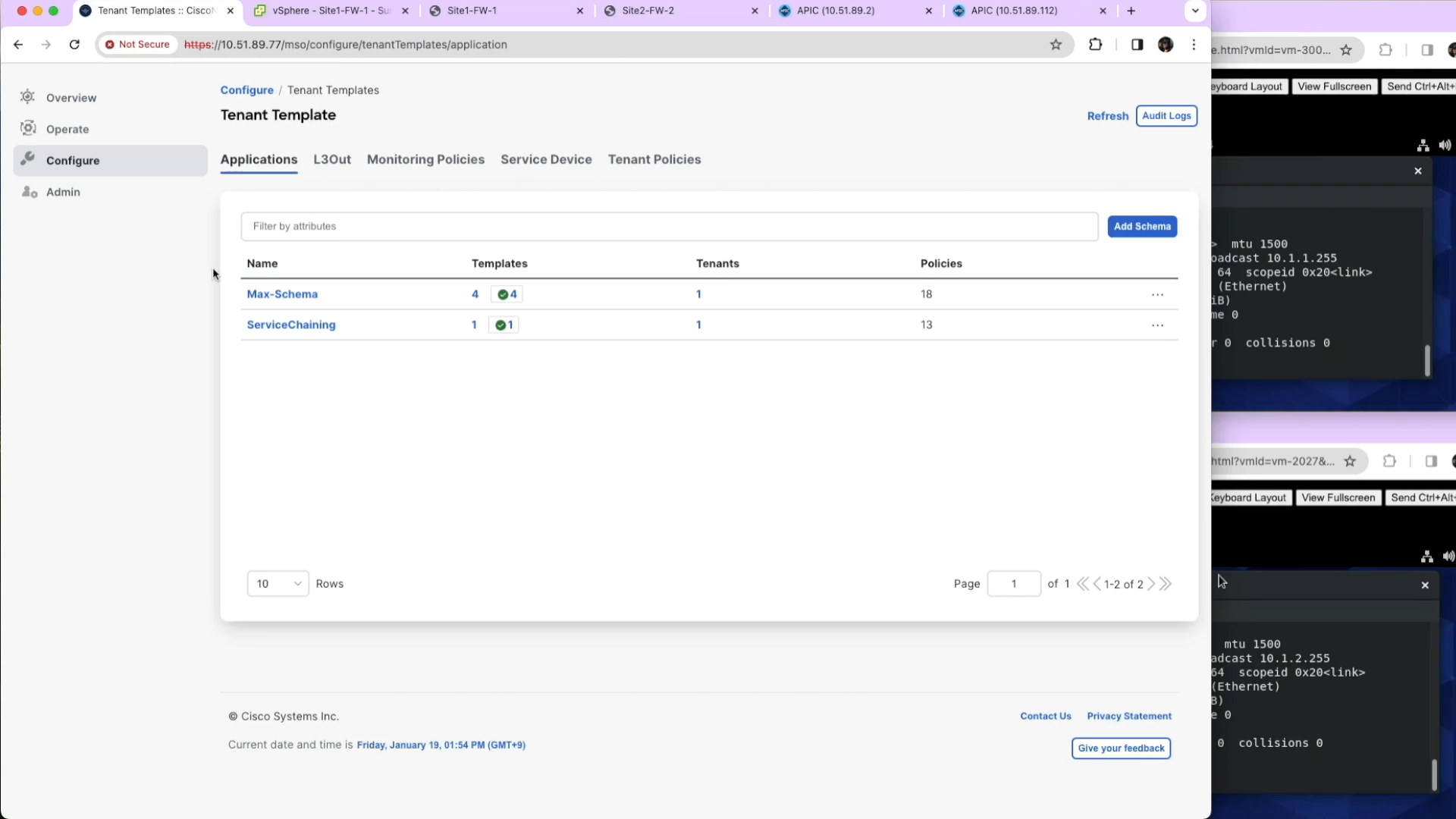
- Existing L4-L7 configuration steps: APIC local config + NDO config

APIC config (each site)	APIC Admin 	NDO config	NDO Admin 
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Configure Tracking options (optional)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IP-SLA policy• Health-Group2. Create a PBR policy3. Create a L4-L7 Device		<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Create a Service Graph template2. Attach the Service Graph template to a contract3. Select the cluster interface, BDs and PBR policies required for Device Selection Policy on APIC	

- New L4-L7 configuration steps: NDO config ONLY

NDO config	NDO Admin 
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Configure an IP-SLA policy (optional)2. Configure a Service Device template3. Insert the Service Device to a contract	

vzAny-to-vzAny PBR configuration Example (Video)



- Overview
- Operate
- Configure**
- Admin

Configure / Tenant Templates

Tenant Template

[Refresh](#) [Audit Logs](#)

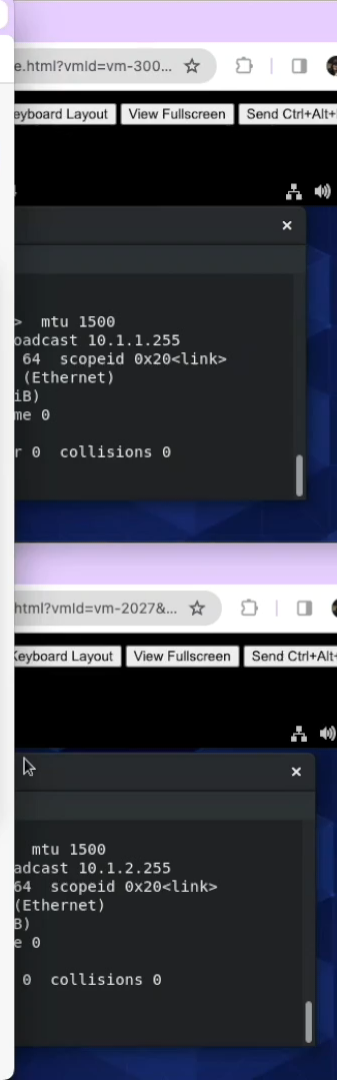
Applications | L3Out | Monitoring Policies | Service Device | Tenant Policies

Filter by attributes [Add Schema](#)

Name	Templates	Tenants	Policies	
Max-Schema	4 4	1	18	...
ServiceChaining	1 1	1	13	...

10 Rows

Page 1 of 1 << < 1-2 of 2 > >>



Conclusions

Summary

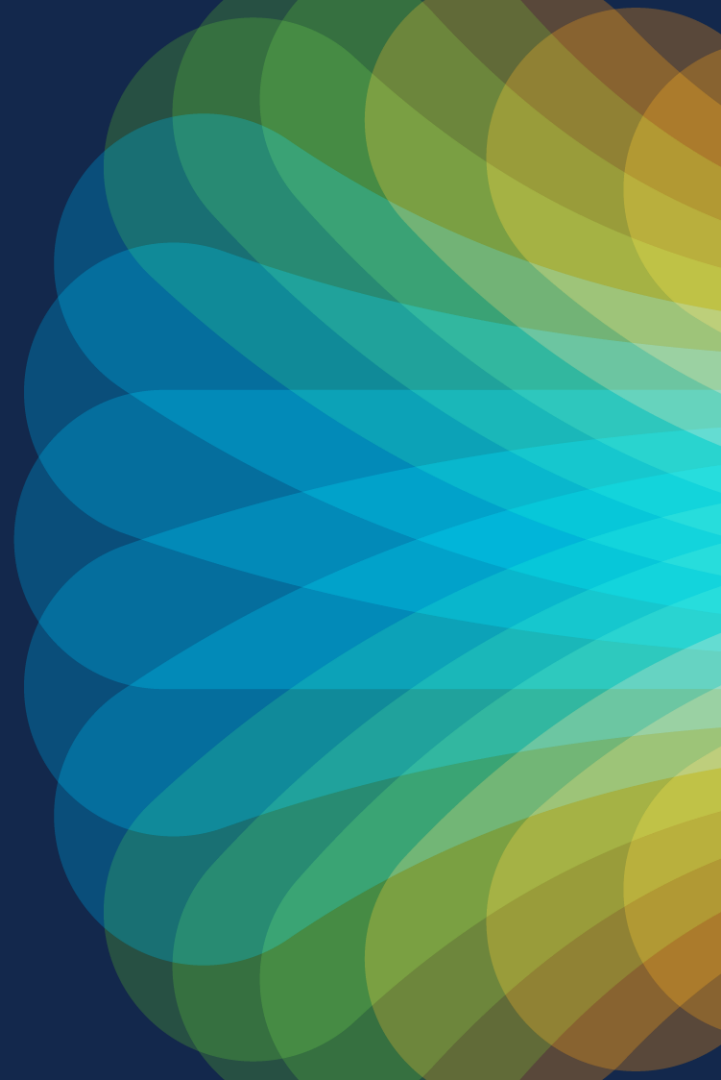
- How ACI PBR works, use cases and design tips
- Flexible traffic redirection.
 - Redirect specific traffic based on contract.
 - Intra-subnet and intra-EPG/ESG redirection.
 - Any-to-Any, Any-to-EPG/ESG redirection.
- Scale easily.
 - Symmetric PBR with tracking and resilient hash
 - PBR destinations can be L1/L2/L3 devices anywhere in the fabric.
- Multi-Location Data Centers
 - Multi-Site vzAny PBR is finally available!
 - New L4-L7 configuration workflow on NDO
- For more information, please check ACI PBR white paper!



The bridge to possible

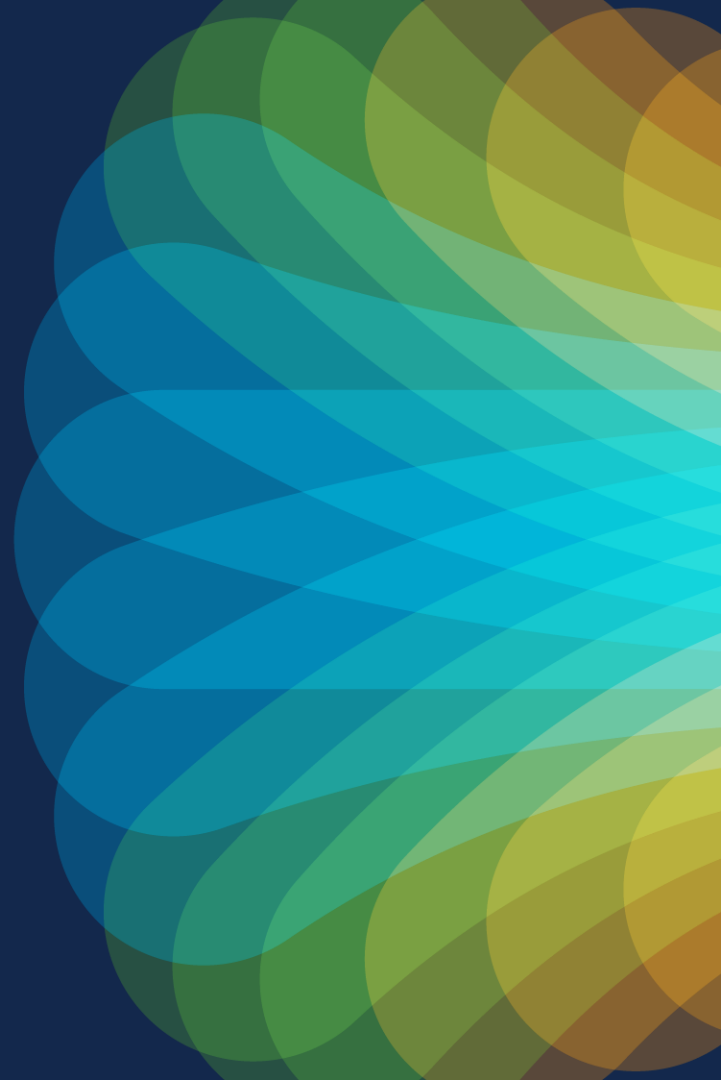
Thank you

CISCO *Live!*



Appendix:

- Useful Links
- NDO Configuration UI



Useful Links

- Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Policy-Based Redirect Service Graph Design White Paper
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/white-paper-c11-739971.html>
- Cisco ACI Contract Guide
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/white-paper-c11-743951.html>
- Service Graph Design with Cisco ACI (Updated to Cisco APIC Release 5.2) White Paper
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/white-paper-c11-2491213.html>
- ACI Fabric Endpoint Learning White Paper
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/white-paper-c11-739989.html>

Useful Links

- Cisco ACI and F5 BIG-IP Design Guide White Paper
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/white-paper-c11-743890.html>
- Cisco ACI Multi-Pod and Service Node Integration White Paper
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/white-paper-c11-739571.html>
- Cisco ACI Multi-Site and Service Node Integration White Paper
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/white-paper-c11-743107.html>
- ACI Multi-Site/Multi-Pod and F5 BIG-IP Design Guide
<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/application-centric-infrastructure/aci-multi-site-pod-f5-ip-design-guide.html>

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

1: Configure an IP-SLA policy (optional)

- Tenant Policy Template

NDO -> Configure -> Tenant Template -> Tenant Policies

-> Create Object -> Create an IPSLA Monitoring Policy

The screenshot displays the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Orchestrator interface. The top navigation bar shows 'Nexus Dashboard' and 'Orchestrator'. The left sidebar contains 'Overview', 'Configure', and 'Admin'. The main area is titled 'Tenant Policies' and includes a 'Configure' button, 'Refresh', and 'Save' options. A 'Template Summary' table is visible, with a circled '2' under the 'Associated Sites' column. The 'Associated Sites' column shows 0 'In Sync' and 2 'Out of Sync' sites. A 'Create Object' button is highlighted in the bottom right of the main area. The right panel shows the configuration for an 'ICMP-3-sec' policy, with a circled 'SLA Type' dropdown set to 'ICMP' and a circled 'SLA Frequency (sec)' field set to '1'. The 'Detect Multiplier' is set to '3'. The 'Req Data Size (bytes)' is '28', 'Type of Service' is '0', 'Operation Timeout (milliseconds)' is '900', and 'Threshold (milliseconds)' is '900'. The 'IPv6 Traffic Class' is '0'. A list of policy types is shown on the right, with 'IPSLA Monitoring Policy' highlighted.

Type	Tenant	Template Status	Associated Sites	Last Action
Tenant Policy Template	PBR	Out Of Sync	2 In Sync: 0 Out of Sync: 2	Updated

Policy List:

- Route Map Policy for Multicast
- Route Map Policy for Route Control
- Custom QoS Policy
- DHCP Relay Policy
- DHCP Option Policy
- IGMP Interface Policy
- IGMP Snooping Policy
- MLD Snooping Policy
- L3Out Node Routing Policy
- L3Out Interface Routing Policy
- BGP Peer Prefix Policy
- IPSLA Track List
- IPSLA Monitoring Policy**

ICMP-3-sec Configuration:

- Name: ICMP-3-sec
- SLA Type: ICMP
- SLA Frequency (sec): 1
- Detect Multiplier: 3
- Req Data Size (bytes): 28
- Type of Service: 0
- Operation Timeout (milliseconds): 900
- Threshold (milliseconds): 900
- IPv6 Traffic Class: 0

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

2: Configure a Service Device template (1/2)

- Service Device template: PBR policy + L4-L7 device network config at one NDO -> Configure -> Tenant Template -> Service Device -> Create Service Device Template

FW-OneArm

Common Properties

Name *

FW-OneArm

Device Location

ACI On-Prem Cloud

Device Type

Firewall Load Balancer Others

Device Mode

L3 L2 L1

Options that are not applicable are automatically grayed out. For example, if it's L1/L2 PBR, Device Type must be "Others"

Connectivity Mode

One Arm Two Arm Advanced

Interface Properties

Interface Name *

one-arm

Interface Type

BD L3Out

BD *

BD-Services ×

Redirect

Yes No

IP SLA Monitoring Policy ⓘ

ICMP-3-sec ×

Advanced Settings

Enabled Disabled

If it's Two Arm or Advanced, a table will show up and then each interface configuration can be done by clicking the pencil icon

Connectivity Mode

One Arm Two Arm Advanced

Interface Properties

Interface Name	Type	Redirect	IPSLA	
Internal	BD	No	-	 
External	BD	No	-	 

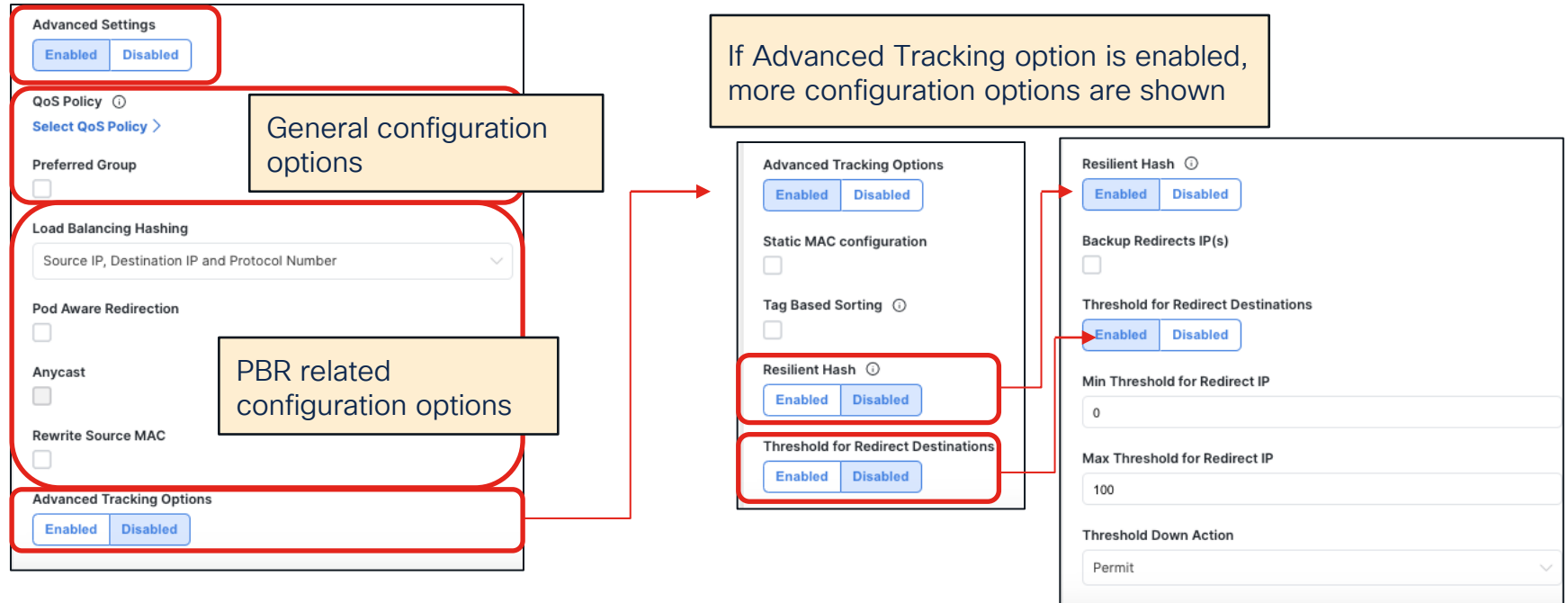
Create Interface

By default, other configuration options are hidden

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

2: Configure a Service Device template (2/2)

- New workflow hides Advanced configuration options unless it's required.



Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

2: Configure a Service Device template for site level (1/3)

- Domain (physical or virtual domain) configuration is per site configuration.
- Select a site -> Select the Service Device Cluster

Nexus Dashboard | Orchestrator

Feedback | User | ?

Configure / Tenant Templates [Service Device] / FW-Service

Service Device Template

Refresh | Audit Logs | Save

Overview | Operate | **Configure** | Admin

Template Properties: **Site1** | Site2

Open Site

Template Summary

Edit Template | Actions

Type	Tenant	Template Status	Associated Sites	Last Action
Service Device Template	PBR	Out Of Sync	2 In Sync 0 Out of Sync 2	Deployment Successful Last Deployed: Aug 21, 2023 04:27 am

Filter

Service Device Cluster: FW-OneArm

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

2: Configure a Service Device template for site level (2/3)

Physical domain

Service Device Cluster FW-OneArm on Site1 View Relationship

Common Properties ∨

Interface Properties ∨

Site Properties ∧

Domain Type *

Physical VMM

Domain*

phys ×

Encap ranges: 56-56, 100-101, 102-102, 300-350, 351-400

INTERFACE 1

Interface Name

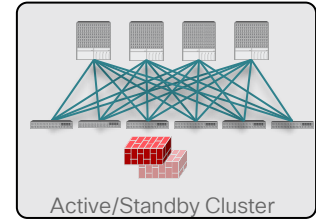
one-arm

VLAN *

100

Select Domain Type and a domain

For a physical domain:
• VLAN is mandatory (static allocation)



Specify the interfaces connected to FW nodes (Active/Standby mode)

For a physical domain:
• Two Interfaces connected to the Active/ Standby service devices (static path)

Specify the single IP address identifying the logical cluster

Fabric To Device Connectivity ⓘ

Type *	Pod *	Node *	Path *
Virtual Port Channel	1	101,102	vPC-L101-L102-Port16
Virtual Port Channel	1	103,104	vPC-L103-L104-Port16

+ Add Fabric To Device Connectivity

PBR Destinations

IP Address *
50.50.50.10



Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

2: Configure a Service Device template for site level (3/3)

VMM domain

Service Device Cluster FW-Cluster on Site1

Common Properties

Interface Properties

Site Properties

Domain Type *

Physical VMM

Domain*

vDS-Site1

Encap ranges: 50-60, 100-110, 300-399, 480-480, 800-900

Trunking Port

Enabled

Promiscuous Mode

Enabled

INTERFACE 1

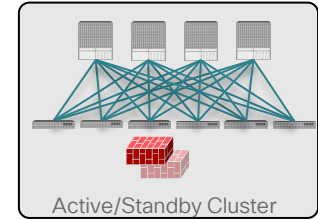
Interface Name

one-arm

VLAN

Enhanced LAG Option

LAG1



Specify the FW VMs
(Active/Standby mode)

VM Information*

VM Name*	VNIC*
vCSA-7-Site1/ASAv-Pod1	Network adapter 2
vCSA-7-Site1/ASAv-Pod2	Network adapter 2

Add VM Information

PBR Destinations

IP Address *

50.50.50.10

Specify the single IP address
identifying the
logical cluster

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

Note:

- New workflow doesn't ask you some configuration options if they are not required. For example:
 - If tracking is enabled, NDO doesn't ask PBR destination MAC.
 - NDO doesn't ask Health-group configuration unless it's required.

The screenshot displays the Cisco NDO configuration interface. On the left, the 'VM Information' table lists two VMs: 'ACI-vDS-vcenter/Site1-ASAv-1' and 'ACI-vDS-vcenter/Site1-ASAv-2', both with 'Network adapter 5'. Below this is the 'PBR Destinations' table with two entries: '192.168.1.101' and '192.168.1.102'. A callout box points to this table with the text: 'If it's one-arm FW, NDO doesn't ask Health-group even though there are multiple PBR destinations.'

The central pane shows the 'NDO-L4-L7' configuration tree. The 'L4-L7 Policy-Based Redirect Backup' folder is highlighted with a blue box. The right pane shows the configuration for 'L4-L7 Policy-Based Redirect - FW-onearm-one-arm'. The 'Properties' section includes 'IP SLA Monitoring Policy: ICMP-3sec', 'Oper Status: Enabled', and 'Threshold Enable: '. The 'Hashing Algorithm' is set to 'Destination IP, Source IP, Source IP, Destination IP and Protocol number'. The 'L3 Destinations' table is highlighted with a blue box and contains the following data:

IP	Destination Name	MAC	Redirect Health Group
192.168.1.101		00:00:00:00:00:00	FW-onearm--ndo--implct--192.168.1.101
192.168.1.102		00:00:00:00:00:00	FW-onearm--ndo--implct--192.168.1.102

A callout box points to the 'Redirect Health Group' column with the text: 'NDO automatically configure Health-group'.

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

3: Insert the Service Device to a contract

- Just select which device you want to insert!
- NDO -> Configure -> Tenant Template -> Applications -> Select the Schema

The screenshot displays the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Orchestrator interface. On the left, the 'Configure' menu is expanded to 'Tenant Templates [Applied]', and the 'PBR Schema' section is active. The 'vzAny-to-vzAny' template is selected, and the 'Contracts' dropdown is open, showing 'vzAny-to-vzAny' selected. The 'Service Chaining/Service Graph' section is also visible, with a '+' button highlighted. On the right, the 'Device Settings' dialog is open, showing the 'Device Type' set to 'Firewall', the 'Device' set to 'FW-OneArm', and the 'Consumer Interface' set to 'one-arm'. The 'Consumer Connector Type' is set to 'Redirect' (checked), and the 'Provider Connector Type' is also set to 'Redirect' (checked). The 'Add' button is visible at the bottom right of the dialog.

If it's One-arm, the interface is automatically selected.
Redirect can be enabled/disabled at each interface

Multi-Site L4-L7 configuration

Optional: required configuration for vzAny PBR

- Enable “L3 Multicast” and “Site-aware Policy Enforcement Mode” on the VRF

The screenshot shows the configuration page for VRF1 in the Cisco Nexus Dashboard. The left sidebar includes navigation options like Overview, Operate, Configure, and Admin. The main content area is titled 'VRF1' and contains sections for 'Common Properties', 'Annotations', 'Template Properties', and 'On-Premises Properties'. In the 'On-Premises Properties' section, 'Policy Control Enforcement Preference' is set to 'Enforced', 'IP Data-Plane Learning' is 'Enabled', and 'L3 Multicast' is disabled. A callout box with a yellow background and black border points to the 'L3 Multicast' checkbox and the 'Site-aware Policy Enforcement Mode' dropdown, which is currently set to 'Beta'. The text inside the callout box reads 'Both are disabled by default'. A blue arrow points from this callout towards the right side of the image.

This callout box contains configuration options for Rendezvous Points (RP) and Site-aware Policy Enforcement Mode. At the top, a yellow callout bubble says 'RP is not required'. Below it, the 'L3 Multicast' checkbox is checked and highlighted with a red box. The 'Configure Rendezvous Points (RP)' section includes an 'IP Address' field and an 'Add Rendezvous Points' button. The 'vzAny' checkbox is unchecked. At the bottom, the 'Site-aware Policy Enforcement Mode' dropdown is set to 'Beta' and highlighted with a red box.

The Cisco Live! logo features the word "CISCO" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by "Live!" in a black, cursive script font. The background of the entire image is a vibrant, multi-colored abstract pattern of overlapping, wavy bands in shades of red, orange, yellow, green, and blue, creating a sense of motion and energy.

CISCO *Live!*

Let's go