

aws marketplace

Fortinet FortiADC

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



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Product Recap



Fortinet FortiADC

Fortinet FortiADC Recap

Fortinet FortiADC is a robust application delivery controller (ADC) that delivers application optimization, application security, and application availability. FortiADC is a valued offering from Fortinet, which is widely recognized as a trusted supplier of dynamic security solutions worldwide. FortiADC offers dynamic security functions (AV, DDoS, and WAF) in addition to advanced application connectors for a simplified deployment and complete transparency to an organization's networks and applications. FortiADC offers three primary deployment options: physical machine, virtual machine, (VM) and cloud solution options.

Fortinet FortiADC Benefits

- **FortiADC security protocol:** FortiADC integrates with FortiSandbox to improve the overall antivirus security protections where every file is scanned for known and unknown malicious risks. If a file is identified as malicious or problematic, it will be blocked in the future.
- **SSL protocol:** FortiADC securely uses the most up-to-date cryptography to provide exceptional encryption and decryption using a hardware-based SSL ASIC. FortiADC offers complete transparency to inspect all traffic for threats, improves server response time, and reduces backend server load, SSL inspection and SSL offloading. FortiADC integrates seamlessly with Gemalto's SafeNet Hardware Security Module (HSM).
- **FortiADC connectors:** FortiADC Fabric Connectors offer open API-based integration and coordination with numerous software-defined networks (SDNs), third-party partners, and cloud management providers. Fortinet Fabric Connectors provide deep open and turnkey integration with recognized third-party vendors such as AWS, K8s, OCI, and SAP, in multi-vendor solutions, improving scalability, simplified management, and automation.
- **Business stability:** FortiADC load balancing for on-premise global server load balancing (GSBL) and in the cloud (FortiGSBL Cloud) will ensure users can maintain a reliable and available network by improving the ability of scaling applications throughout numerous data centers to reduce application response times and enhance disaster recovery. Users are able to define protocols based on network latency concerns, overall data performance, and site availability.

Fortinet FortiADC Features

- **Application availability**
 - 4-7 application load balancing: DNS, HTTPS, RTMP, RADIUS, MySQL and more
 - External fabric connectors: Splunk Integration, AWS/OCI Connector, Kubernetes Service.

- Security fabric connectors: FortiSIEM, Fortigate BanIP Integration, FortiAnalyzer, and more.
- Deployment modes: High availability (AA/AP Failover), Router mode, transparent mode (switch), one-arm mode (proxy with X-forwarded for support).
- **Web application firewall (WAF)**
 - Security services: Captcha support, cookie support, HTTP header security, XML/SOAP/JSON validation, CSRF protection, API gateway, and more.
 - Application security: Web attack signature, bot detection, web vulnerability scanner, OWASP Top-10 Wizard, API protection and more.
- **Application enhancement**
 - HTTP and TCP improvement: TCP buffering, HTTP compressions/decompression, HTTP caching (dynamic and static objects), Bandwidth monitoring using quality of service (QoS), TCP buffering, and more.
 - Authentication offloading: Two-factor authentication (Fortitoken/Fortitoken Cloud and Google Authentication), NTLM, AUTH2.0, SAML 2.0 (SP and Idp) RADIUS, LDAP, Kerberos, and local.
 - Networking: Integration with Ansible, Cisco ACI, OpenStack and Nutanix, NVGRE and VXLAN support, VLAN and port trunking support, IPv6 Support (SLB, firewall, routing and interfaces), Dynamic NAT, Hide NAT, Static NAT for added scalability and flexibility.
 - Management: Syslog support, SNMP using private MIBs with threshold-based traps. REST APIs, VDOMS, data analytics, real-time monitoring graphs, role-based monitoring, intuitive reporting, FortiView integration, and more.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- ✓ “Ultimately, Fortinet constructs every solution needed for each defense layer, making it comparatively better than Trellix, Trend Micro, or SentinelOne.”



GANESAN K

Senior Technical Engineer at Safezone Secure Solutions Private Limited

- ✓ “Fortinet FortiADC is a good product; we implemented a Fortinet FortiADC cluster and use application load balancing, and the implementation process is straightforward and cluster implementation is also very easy.”



Suraska Sanjaya

Team Lead at Adapt Information Technologies (Pvt) Ltd

- ✓ “FortiADC provides load-balancing capabilities needed for integration with other Fortinet platforms.”



OusaidAbaz

Security Network Architect at novonordisc

- ✓ “I use load balancing technology like Round Robin or low weight to maintain session-based connections. This ensures that clients can connect to their applications without interruption.”



Anil Gujja

Senior Network Engineer at SP SYSNET PTE. LTD.

- ✓ “We can do patches offline without causing customers outages. The web application firewall features, especially those related to the OWASP Top Ten, provide automated protections. This allows more flexibility in patching the backend applications. Additionally, it offers visibility into the requests being made to the applications, and you can't protect what you can't see.”



Andrew Reynolds

Senior Technical Consultant at CBR Cyber Pty Ltd

- ✓ “The solution provides high-level services such as availability, redundancy, and load balancing between servers.”



Saeid Khanipour Ghobani

IT Manager at Technology Evaluation Center

- ✓ “It helps with defining server load balancing tasks and managing SSL certificates, ensuring the communication flow through the Fortinet gateway.”



Otilia Lavros

System administrator at ALSU

What users had to say about valuable features:

“The product has flexible and interesting licensing options. If you buy a low-end licensing plan, you get all the features with a lower version. You can buy an expensive version if you need advanced features, including security, web application firewall, etc..”

KRISTOF Laenen

Senior Network Engineer at KLC bvba

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“It's a good product because it supports all the features that ADC solutions in the market can support, like F5 solutions, for example, such as the LTM of F5..”

Verified user

Manager BU Network/Security at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

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“Fortinet FortiADC is a good product because each and every piece of content is monitored by it. I can perfectly take control of the service provided to the end user. The solution's policy also works on the group level and individual level.

Fortinet FortiADC is easy to operate and has single-handed control..”

Sameer Ghewade

Manager, Information Technology at Parag Milk Foods Ltd

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“Initially, I was intimidated by FortiADC. That said, it has a good user manual, allowing management even with basic knowledge. It helps with defining server load balancing tasks and managing SSL certificates, ensuring the communication flow through the Fortinet gateway..”

Otilia Lavros

System administrator at ALSU

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“Fortinet FortiADC’s basic feature is present in all models, providing control over load balancing. Additionally, extra features found in FortiADC include bridging, which enables load balancing for CDB, UDP, and SDP.

The solution includes all the features, as well as support for global traffic management and local traffic management tools. It offers forward compatibility to integrate smoothly with Sandbox environments.

The user interface is very easy and integrates with Sandbox easily. It has its own antivirus. .”

Verified user

Security Technical Manager at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

[Read full review](#) 

“Although FortiADC has multiple features that I like, the global DNS is the most helpful. It is primarily useful for customers with huge environments and at least two data centers. FortiADC can act as your DNS server. It can check which data center has the lowest latency, and route traffic to that one. It's an intelligent DNS.

It can also balance application loads between servers and reroute content. If a public IP address hosts multiple applications, ADC can steer the traffic to the specific server of that application based on the URL that you are calling. If you have servers that respond for one specific application, you can use the ADC to load-balance the sessions between those servers. Which server has the least number of sessions? Which server is responding the fastest? .”

Bruno Moreira

Network Security Consultant at SigmaTelecom

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Other Solutions Considered

“I evaluated another platform but found it a single-device system lacking fault tolerance. It was also more expensive and did not perform as effectively, so I chose Fortinet ADC..”

Najdat Turani

Network and Security Administrator at YU

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“F5's LTM was evaluated, which offers more specialized traffic management capabilities compared to FortiADC's diverse devices for different functionalities..”

OusaidAbaz

Security Network Architect at novonordisc

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“We previously used Coyote Equalizer, which became outdated. We needed to implement TLS 1.2, but it only supported TLS 1.0. Fortinet acquired Coyote, leading us to choose FortiADC..”

Otilia Lavros

System administrator at ALSU

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“A comparison was made with F5's local traffic management. Although F5 has more algorithms, FortiADC follows similar load balancing procedures. The platform's choice seems influenced by specialization in security across different devices..”

OusaidAbaz

Security Network Architect at novonordisc

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“We did not implement SSL Offloading, as we use the HTTP side. In the future, the customer has an idea to implement the HTTPS side, and I will need to follow that HTTPS offloading as well in the near future..”

Suraska Sanjaya

Team Lead at Adapt Information Technologies (Pvt) Ltd

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“Before implementing Fortinet ADC, we used an application delivery system from a company acquired by Broadcom. Due to its discontinuation, we could not upgrade this system, preventing firmware updates necessary for new certificates.

The previous solution required extensive command-line configuration, while the Fortinet ADC offers a more user-friendly web interface with various configuration options, simplifying the setup process..”

Najdat Turani

Network and Security Administrator at YU

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

“The main reason a client wants this load balancer is because there is a load on the web server and one of them becomes unresponsive and that means a big loss for the company. It's the main reason they purchase FortiADC. Once they implement this solution there are no issues with the load server. .”

VinothKumar12

Senior Cyber Security Engineer at a tech services company with 201-500 employees

[Read full review](#) 

“If I consider traffic shaping and latency, FortiADC does not add any more latency within our internal network. Monitoring the application is very helpful. The alert system is efficient, sending alerts within a fraction of a second if any power issues arise.

In comparison, Kemp support is not at the same level. If any hardware fails, Fortinet ensures a next business day delivery, whereas Kemp often asks many questions and does not support as effectively. I have encountered many issues with Kemp compared to FortiADC..”

Anil Gujja

Senior Network Engineer at SP SYSNET PTE. LTD.

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Use Case

“We use the solution for deploying applications on local servers. Most customers use it for local traffic management and use the benefits of a security profile..”

Verified user


Security Technical Manager at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

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“We use Fortinet FortiADC for controlling applications by Microsoft and Google. We use the solution to block content that must be blocked and allow content that can be allowed..”

Sameer Ghewade

Manager, Information Technology at Parag Milk Foods Ltd

[Read full review](#) 

“The tool offers Web Application Firewall to protect against threats such as what is outlined in the OWASP Top 10 and robust load-balancing functionality with in depth health monitoring of application availability..”

Andrew Reynolds

Senior Technical Consultant at CBR Cyber Pty Ltd

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“We are expanding our internal network with more virtual servers, and each needs to be defined on the Fortinet gateway. The FortiADC facilitates communication for servers meant for public access and supports load balancing. My main tasks involve defining new servers and importing SSL certificates..”

Otilia Lavros

System administrator at ALSU

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“It's used for load-balancing traffic and DNS traffic as well. We use FortiADC as the global traffic manager and DNS solution and also as a classic load application delivery controller.

We use it to load balance between applications..”

Verified user

Manager BU Network/Security at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

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“We use FortiADC for link load balancing. FortiGate has this feature, but some customers aren't using Fortinet firewalls. In this case, the customer had three Internet links for downloading huge satellite images that are more than 70 GB.

This company collects the images so their software can analyze which crops are at risk. They download the images between the hours of noon and midnight, and their customers access the website early in the morning around 7 a.m. They need to have the images downloaded and analyzed by the time their customers wake up, but the download server only allows 10 connections per IP address. We set up three links to achieve 30 connections to that IP server, and FortiADC balances the load between those links. .”

Bruno Moreira

Network Security Consultant at SigmaTelecom

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

“I carefully reviewed the documentation and configured the product, avoiding default settings. While the setup was complex, thorough preparation facilitated a smooth deployment. It took approximately a year to complete it..”

Najdat Turani

Network and Security Administrator at YU

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“The initial setup is easy to install. The process is straightforward.

The deployment takes around two to three days, considering the installation and configuration of some applications. We can easily configure the profiles..”

Verified user

Manager BU Network/Security at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

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“The product's setup is straightforward. The WAF took more time because we had to find a configuration that avoided a lot of false positives. We required only two people to handle the tool's deployment. .”

Aymar Tala Defo

[Read full review](#) 

Cyber Security Analyst at a educational organization with 10,001+ employees

“The initial setup is straightforward and depends on the number of nodes and applications. Deploying one node takes around 50 minutes.

It depends on the node and server application, source address, communication delivery control, URL, or port ID..”

Verified user

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Security Technical Manager at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

“I rate Fortinet FortiADC's deployment a ten out of ten. It takes a couple of hours to complete, and it's usually deployed in a network that's already set up for application delivery. The interface is very similar to what you would see on a FortiGate firewall, and is very intuitive. Once you have set up basic networking, setting up your first VIP takes a matter of minutes – the majority of the rest of your setup time is testing the application and fail over to ensure that the apps teams are happy..”

Andrew Reynolds

Senior Technical Consultant at CBR Cyber Pty Ltd

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“The initial setup and configuration are very easy because the solution includes a simple OS. Initial configuration takes about ten minutes for simple environments.


It is important to assess the environment and decide what services, servers, and web applications are needed.

The solution can be configured in router mode or one-arm mode which uses source NAT as destination NAT to send traffic to the firewall. One-arm mode is more complex and requires discussions with our engineers.

For example, you have a website with Node.js for your programming language, Amazon S3 for your CDN, NGINX for your web server, and you use both React and reCAPTCHA. Our team meets with your developer to learn your website and OS through a multi-step process and then we configure the solution to protect everything. .”

Saeid Khanipour Ghobani

IT Manager at Technology Evaluation Center

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Customer Service and Support

“We communicate with the technical support team from the company that sold us FortiADC. They have been helpful, with the representative demonstrating strong instincts in problem-solving..”

Otilia Lavros

System administrator at ALSU

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“Customer service is excellent. The support team is knowledgeable and efficiently assists with automation and configuration problems. They provide timely responses and thorough explanations for user queries..”

OusaidAbaz

Security Network Architect at novonordisc

[Read full review](#) 

“I had a terrible experience with Fortinet support. I only used support once when I bought the solution. I got no response for two days. However, I believe that it's no longer the case. Fortinet solutions have problems when they're launched. For example, we had issues with Fortinet's authenticator when it came out. We also had trouble with FortiNAC in the beginning. .”

Bruno Moreira

Network Security Consultant at SigmaTelecom

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“I have not used technical support for the solution but have used it for other Fortinet products.

Colleagues work for the company so I can get quick solutions for issues.

For one particular issue, technical support was not able to resolve our issue so they sent us a new version of the solution and that solved the problem. .”

Saeid Khanipour Ghobani

IT Manager at Technology Evaluation Center

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“Technical support from Fortinet is satisfactory. It varies depending on the engineer assigned; in most cases, we resolve issues on the first attempt. There have been one or two rare instances where they fail to provide complete support, but it's not solely their fault; overall, the support is good.

“On a scale from one to ten, the support deserves an eight..”

GANESAN K

Senior Technical Engineer at Safezone Secure Solutions Private Limited

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“Fortinet technical support is very good, and they provide us with better support.

“The response time is good, and the support quality is also good.

“Local support is mostly not available to us. If we get stuck in some situation, we open global support..”

Suraska Sanjaya

Team Lead at Adapt Information Technologies (Pvt) Ltd

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Other Advice

“Find a reliable partner for technical support to ensure peace of mind. Without proper support, addressing problems can be challenging. I rate FortiADC a nine out of ten..”

Otilia Lavros

System administrator at ALSU

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“You can go ahead and buy this product. It's very good, pretty stable, and the price is fair, as I mentioned. So, in terms of competition, it's a good product.

Overall, I would rate it as an eight..”

Verified user

Manager BU Network/Security at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

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“One person is required for the maintenance of Fortinet FortiADC. The solution is deployed on-cloud in our organization.

Overall, I rate Fortinet FortiADC ten out of ten..”

Sameer Ghewade

Manager, Information Technology at Parag Milk Foods Ltd

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“I rate Fortinet FortiADC nine out of 10. In every instance where we deployed FortiADC, our customers were only looking for a specific feature. My advice to those considering FortiADC is to understand all the features because customers are often unaware of what it can do. Our customers typically want either the server balancing or global DNS features, and they are not aware of the other things they can do with the solution. .”

Bruno Moreira

Network Security Consultant at SigmaTelecom

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“The product's advanced capability improves network efficiency and performance by concurrently managing thousands of client connections and optimizing overall network traffic.

I recommend it to others and rate it a seven out of ten. It performs very well for the functions it provides..”

Najdat Turani

Network and Security Administrator at YU

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“The deployment and the audio trimming may take one day.

FortiADC is stable and operates on a proprietary operating system. One advantage it has over some competitors, which run on Linux, is the strength of its operating system. This strengthens its security control. It offers a good service.

Overall, I rate the solution an eight out of ten..”

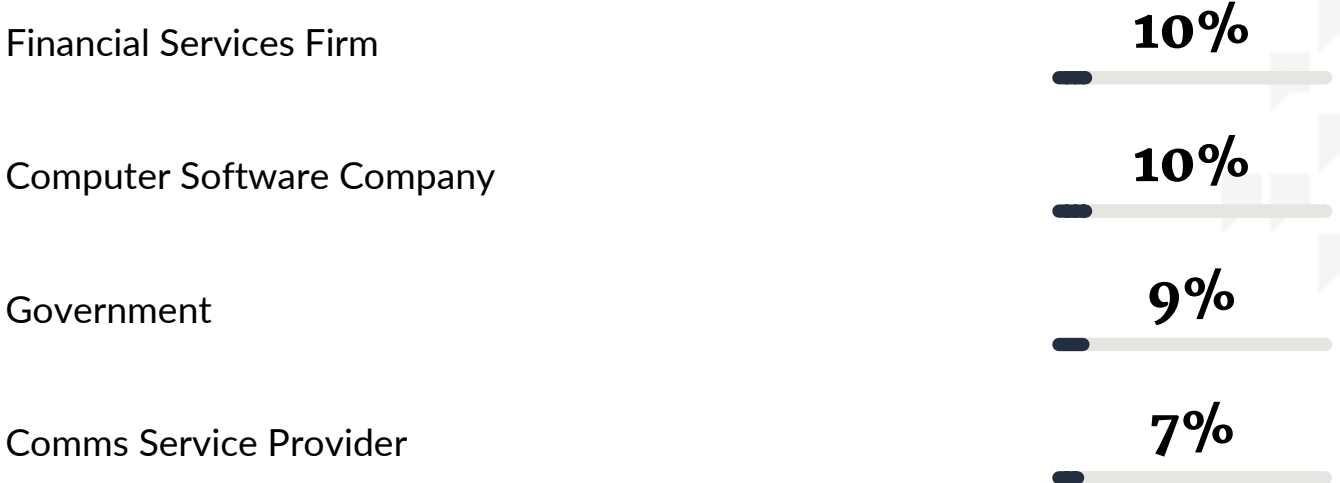
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Security Technical Manager at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

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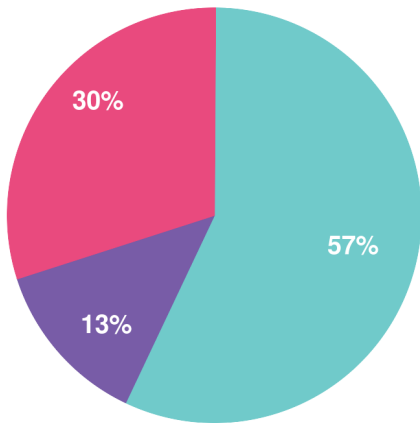
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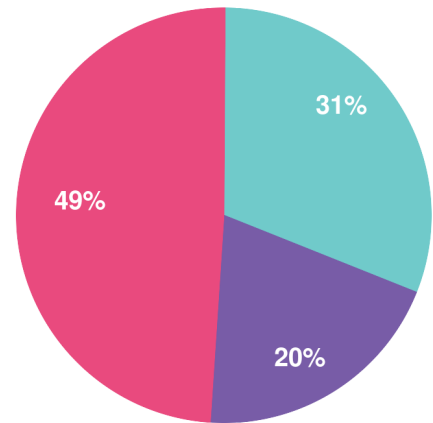


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Large Enterprise Midsize Enterprise Small Business

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244 5th Avenue, Suite R-230 • New York, NY 10001

reports@peerspot.com

+1 646.328.1944