



Azure Networking Overview

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A world map with a dark gray landmass and light gray ocean. Orange dots represent Azure regions and edge sites, with orange lines connecting them to show the backbone network. The dots are concentrated in North America, Europe, and Asia, with a few in South America and Africa. The lines are dense in the major regions, showing a complex web of connections.

**Azure-to-Azure
traffic stays on
our backbone.**

54

REGIONS WORLDWIDE

100K+

MILES OF FIBER AND SUBSEA CABLE

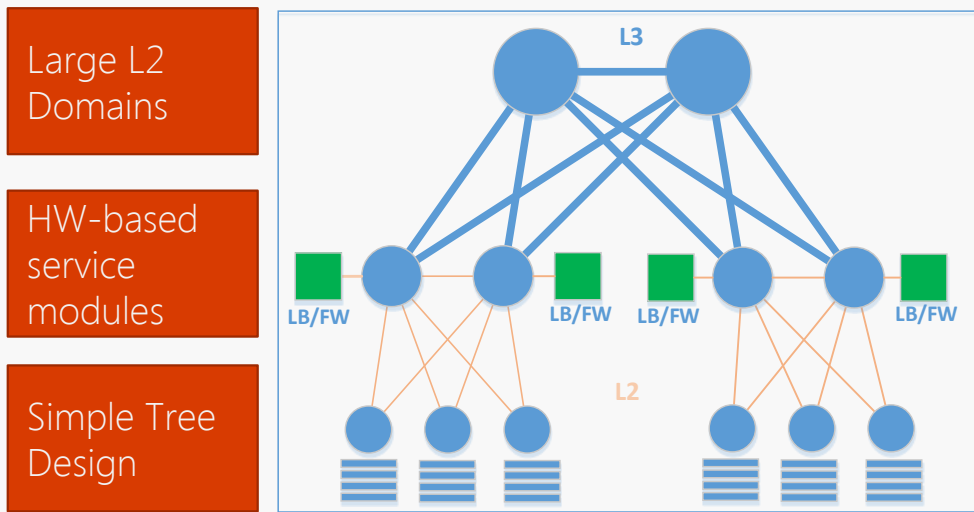
130+

EDGE SITES

200+

ExpressRoute Partners

Classic network vs. Hyper-scale network architecture



- Large L2 Domains
- HW-based service modules
- Simple Tree Design

Low due to diversity and manual provisioning process

Low due to complex hardware and lack of automated operations

Low due to high complexity and human error

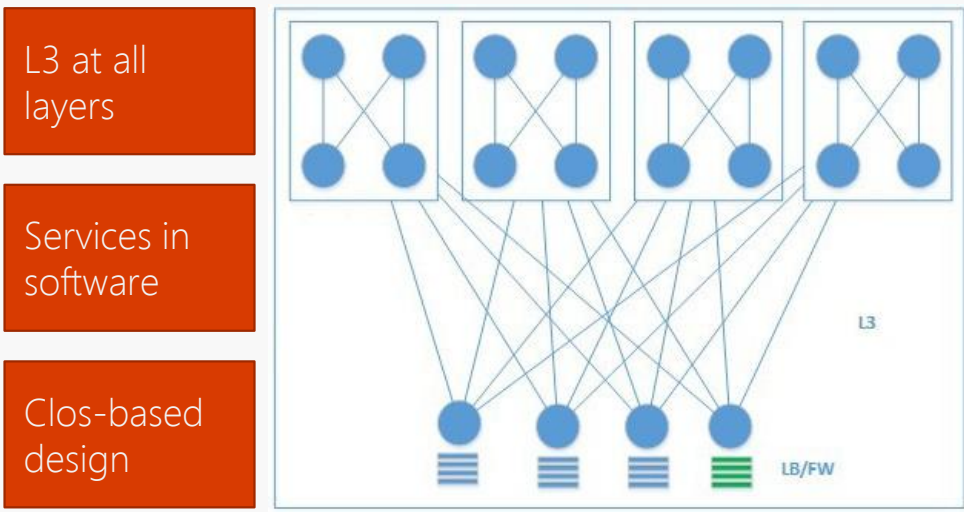
Agility



Efficiency



Availability



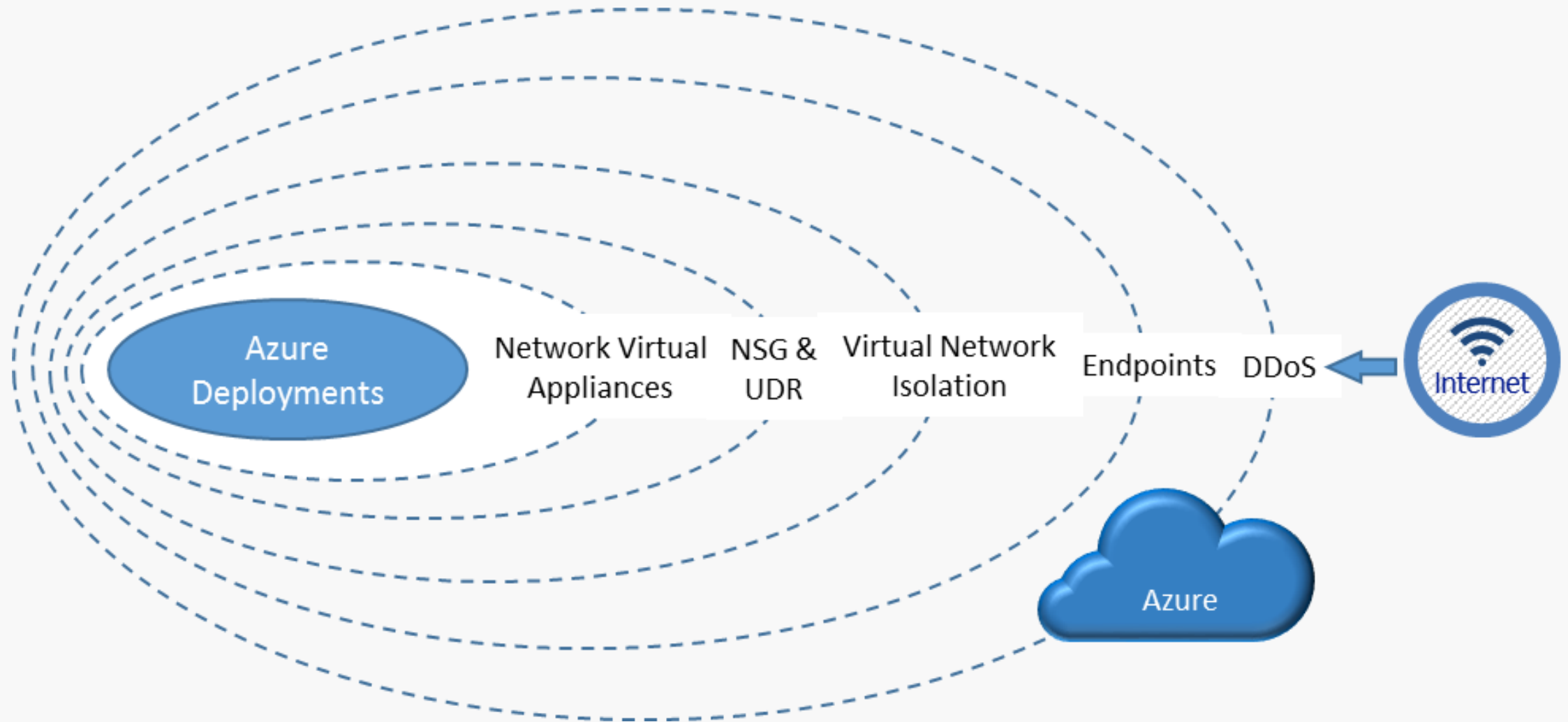
- L3 at all layers
- Services in software
- Clos-based design

Automated network provisioning, integrated process

Simplify requirements, optimize design, and unify infrastructure

Resilient design, automated monitoring and remediation, minimum human involvement

Security layers

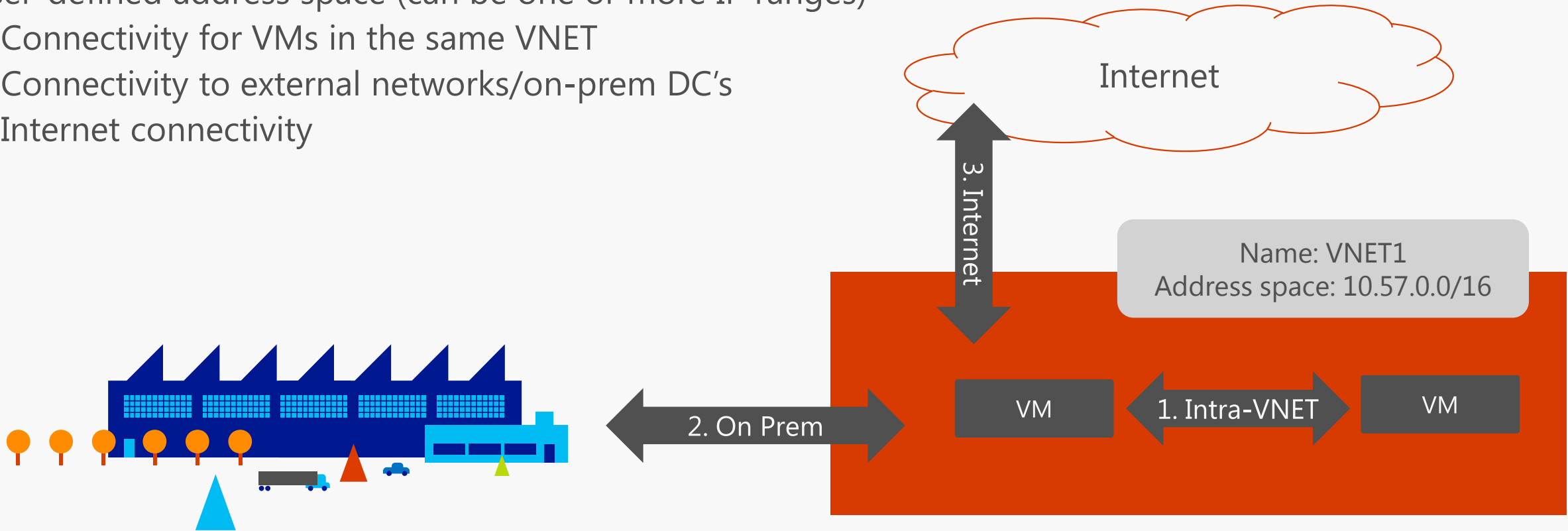


Virtual Network

Isolated, logical network that provides connectivity for Azure Virtual Machines

User-defined address space (can be one or more IP ranges)

1. Connectivity for VMs in the same VNET
2. Connectivity to external networks/on-prem DC's
3. Internet connectivity



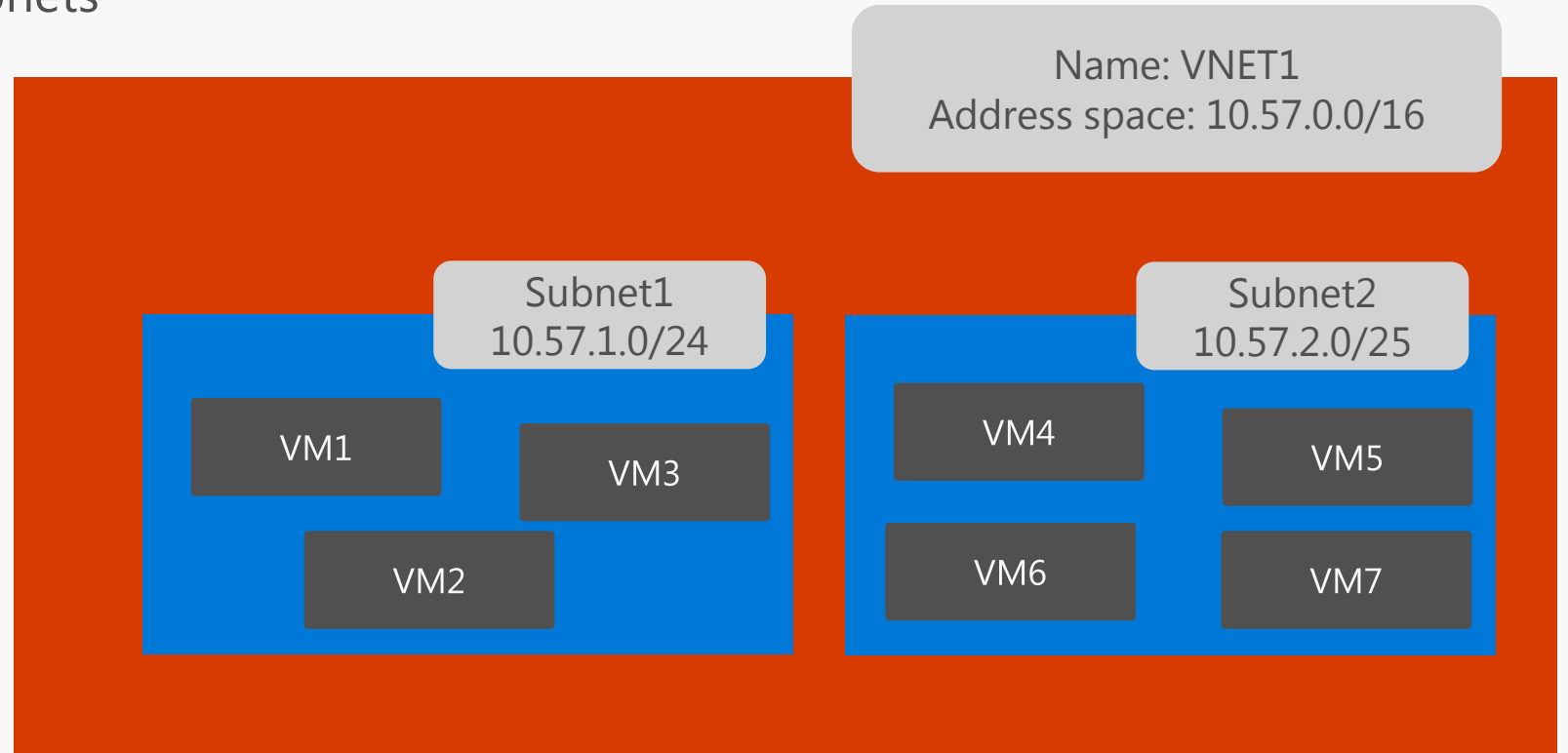
Subnet

IP subnet

Provides full layer-3 semantics and partial layer-2 semantics (DHCP, ARP, no broadcast/multicast)

Subnets can span only one range of contiguous IP addresses

VMs can be deployed only to subnets



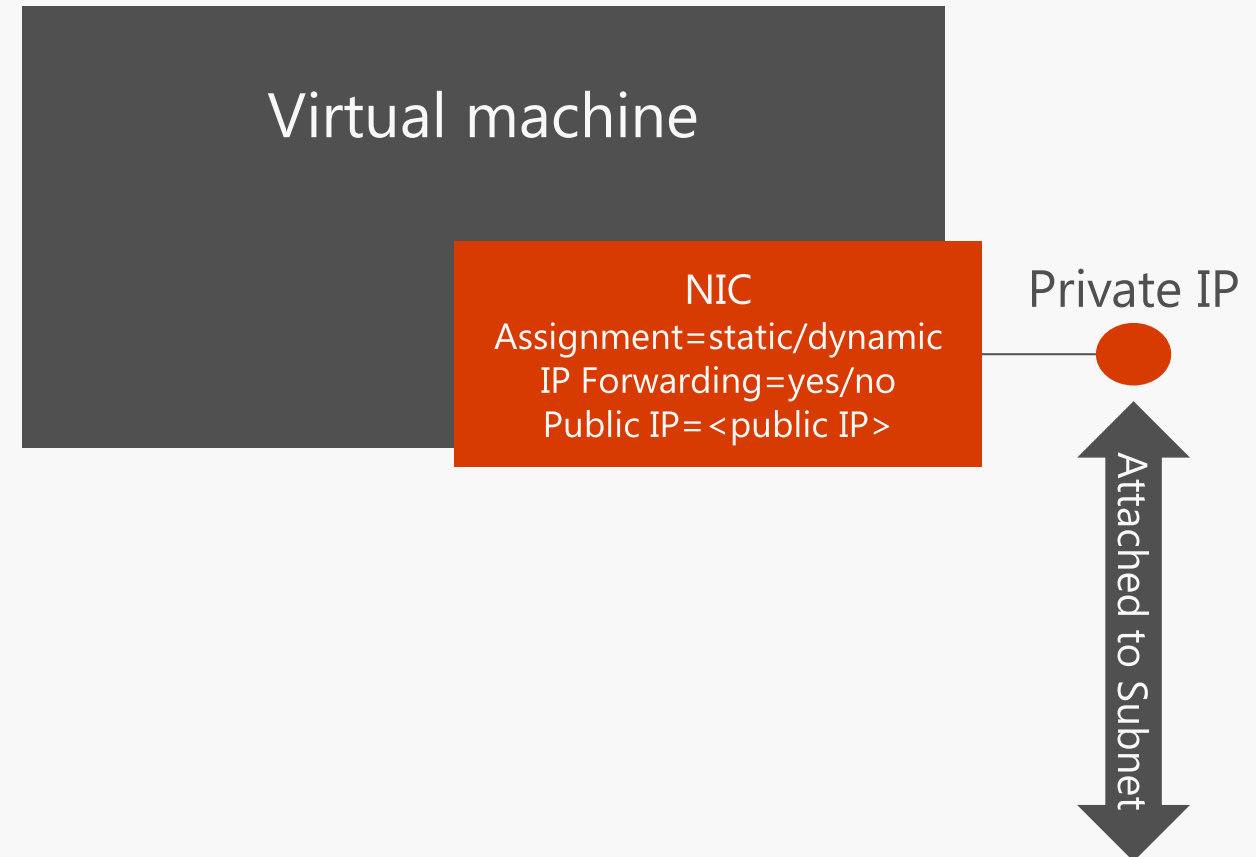
Network Interface

Virtual NIC that connects a VM to a Subnet

One private IP address (private == included in the subnet's IP range)

Private IP address always assigned via Azure DHCP

- Dynamic assignment = DHCP assigns new IP when VM is restarted
- Static assignment = DHCP assigns always the same IP
- IP forwarding = NIC can receive packets with dest IP address different from its private IP
- Multiple NICs
- Multiple IP addr per NIC



IP addresses come in two types in Azure

Public vs. Private

Public IP Addresses allow Azure resources to communicate with Internet and other Azure public-facing services



- Virtual machines (VM)
- Internet-facing (public) load balancers
- VPN gateways
- Application gateways

Private IP Addresses allows communication between resources in a virtual network, along with those connected through a VPN, without using an Internet-routable IP addresses.

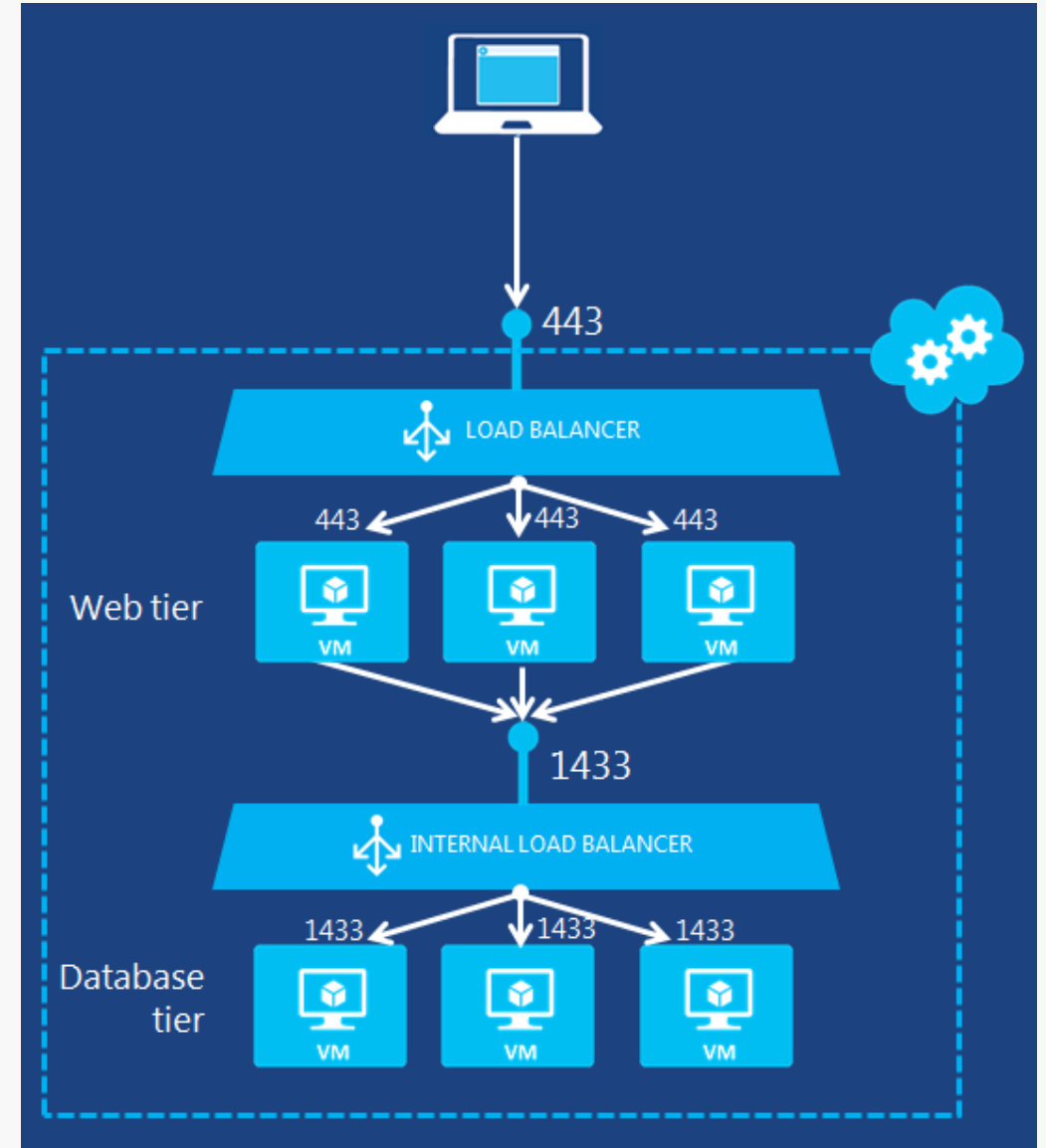


- VMs
- Internal load balancers (ILBs)
- Application gateways

Load Balancers

External vs. Internal

- **External load balancer.** You can use an external load balancer to provide high availability for IaaS VMs and PaaS role instances accessed from the public Internet.
- **Internal load balancer.** You can use an internal load balancer to provide high availability for IaaS VMs and PaaS role instances accessed from other services in your VNet.



NSG key facts

5-tuple ACL's

Source IP, Destination IP, Source Port, Destination Port, Protocol (TCP, UDP, any)

Actions: allow or deny

Directions: inbound, outbound

Priority: 100-4096 (lower value = higher priority)

Stateful

No need to define rules for «return traffic»

Can be applied to NICs and Subnets (ARM)

Inbound connections: subnet-level NSG evaluated first, NIC-level NSG evaluated next

Outbound connections: NIC-level NSG evaluated first, subnet-level NSG evaluated next

Troubleshooting NSGs

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface. The left sidebar is dark-themed and contains a navigation menu. The 'SUPPORT + TROUBLESHOOTING' section is highlighted with a red circle, and the 'Effective security rules' option is selected. The main content area is titled 'cloud-vm829 - Effective security rules' and shows a table of security rules for the 'CLOUD-VM-nsg' Network Security Group. The table is divided into 'Inbound rules' and 'Outbound rules' sections. Each rule is listed with its name, priority, source, source ports, destination, destination ports, protocol, and access status (Allow or Deny).

Showing only top 50 security rules in each grid, click Download above to see all.

CLOUD-VM-nsg

Inbound rules

| NAME | PRIORITY | SOURCE | SOURCE PORTS | DESTINATION | DESTINATION PORTS | PROTOCOL | ACCESS |
|---------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------|
| default-allow-ssh | 1000 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 22-22 | TCP | Allow |
| allow-udp-5555 | 1005 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | Virtual network (2 prefixes) | 5555-5555 | UDP | Allow |
| AllowICMP | 1010 | 10.1.1.0/24 | 0-65535 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | All | Allow |
| Allow-from-vet | 1020 | Virtual network (2 prefixes) | 0-65535 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | All | Allow |
| AllowVnetInBound | 65000 | Virtual network (2 prefixes) | 0-65535 | Virtual network (2 prefixes) | 0-65535 | All | Allow |
| AllowAzureLoadBalancer... | 65001 | Azure load balancer (1 prefixes) | 0-65535 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | All | Allow |
| DenyAllInBound | 65500 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | All | Deny |

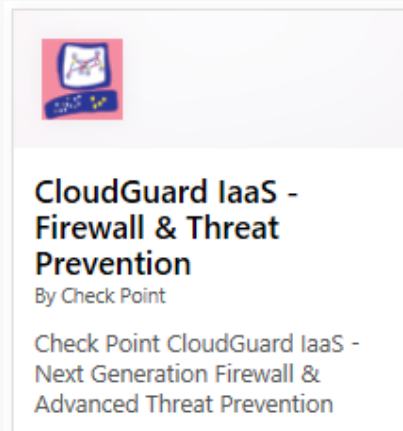
Outbound rules

| NAME | PRIORITY | SOURCE | SOURCE PORTS | DESTINATION | DESTINATION PORTS | PROTOCOL | ACCESS |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------|
| AllowVnetOutBound | 65000 | Virtual network (2 prefixes) | 0-65535 | Virtual network (2 prefixes) | 0-65535 | All | Allow |
| AllowInternetOutBound | 65001 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | Internet (76 prefixes) | 0-65535 | All | Allow |
| DenyAllOutBound | 65500 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | 0.0.0.0/0 | 0-65535 | All | Deny |

Network Virtual Appliance

A VM in your VNet that runs software

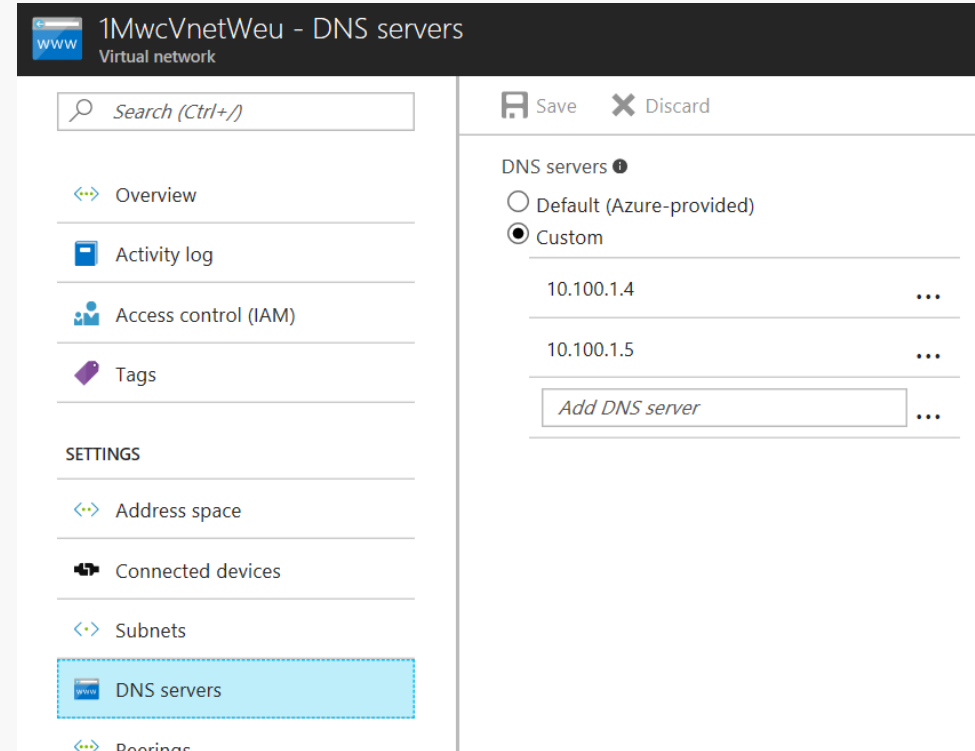
- Example: firewall, WAN optimization..etc
- You can create a route in Azure to route your VNet traffic through a virtual appliance to use its capabilities.
- NSGs provide security on your Vnet (layer 4 ACL on incoming/outgoing packets). NVA will offer a layer 7 security model.



Name Resolution

By default, your VNet uses **Azure-provided** name resolution to resolve names inside the VNet, and on the public Internet.

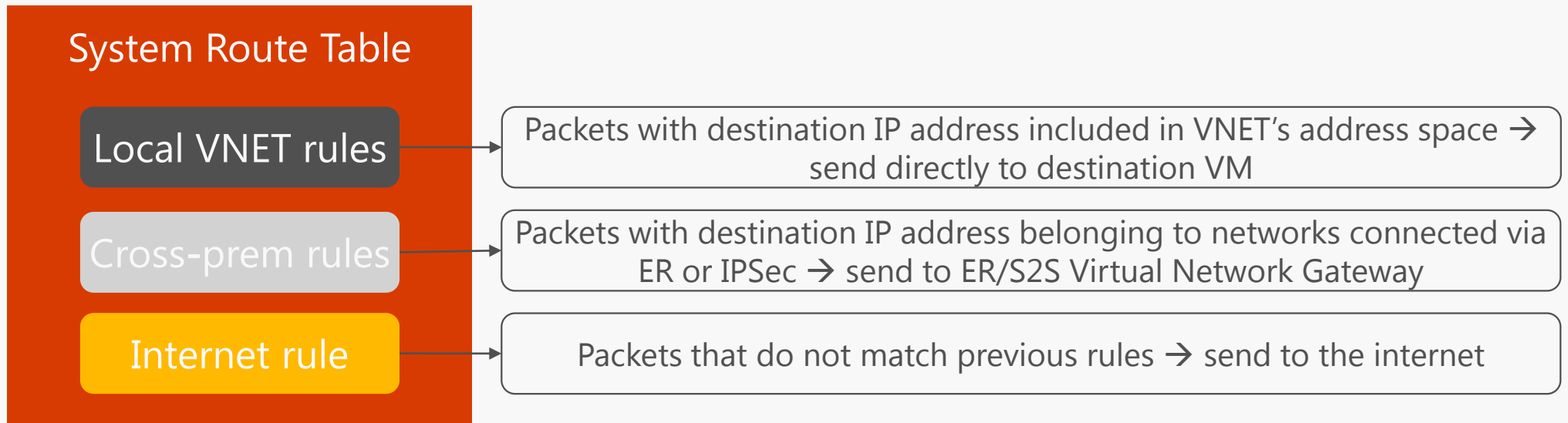
If you connect your VNets to your on-premises data centers, you need to provide your own DNS server to resolve names between your networks.



System Route Table

Default rules for routing/switching traffic in Azure VNETs

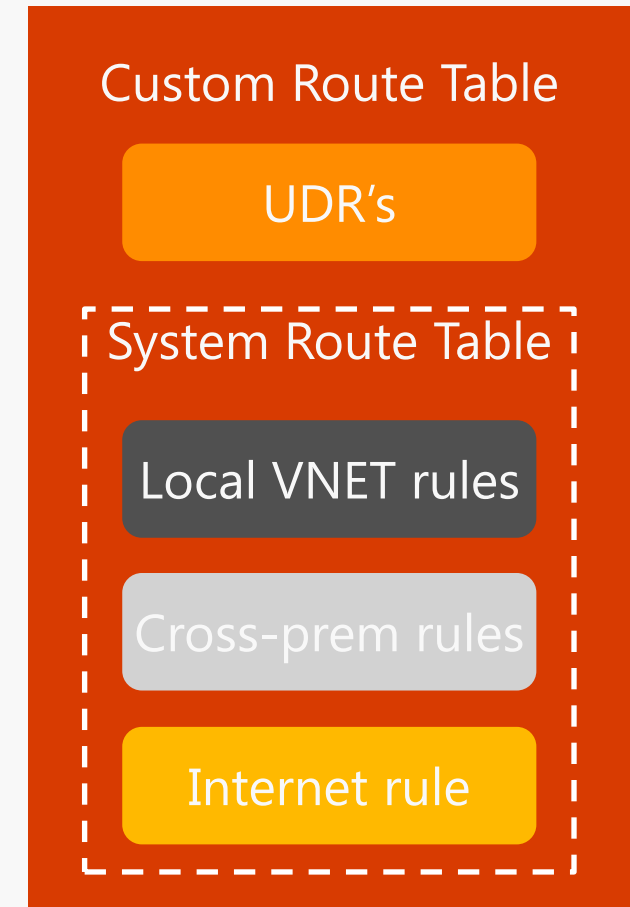
- Route table: set of rules that define where IP packets must be sent based on their destination IP address
- The default routing behavior for an Azure VNET is defined by the «System Route Table»



User Defined Routes (UDR's)

Additional routes that modify a VNET's default routing policy

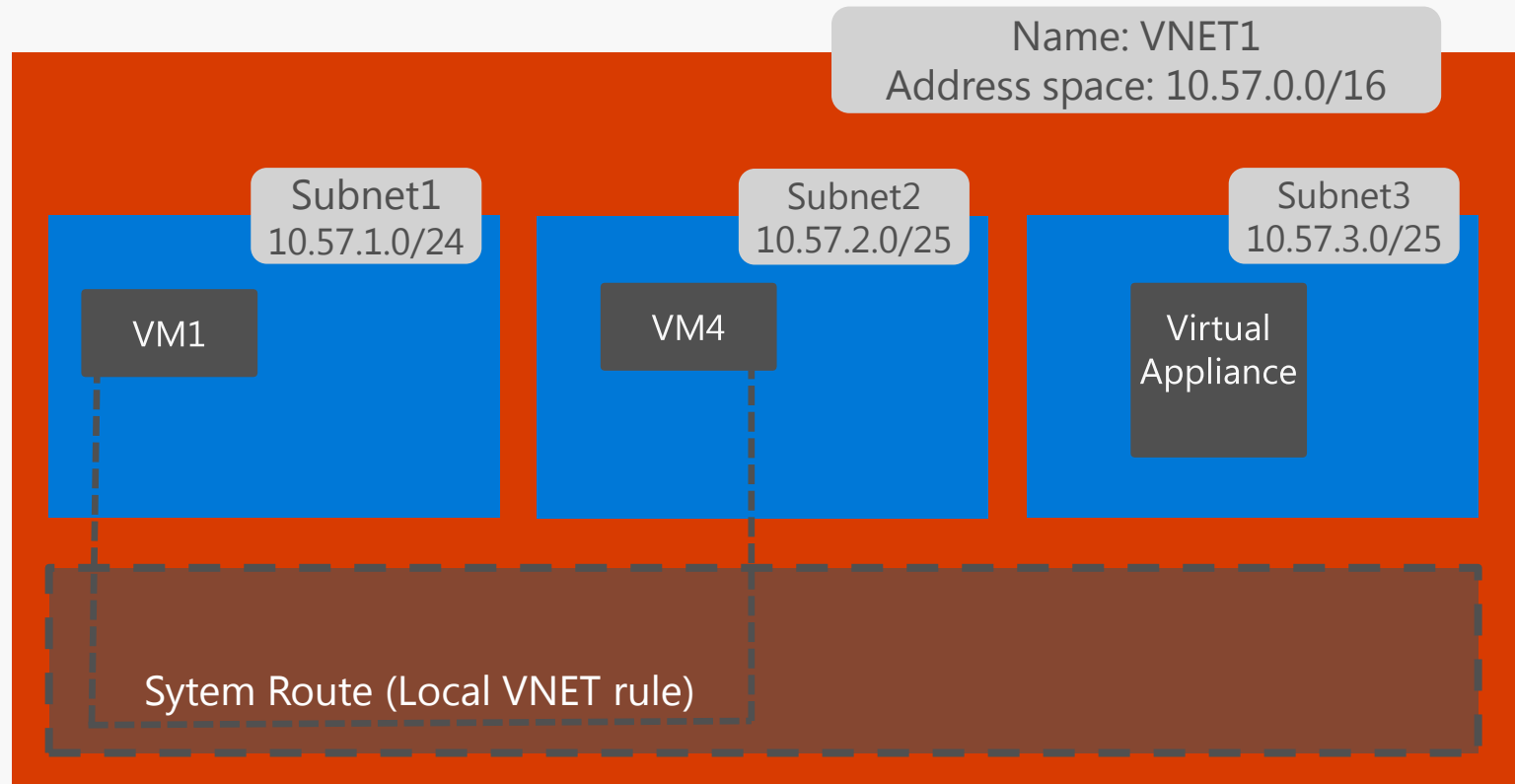
- A custom route table contains one or more UDR's AND the system routes
- UDR's are preferred over system routes with the same prefix length
- Each subnet in a VNET can be assigned a different custom route table
- A custom route table can be assigned to the Gateway Subnet



User Defined Routes (UDR's)

Use case 1: Virtual appliances

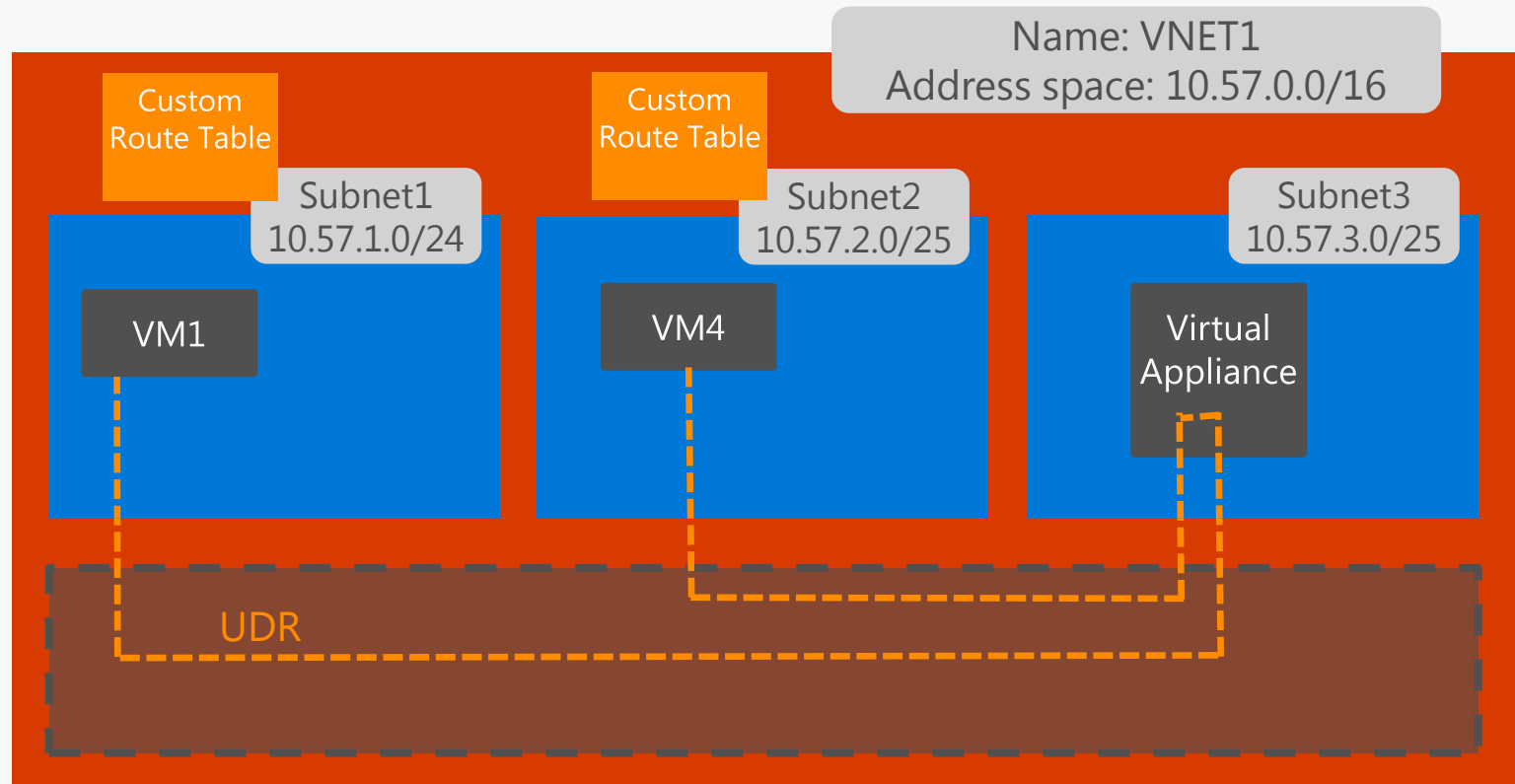
- According to the system route table, traffic will flow directly from VM1 to VM4



User Defined Routes (UDR's)

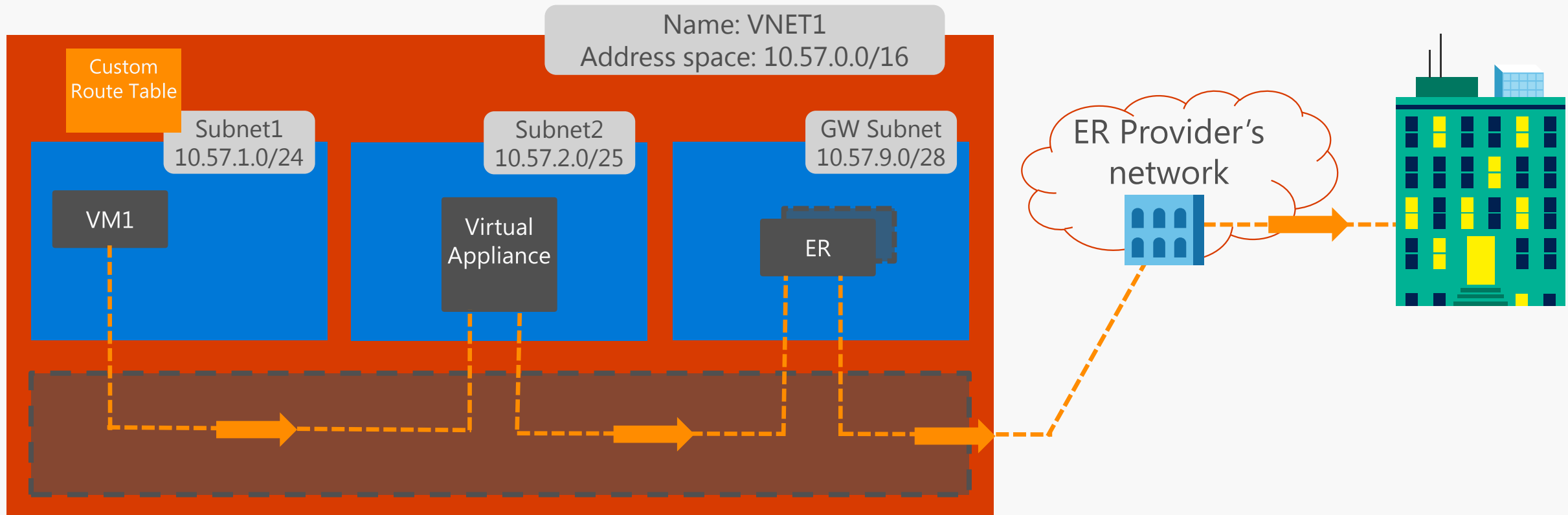
Use case 1: Virtual appliances

- According to the system route table, traffic will flow directly from VM1 to VM4
- A UDR can be used to override this behavior and send the traffic through an intermediate hop (e.g. a firewalling VA)
- UDR cannot be overridden by VM local route table



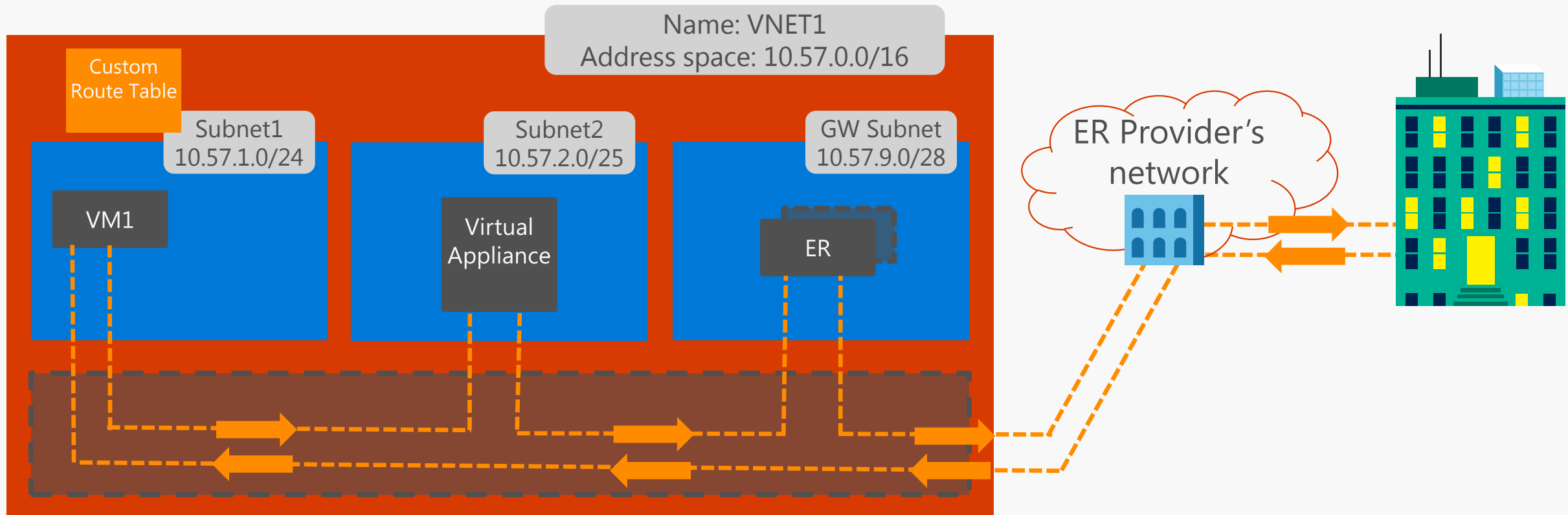
User Defined Routes (UDR's)

Use case 2: Inbound ER or S2S traffic



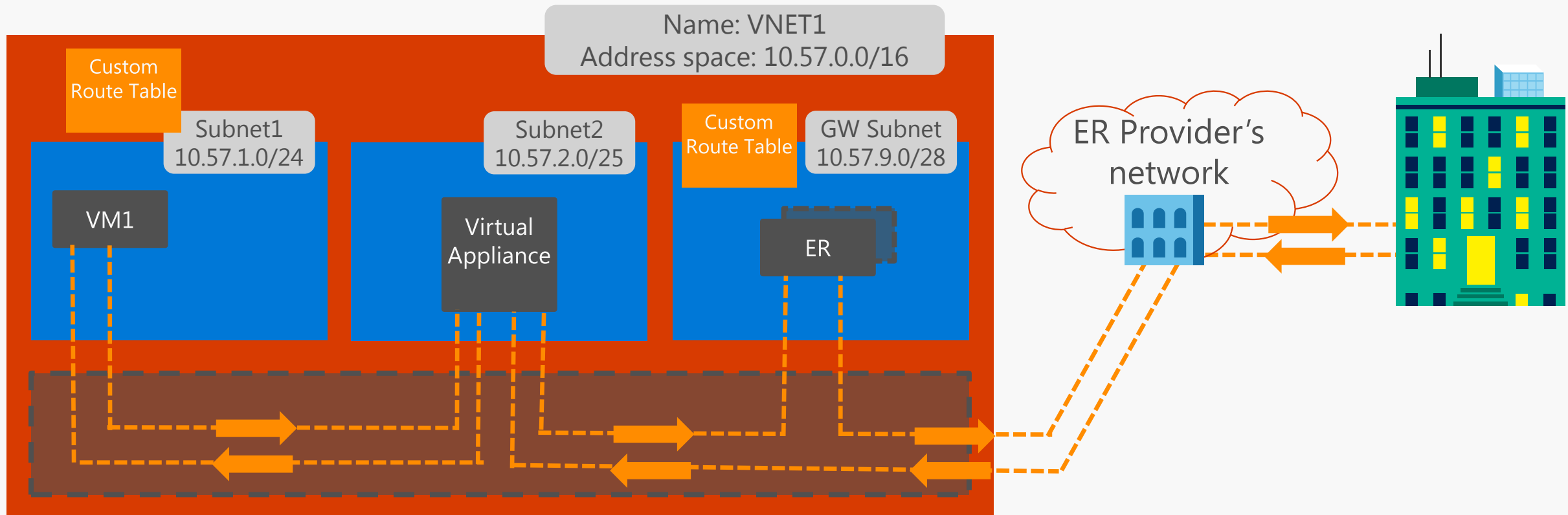
User Defined Routes (UDR's)

Use case 2: Inbound ER or S2S traffic



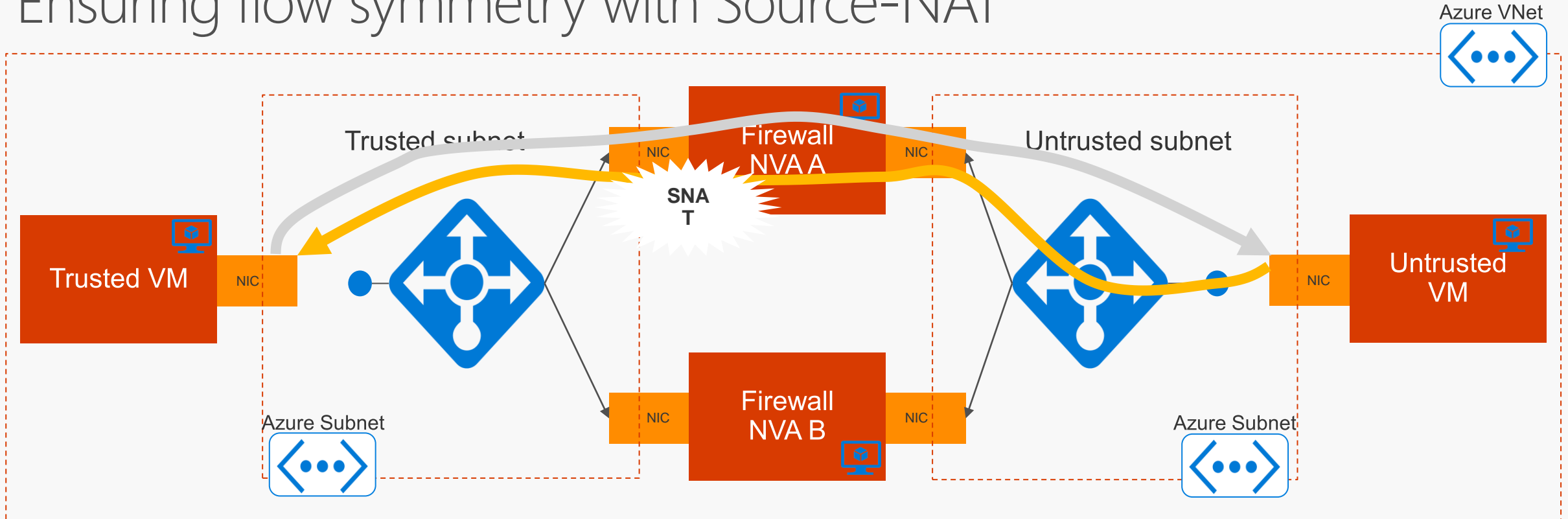
User Defined Routes (UDR's)

Use case 2: Inbound ER or S2S traffic



HA NVAs

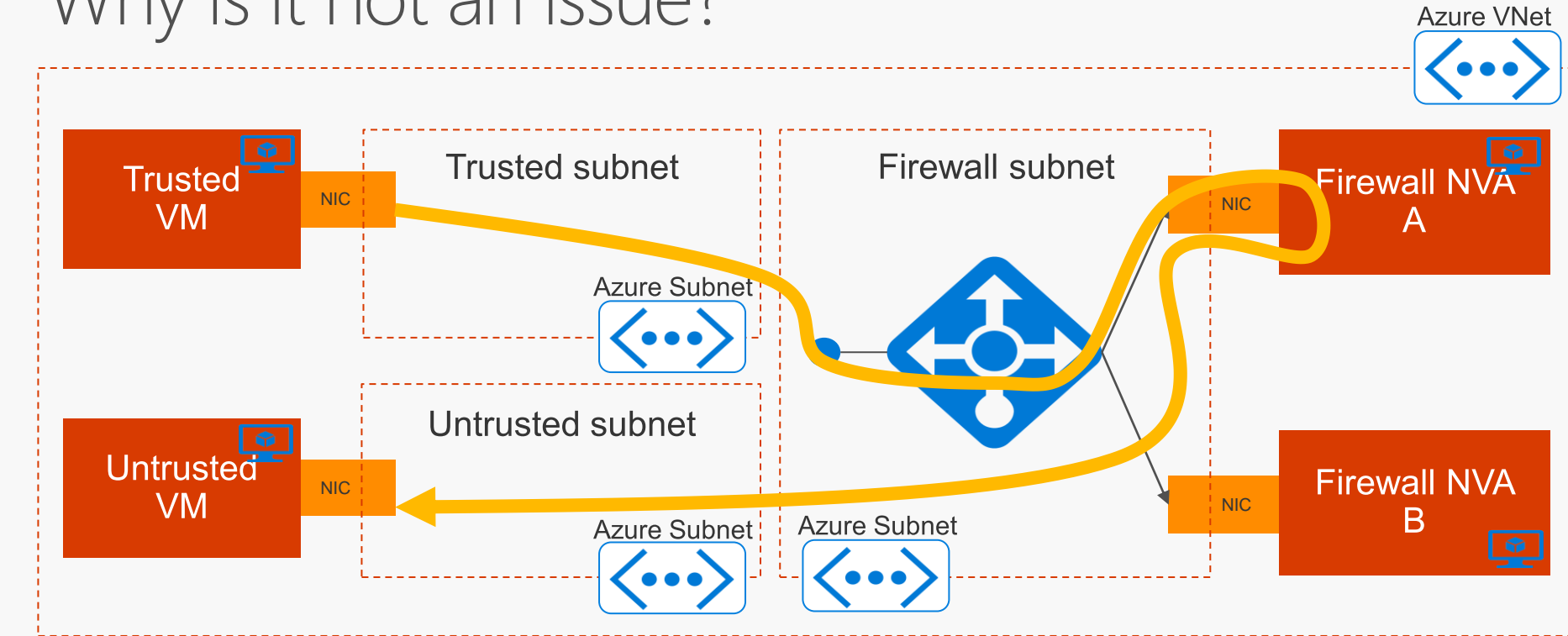
Ensuring flow symmetry with Source-NAT



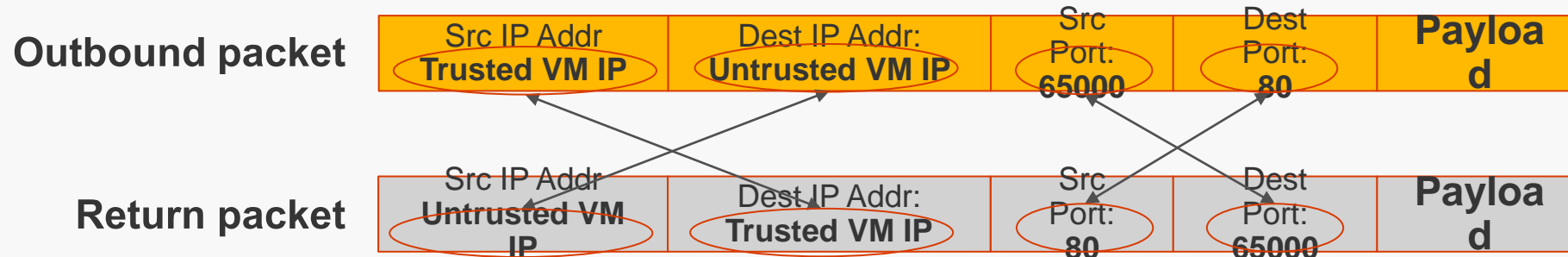
- Load balancer in “Untrusted” subnet assigns outbound flow to NVA “A”
- NVA “A” source-NATs traffic behind its “Trusted” subnet interface’s IP
- Return flow goes to NVA “A” without hitting the load balancer

Flow symmetry with single NIC configuration

Why is it not an issue?



- **Both packets have the same src/dest IP addresses and ports, in reverse order**
- **The load balancer's hashing algorithm assigns both packets to the same backend instance**



VNet Peering

Peering connects 2 VNets together seamlessly

Works globally (across regions)!

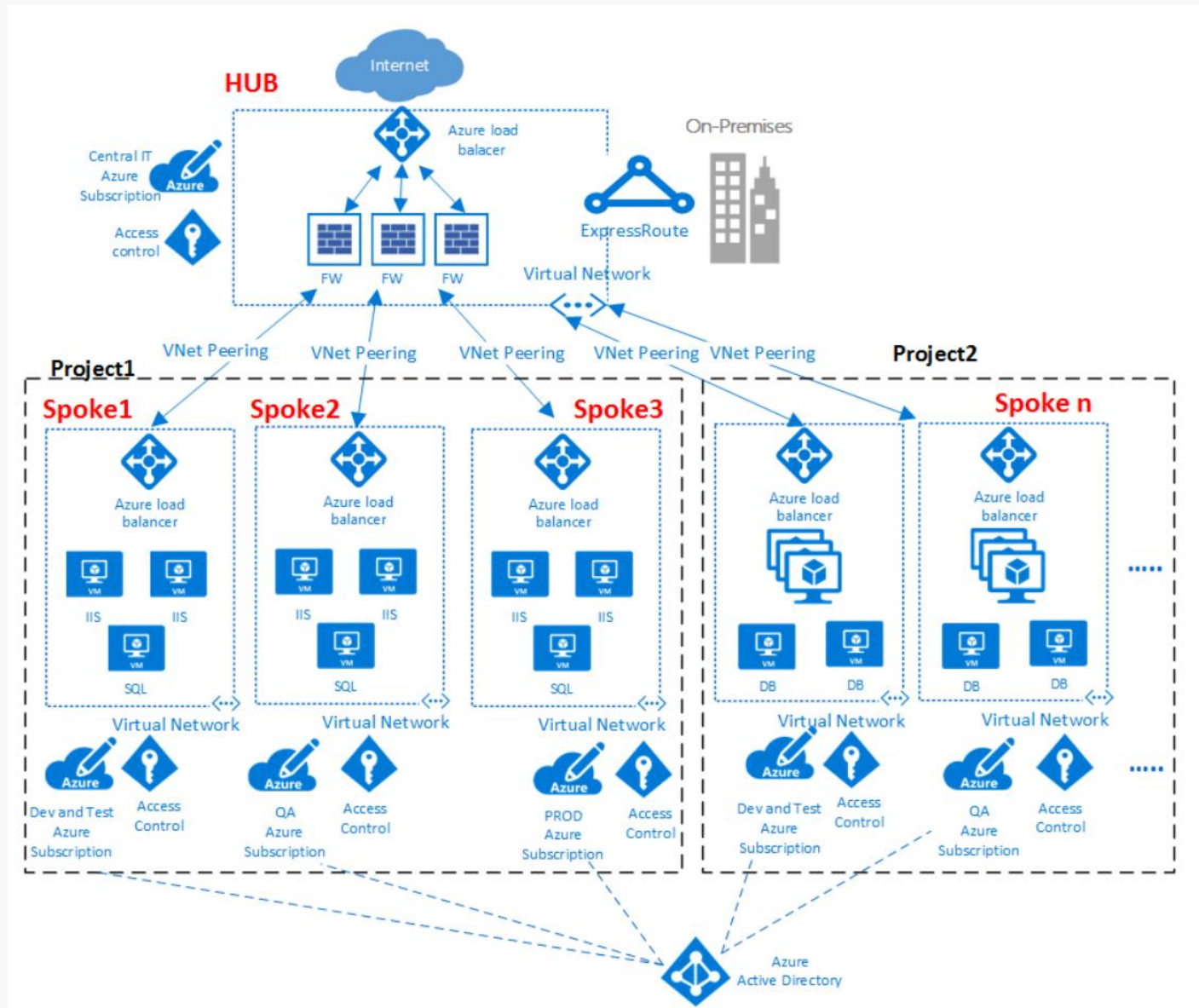
No additional hop

Non-transitive (except gateway)

Can only ever have a single Gateway in a VNet (local or remote)



Virtual Datacentre (VDC)



Important Addresses

KMS

kms.core.windows.net

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/virtual-machines/windows/troubleshoot-activation-problems>

DNS & monitoring

Including Load Balancer probes

168.63.129.16/32

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/mast/2015/05/18/what-is-the-ip-address-168-63-129-16/>

Common customer questions

What ranges of IP addresses can I use in my VNets?

You can use any private IP address range defined in RFC1918**.

You can also use public IP addresses, with these exceptions:

- 224.0.0.0/4 (Multicast)
- 255.255.255.255/32 (Broadcast)
- 127.0.0.0/8 (loopback)
- 169.254.0.0/16 (link-local)
- 168.63.129.16/32 (Internal DNS)

**RFC1918 scopes: 10.0.0.0 - 10.255.255.255 (10/8 prefix), 172.16.0.0 - 172.31.255.255 (172.16/12 prefix) , 192.168.0.0 - 192.168.255.255 (192.168/16 prefix)

Is there a limit to the number of subnets in my virtual network?

There is no limit to the number of subnets you can use within a VNet.

All the subnets must be fully contained in the virtual network address space and should not overlap with one another.

Are there any restrictions on using IP addresses within these subnets?

Azure reserves 5 IP addresses per subnet that cannot be used: the first and last addresses of the address space (for the subnet address, and multicast) and 3 addresses to be used internally (for DHCP and DNS purposes).

E.g.

Subnet = 10.1.0.0/24

Reserved IPs = 10.1.0.0, 10.1.0.255, 10.1.0.1, 10.1.0.2, 10.1.0.3

First customer usable IP = 10.1.0.4

How small and how large can VNets and subnets be?

The smallest subnet we support is a /29 and the largest is a /8

Can I bring/extend my VLANs** to Azure using VNets?

No. VNets are Layer-3 overlays.

Azure does not support any Layer-2 semantics.

***A virtual LAN (VLAN) is any broadcast domain that is partitioned and isolated in a computer network at the data link layer (OSI layer 2). LAN is an abbreviation for local area network. To subdivide a network into virtual LANs, one configures network equipment.*

Can I modify the size of my subnet after I create it?

You can add, remove, expand or shrink a subnet if there are no VMs or services deployed within it.

You can also add, remove, expand or shrink any prefixes as long as the subnets that contain VMs or services are not affected by the change.

Q&A

Thank You