



Cyber security platform optimization

Unlock the value of the Microsoft security platform to achieve Zero Trust outcomes



KPMG LLP (KPMG) is helping organizations unlock the full potential of their Microsoft security platform, enabling them to optimize their cybersecurity and compliance capabilities, mitigate risks and threats, and reduce costs.

The journey towards Zero Trust goes through a platform approach to security. In an increasingly complex and challenging world, traditional perimeter-based security approaches no longer offer adequate protection.

Over time, the enterprise cybersecurity technology stack has evolved into multiple point solutions to protect identities, networks, devices, workloads and data. In our experience, large enterprises often deploy hundreds of security technologies—from dozens of vendors—to support the security mission.

Organizations must consolidate on security platforms for core tenants of the security mission, and augment where necessary with complimentary technologies. Consolidation around security platforms

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more easily allows organizations to enforce a unified security policy and adhere to the principles of zero trust.

- Reduce cost and complexity - streamline software licensing expenses and reduce integration complexity.
- Enforce zero trust outcomes - Leverage shared signals and a single policy framework.
- Readiness to leverage the power of Generative AI - consolidation of security technology, data and signals allow you to lay the foundation to leverage Generative AI to work more efficiently.

Challenges: SOC (Security Operations Center)'s Barriers to Identifying and Remediating Threats and Vulnerabilities

% selected as one of up to three biggest barriers



KPMG Security Operations Center survey, "The time to transform is now," 2024

The most effective way to overcome these challenges is a move towards adopting a modernized security fabric—as described by CISAs Zero Trust Maturity Model—simplifying your security technology landscape and embracing a platform-based approach to building the capabilities required to address today's security challenges.



CISA's model encompasses five key pillars, acting as layers that enforce the Zero Trust capability principles of Always Verify, Least Privileged, and Assume Breach.



← Integrated | Visibility | Risk Aware →

Historically, every one of these five pillars have represented individual security capabilities—each often comprised of many different tools—only adding to the difficulty in managing ever-increasing volumes of security solutions. Microsoft helps to reduce this complexity by bringing these critical capabilities together under a single platform.

KPMG provides support and guidance to help Microsoft 365 clients adopt a platform approach—centred around Microsoft security solutions—enabling enterprises to move towards a Zero Trust posture. The result for organizations adopting this solution is a reduction in the complexity of integrations, a more meaningful use of cyber data and signals to improve security, and a reduction in the workload of their cyber defenders—while a move to fewer providers eases the training burden and decreases costs.

The power of this approach is the ability to share signals amongst these platform-based solutions for the purposes of decision making and enforcement of security policy. For example, leveraging a platform approach, we can evaluate how the user has authenticated, the security posture of their device, and the data they wish to access—then make the appropriate decision. Based on the signals evaluated, the decision may be to:

Allow

Permit the user to access based upon the evaluated signals and enforced policies.

Deny

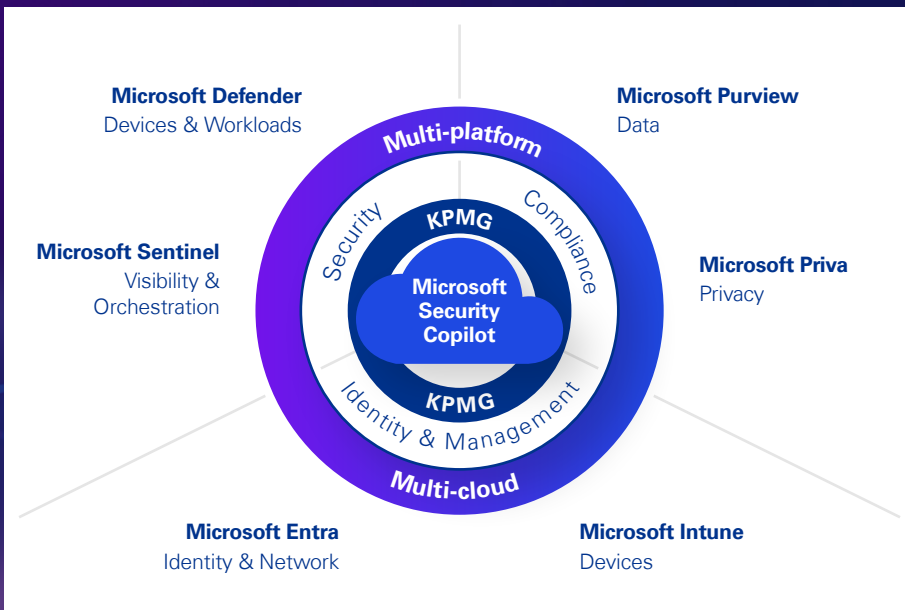
Deny the access based on the criteria.

Adapt

Require the user to share additional authentication details or modify the access. For example, allowing the user to only view the data vs. download the data, based on the device they are using.

Leveraging a platform-based approach with shared signals and a common policy enforcement engine—in this case, Conditional Access, part of Microsoft Entra—makes this vision possible.

KPMG and Microsoft deliver transformational change across your security program.



Microsoft consolidates the five critical pillars of security capabilities to provide an industry-leading security platform that enables a Zero Trust posture, while integrating the latest technologies such as generative AI to enable organizations to predict, detect, and respond to future attacks and threat actors.

Leveraging the power of Microsoft's security platform, KPMG apply our functional cyber transformation capabilities and proven five-step methodology, combined with our deep knowledge and experience in security environments, to help Microsoft clients consolidate their security architecture, mitigate risks, and decrease costs—resulting in reduced complexity and a move towards Zero Trust.

Integrated – platform based approach

Through this integrated approach, KPMG and Microsoft enable you to **align** your security operations with your organization's desired target state, **simplify** your security portfolio, and **optimize** the value from your Microsoft 365 security capabilities. This unique combination of market-leading technology and industry-leading knowledge allows us to deliver transformational change across your security operations—delivering better risk and security outcomes and enabling secure user experiences.



**Tried and trusted
five step methodology**



**Deep knowledge
and experience**

KPMG and Microsoft - Strategic Global Alliance.

KPMG brings a decade-long, global alliance with Microsoft. Our solutions allow organizations to improve their risk, compliance and security agendas, create meaningful data insights to inform intelligent decision making, and take advantage of the latest innovative technologies to drive new business value and growth.

Microsoft Security continues to achieve market recognition



Gold Application Development
Gold Collaboration and Content
Gold Cloud Platform
Gold Datacenter
Gold Cloud Productivity



Gold Messaging
Gold DevOps
Gold Data Analytics
Gold Data Platform
Gold Enterprise Resource Planning



Gold Small and Midmarket Cloud Solutions
Silver Enterprise Mobility Management
Gold Windows and Devices
Gold Cloud Business Applications
Gold Security

Microsoft Intelligent
Security Association



2022/2023
INNERCIRCLE
for Microsoft Business Applications

**To find out how KPMG can set you on your journey to Zero Trust by adopting Microsoft's industry-leading technology...
Get in touch today.**

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Learn about us:  [kpmg.com](https://www.kpmg.com)

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