Microsoft Azure delivers a flexible, scalable and secure public cloud. As with any infrastructure-as-a-service offering, the customer is fully or partially responsible for “securing and managing the operating system, network configuration, applications, identity, clients, and data.” Bitdefender helps you effectively and efficiently fulfill your part of the shared-responsibility model as it pertains to protecting virtual machines (VMs) and workloads (i.e., “operating systems” and “clients”) that run in Azure.

AWARD-WINNING DEFENSES

Bitdefender GravityZone, which consistently ranks #1 in third-party efficacy tests, leverages layered next-generation defenses, such as tunable machine learning, network sandbox, anti-exploit, and process monitoring, to protect your Azure VMs from advanced threats, known and unknown. Enhanced with integrated Patch Management, GravityZone fortifies your security posture, providing automatic discovery and characterization of vulnerabilities, and a wide range of patches for operating systems and applications.

AGILE PROVISIONING AND SIMPLE ADMINISTRATION

To enhance the efficiency of your security operations and streamline compliance, GravityZone serves as a single point of security management for your entire Azure VM estate, giving you comprehensive visibility and control over security for all server-, VDI- and DaaS workloads.

GravityZone natively integrates with Azure to simplify security administration via automation. The platform communicates with Azure to obtain up-to-date VM inventory and infrastructure hierarchy as well as real-time data on VM instantiation, termination and movement. This helps automate tedious manual tasks such as deploying security tools, assigning granular, VM-appropriate security policies at scale, and recovering security licenses from decommissioned instances. Further, integration ensures that applied policies follow the VMs as they move across the Azure cloud and allows for infrastructure-specific compliance reporting.

For example, when a new VM is instantiated in Azure, GravityZone security services can be deployed and policies applied automatically (based on VM tags or hierarchical inheritance), so VMs are “born protected”. Consequently, IT, DevOps and line-of-business teams can expediently create the VMs they need, accelerating time-to-value while maintaining compliance.

SCALABILITY AND RESILIENCE

GravityZone's web-scale architecture enables efficient and linear expansion to carrier-grade deployments. The modular, redundant design of the GravityZone platform (including multiple instances of database, communication and web servers) ensures its intrinsic resilience and high availability, so you can be confident your Azure VMs are always protected.

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1 —“Shared Responsibilities for Cloud Computing,” Microsoft, 2017
**PROTECTION FOR YOUR ENTIRE AZURE ESTATE**

Different teams often take advantage of Azure's on-demand accessibility to rapidly solve business needs, which results in multiple Azure accounts within an enterprise. Whether your organization has one Azure account or hundreds, GravityZone delivers centralized security administration and policy enforcement, allowing you to normalize security while avoiding disruptions.

**CONSISTENT SECURITY FOR HYBRID AND MULTI-CLOUD ENVIRONMENTS**

Hybrid and multi-cloud infrastructure—composed of different permutations of private or public clouds—has become a de-facto strategy for many enterprises. Organizations leverage a total of 4.8 clouds, as shown in the RightScale® 2018 State of the Cloud Report, and those that use a public cloud, have 2.7 on average. As per the 2018 Security Roadshow Survey by IDC®, three of the top five cloud-security challenges involve operational considerations, including the ability to integrate security management for public- and private-cloud VMs, to enforce consistent security policies across clouds, and to automate VM discovery for better visibility and control over dynamic infrastructure.

GravityZone's native management integrations with Microsoft Azure, VMware® vCenter Server, Nutanix® Prism, Citrix® XenServer, and other private and public-cloud environments further simplify your security operations by automating VM discovery, security provisioning and policy administration.

Bitdefender GravityZone delivers award-winning next-generation defenses while ensuring policy consistency and automating security management for workloads running in Microsoft Azure and Azure-based hybrid and multi-cloud environments.
Bitdefender is a global security-technology company that provides cutting edge end-to-end cyber security solutions and advanced threat protection to 150 million users in more than 500 countries. Since 2001, Bitdefender has consistently produced award-winning business and consumer security technology, and is a provider of choice in both hybrid infrastructure security and endpoint protection.