

# SIMPLIFIED: AI-DRIVEN SECURE SD-WAN



Meet Ben.

Ben's university is expanding and he needs to safely connect new locations to the rest of his computer network.



Some locations are where people do research...

some are industrial, mobile, or remote...



some are home offices where people work...

and some locations are libraries.

What's Ben to do? Each site has its own Local Area Network (LAN) that connects all the devices in that location.



Then these LANs are connected to one another using a Wide Area Network (WAN).



The more WAN connections, the harder everything is to manage... and the university plans to grow fast.

Ben asks for advice from people who have connected growing networks before. They tell him, “Software-Defined WAN (SD-WAN) makes it easier to work with sites that have different kinds of WAN connections.”



# SD-WAN



Dynamic traffic distribution over links based on centralized routing policies



Hybrid link types: IP VPN, broadband, internet, LTE, etc.



Easy, centralized management: ZTP, policies, SLAs, etc.



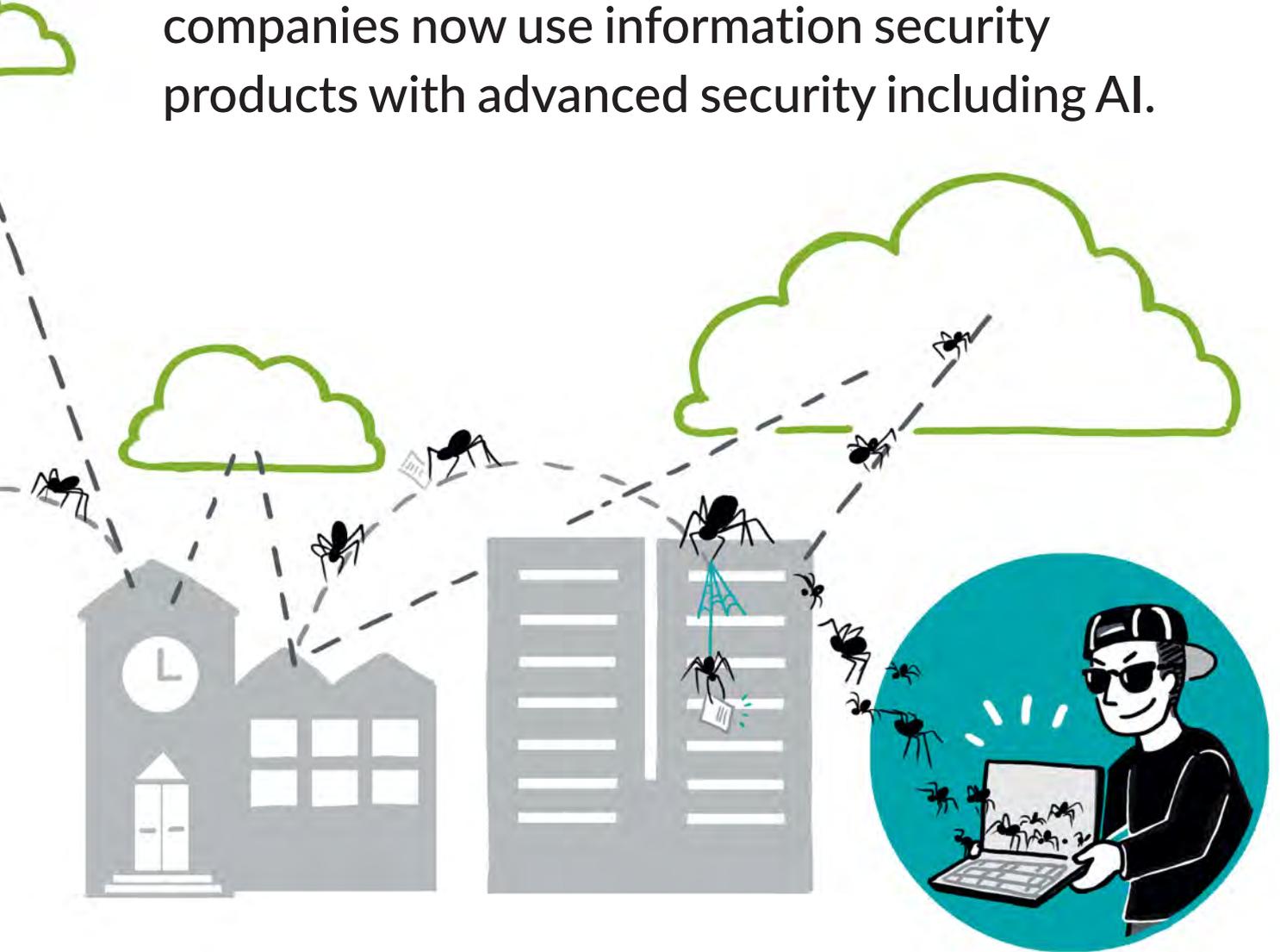
Basic Layer 1-4 Security



But Ben is concerned about potential problems with SD-WAN: weak security.



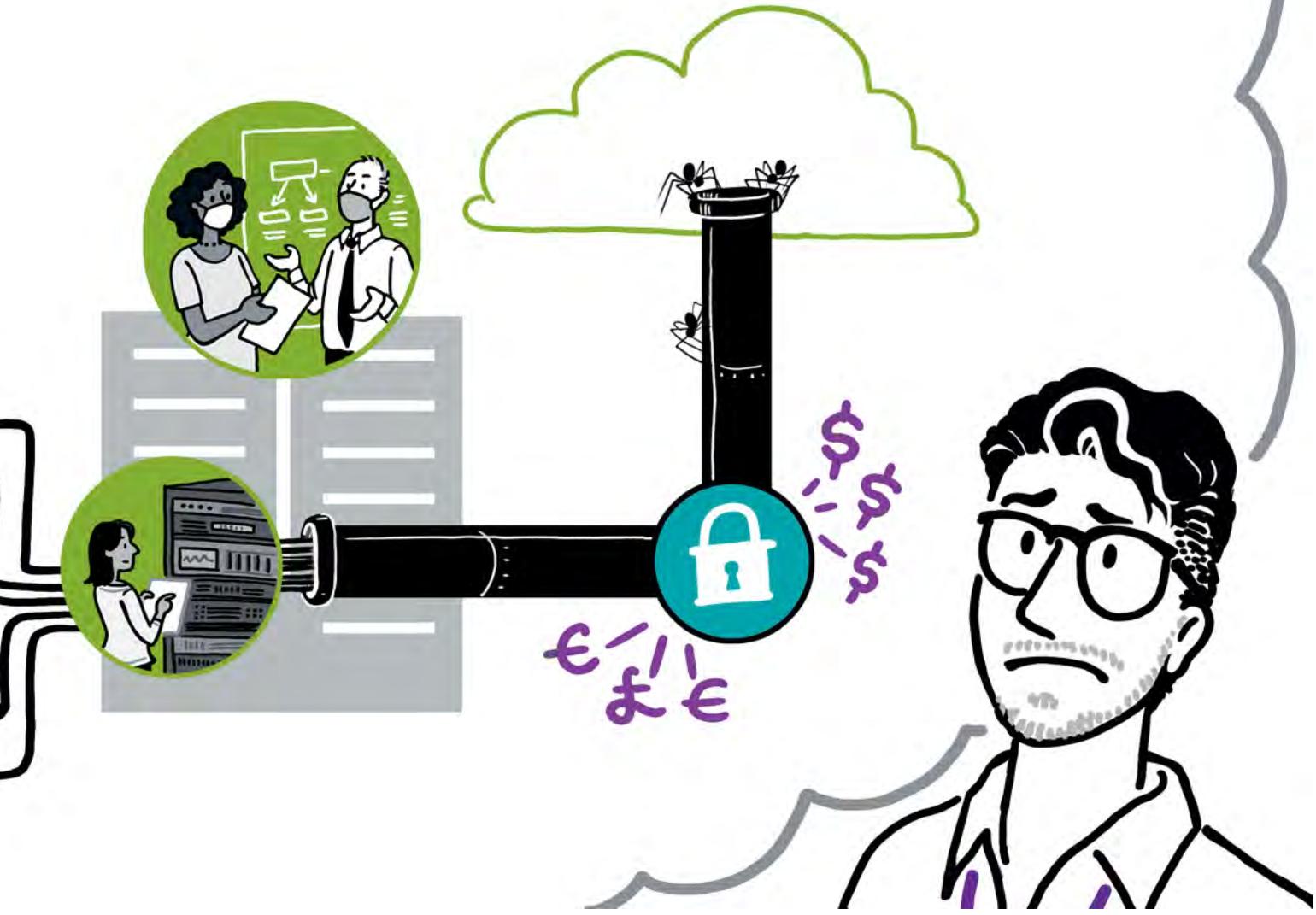
The internet is not a safe place, which is why companies now use information security products with advanced security including AI.



If Ben's university wanted to secure all internet access for all the new locations using their current technology...



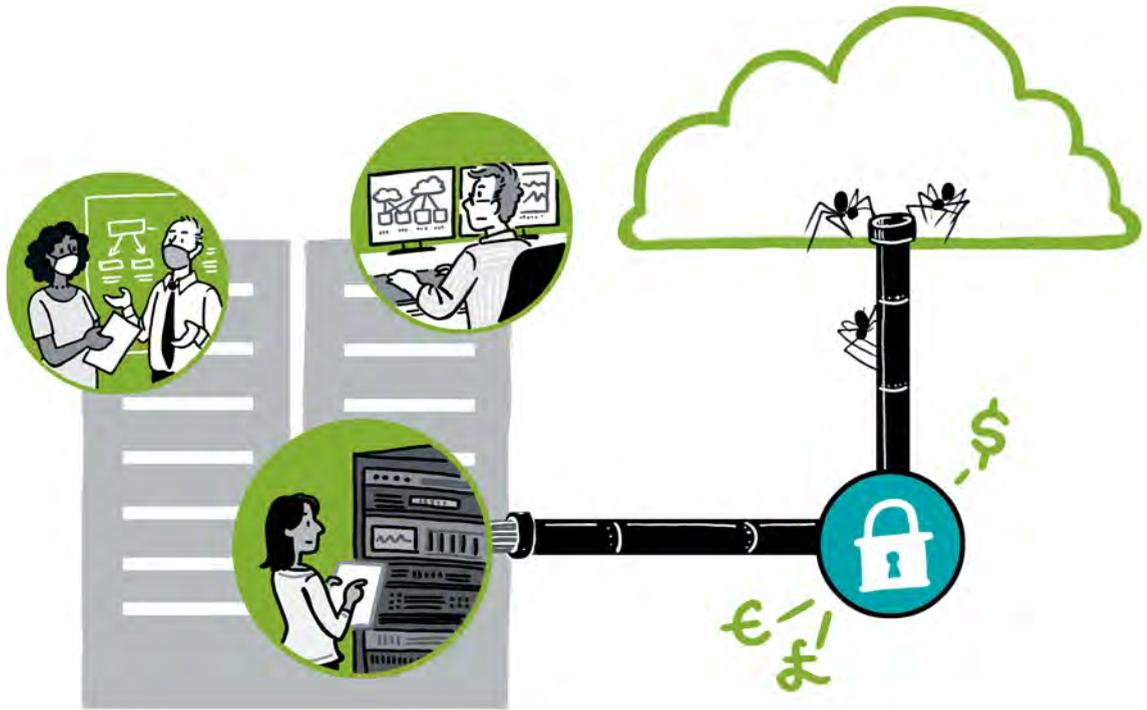
...then all that traffic would have to be sent over a VPN to the main district office so that it could be analyzed. That would cost money.



Ben has an idea.



Most traffic sent over WANs is going to the internet, not to the university's network. So Ben could save money by *only* sending traffic destined for the university's network over the WAN. Everything else could just use the internet.



It seems like a good plan...but wait,  
people accessing internet resources outside  
the main district office are *not* secure!



“Have no fear,” says Jasmine,  
Ben’s colleague, “*Secure SD-WAN* is here!”



# What can Secure SD-WAN do?



Deliver Quality of Experience



Segments access across networks

Integrated security



Multi-cloud protection

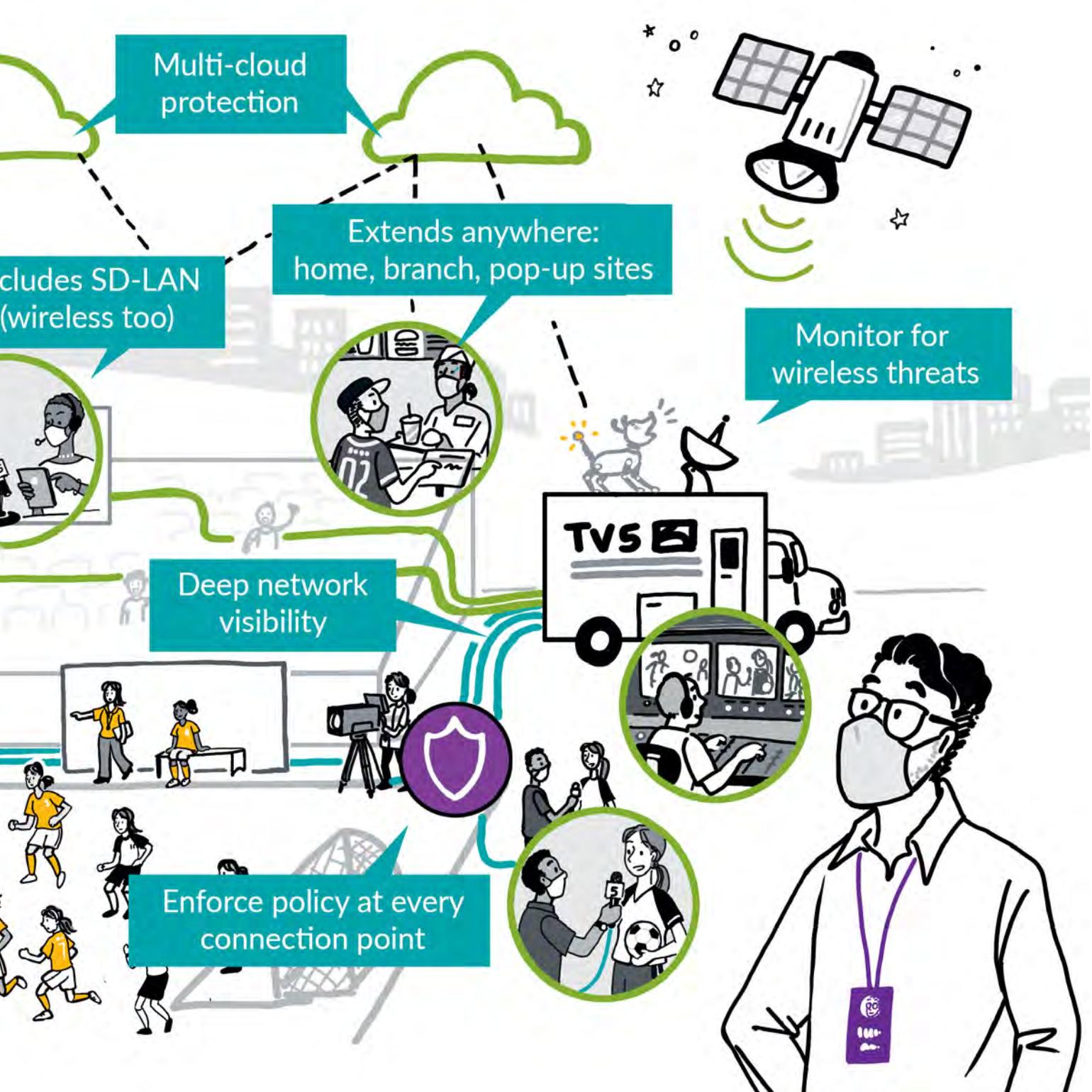
Extends anywhere:  
home, branch, pop-up sites

Includes SD-LAN  
(wireless too)

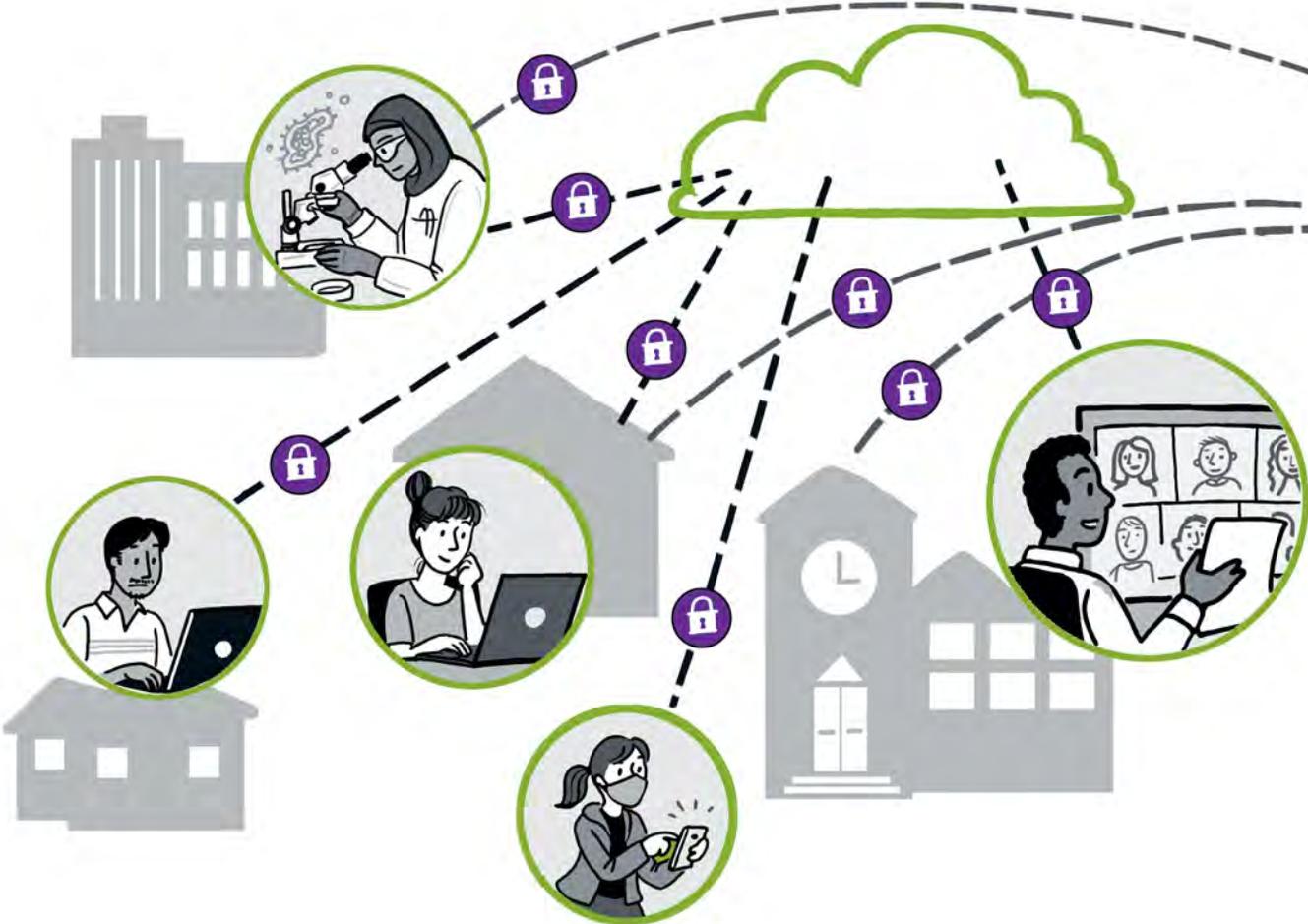
Monitor for  
wireless threats

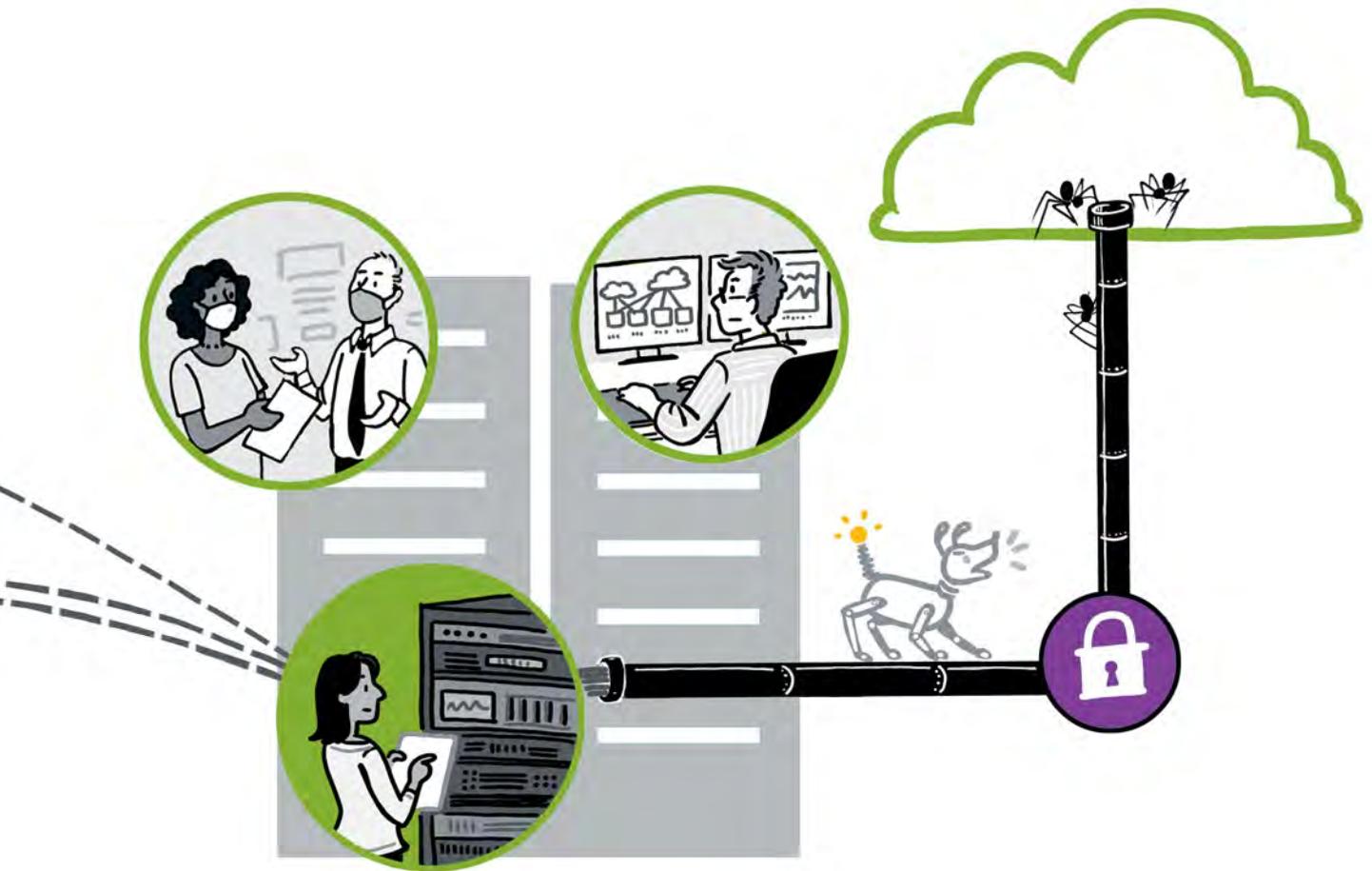
Deep network  
visibility

Enforce policy at every  
connection point



Secure SD-WAN lets Ben secure internet traffic at branch schools and connections from teachers' home sites without sending traffic back over the VPN to headquarters.

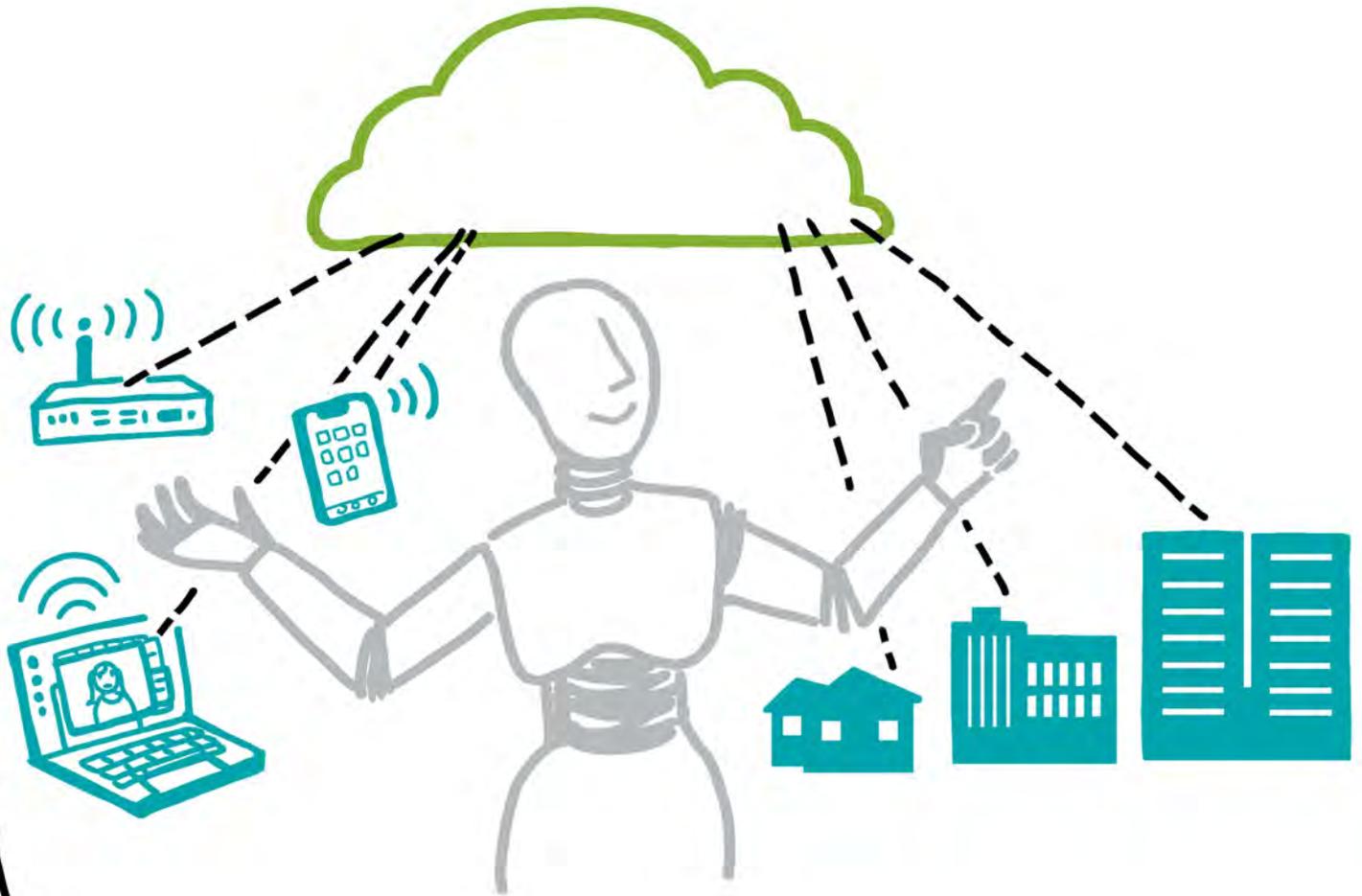




Secure SD-WAN leaves more throughput for the main campus to use the VPN, lowers costs, and improves the quality of experience for everyone!

Jasmine has another suggestion for Ben:  
“What if the new Secure SD-WAN network  
also used artificial intelligence?”





AI learns about the user and application traffic in the wireless and wired LAN, and it can also quickly learn about traffic in the WAN.

AI assures that data gets to users on time...



...and spots problems in the WAN before they happen.



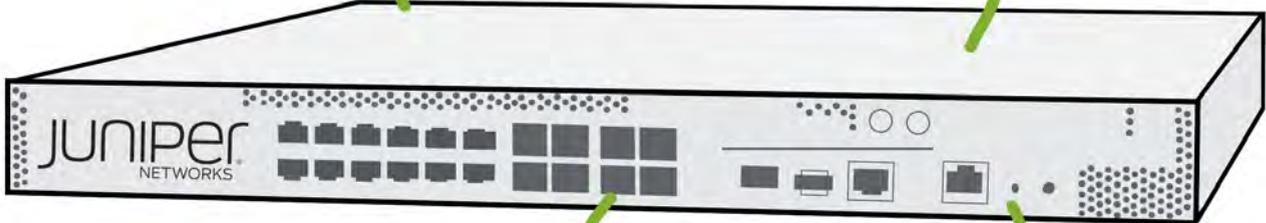
AI can even show Ben how to make the WAN traffic move better and safer.



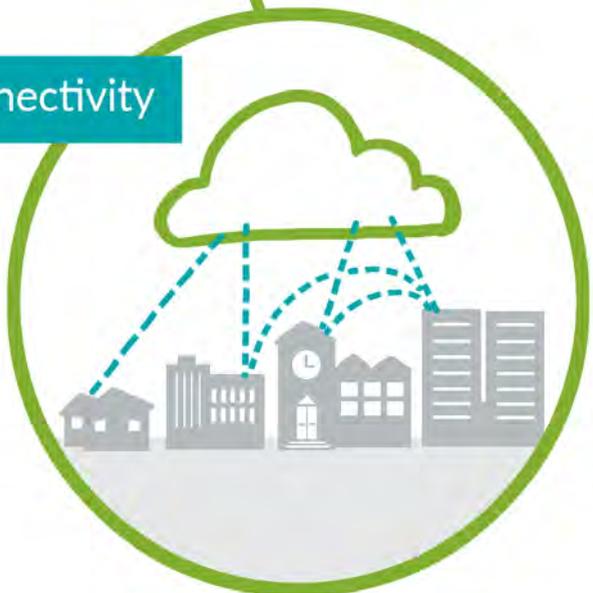
AI-assisted Support



Security



Connectivity



AI Assurance



The internet was a scary place but  
Secure SD-WAN with AI lets  
Ben's university grow...





...and still be able to adapt to any network and security challenges Ben might face.

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