

**STONESOFT**



---

# StoneGate Multi-Link™

Secure Connectivity Solution

---

**When Internet connectivity is a must, trusting your connection to a sole service provider may well be putting your business at risk. With StoneGate Multi-Link, you can spread your connectivity bases, always ensure the optimal connection with secure encryption and forget downtime from your ISP.**

## StoneGate Multi-Link Benefits

- **Layered Security –**  
Integrated enterprise-level Firewall, VPN, Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) and SSL VPN for unified threat management.
- **Simplicity –**  
Eliminate the need for complex configurations, additional equipment or coordination between ISP providers.
- **Optimization –**  
Capitalize on additional ISP investments and aggregation for enhanced network connectivity and eliminate “back-up” connections.
- **Resilient Connectivity –**  
Provide seamless failover no matter what type, or how many ISP connections your business needs.
- **Scalability –**  
Easily expand or migrate to other types of connections without costly resources or downtime.
- **Lowest TCO and Fastest ROI –**  
Reduce the costs and complexities compared to traditional multiple vendor solutions.

## Eliminate your Risks with Secure, Optimized, Resilient Connectivity

According to a 2007 Infonetics study, companies are losing as much as 2.2 percent of annual revenue, or about \$30 million on average, due to security attacks.\* It's no wonder that organizations of all types and sizes are concerned with ensuring secure, always-on connectivity. Traditionally, organizations have been faced with costly and complex networking alternatives and paying for additional “back-up” connections—until now.

StoneGate Multi-Link is the ideal solution for organizations requiring always-on Internet connectivity, especially if you have branch locations and a distributed workforce using VPN connections. Regardless of the type or number of connections needed to support your business, Multi-Link ensures seamless network failover in the event of Internet access outages or lost connections between firewalls and outside networks. This means you can eliminate the risk of lost productivity, revenue and credibility with StoneGate.

Combined with StoneGate's active load balancing, and Quality of Service (QoS) capabilities, Multi-Link also optimizes your network by supporting emerging technologies, such as VoIP and video conferencing. As a result, you can enhance your network with granular control and ensure the availability of applications that are mission critical to your specific business. Now you can eliminate the need for back-up connections, and benefit from additional ISP investments to ensure a secure, optimized, highly available network.

## The Best Alternative for Reducing Networking Costs and Complexities

Multi-Link provides the best alternative to other technologies such as Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS), Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) and Frame Relay, particularly since entrusting connectivity to a sole service solution may put your business at risk.

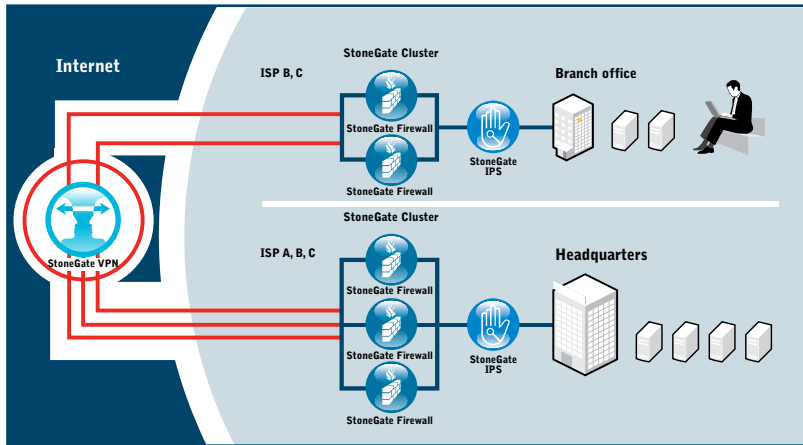
With Multi-Link, your organization isn't locked into a particular communications technology, giving you the flexibility to choose the technology each of your locations demand. Multi-Link can seamlessly integrate with any type of connection, no matter what type or how many, to ensure inbound, outbound and VPN traffic is delivered without incident or disruptive downtime caused by unexpected outages or maintenance.

Running on the StoneGate Platform to optimize network performance with Stonesoft's high availability firewall, the Multi-Link technology provides immediate connectivity via the Internet to eliminate single points of failure, without complex routing protocols or additional hardware. By providing fault tolerance and transparent failover, Multi-Link ensures that when a connection fails, data streams failover and your network users don't lose valuable data. Failures and maintenance windows aren't always scheduled, but with Multi-Link you'll be assured of a strong, redundant network that keeps critical business processes running at all times.

## Exploring your Options

- **MPLS** provides low latency point-to-point connections, but doesn't provide multiple parallel end-to-end links. Since the service level agreements offered by MPLS providers often limit the liability in case of link downtime, organizations that require 100% uptime will need additional independent links for redundancy to mitigate the business risks of downtime. The cost of MPLS links are typically higher than regular ISP connections. MPLS may not be available at every location and doesn't offer scalability.
- **BGP** is designed for carrier-class usage and is more expensive than the average ISP connections. It's pre-configured to determine the shortest ISP path and routes connections accordingly. However shortest is not always fastest, and because it doesn't measure performance, BGP cannot offer active load balancing. Finally, BGP requires full-time administration, dedicated equipment and coordination among multiple, competing ISPs.
- **Frame Relay** provides dedicated point-to-point connections, but doesn't utilize multiple parallel end-to-end links. Frame Relay connections are typically expensive and the throughput is often a fraction of typical ISP connections.
- **External ISP Load Balancers** are additional devices placed "in front of" firewalls. The dedicated hardware is maintenance-intensive because firewalls and load balancers must be administered and configured separately which introduces unnecessary complexity to the network and a potential single point of failure. External ISP Load Balancers can't achieve the level of granularity typically needed for VPN load balancing.

## StoneGate Multi-Link Solution



**Choose StoneGate Multi-Link to ensure the most resilient, optimized connections, and forget about the risk of losing valuable time, costs and corporate credibility from downtime.**

"When AIT first evaluated Stonesoft, we specifically calculated the StoneGate solution compared to other similar alternatives, such as BGP and our existing frame connection. StoneGate provided the most immediate return on investment (ROI) and the lowest total cost of ownership (TCO), all while addressing AIT's needs for resilient connectivity and improving our network from a unified management system. The active load balancing, coupled with StoneGate's bandwidth management and QoS, also allowed AIT to utilize other technologies that resulted in lower costs and an enhanced network."

### Caleb Wilson

Senior Network Engineer



"Our business relies on constant up time. Our primary manufacturing and headquarters are located in Mexico and we have offices throughout the U.S., including a major sales hub in Los Angeles. The smart load balancing capabilities of StoneGate's Multi-Link technology allow us to optimize our network for fast, reliable, continuous communications between our offices, ensuring that customer needs are met and business remains profitable."

### Miguel Balcazar

Senior Administrator





## About Stonesoft

Stonesoft Corporation is an innovative provider of integrated network security solutions to secure the information flow of distributed organizations. Stonesoft customers include enterprises with growing business needs requiring advanced network security and always-on business connectivity.

StoneGate Secure Connectivity Solution unifies firewall, VPN, IPS and SSL VPN blending network security, end-to-end availability and award-winning load balancing into a centrally managed system. The key benefits of StoneGate Secure Connectivity Solution include low TCO, excellent price-performance ratio and high ROI.

StoneGate Management Center provides unified management for StoneGate Firewall with VPN, IPS and SSL VPN. StoneGate Firewall and IPS work together to provide intelligent defense throughout the enterprise network, while StoneGate SSL VPN provides enhanced security for mobile and remote use.

Founded in 1990, Stonesoft Corporation is a global company with corporate headquarters in Helsinki, Finland and Americas headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, visit [www.stonesoft.com](http://www.stonesoft.com).



# STONESOFT

Stonesoft Corporation

Itälahdenkatu 22 A  
FI-00210 Helsinki  
Finland  
tel. +358 9 4767 11  
fax. +358 9 4767 1234

[www.stonesoft.com](http://www.stonesoft.com)

Stonesoft Inc.

1050 Crown Pointe Parkway  
Suite 900  
Atlanta, GA 30338  
tel. +1 770 668 1125  
fax. +1 770 668 1131