CONNECTED ASSETS

By: WanAware

What Are Connected Assets?

The technological framework of the modern enterprise is broad, constantly evolving, and widely dispersed. Organizations are responsible for managing a highly complex network of Connected Assets, which includes not only traditional IT infrastructure and hybrid cloud environments, but also a growing array of SaaS applications, a distributed workforce, and the increasingly critical components of IoT, OT, Edge and Services.

Connected Assets are the technology backbone of any modern organization. These include a wide array of devices, software systems, cloud platforms, applications, and supporting services, that are connected to a network or the internet and play a fundamental role in supporting business operations

Connected Asset Examples:

IOT (Internet Of Things)

IoT Connected Assets are devices and systems embedded with sensors, software, and network connectivity, enabling them to collect and exchange data over a network or the Internet

- Smart Home Devices
- Wearable Devices
- Industrial Sensors and Actuators
- Connected Vehicles
- Medical Devices
- Smart City Infrastructure
- Agricultural Sensors

IT

IT Connected Assets are a core fundamental part of any organization's technology infrastructure

Hardware

- Computers
- Peripherals
- Networking
- Security
- Storage

Cloud

- Hyperscale
- IaaS
- PaaS
- SaaS
- CDN

OT (Operational Technology)

OT Connected Assets are hardware or software platforms dedicated to monitoring and controlling physical devices and industrial processes

Industrial Control Systems (ICS)

- PLCs (Programmable Logic Controllers)
- SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data
- Acquisition) Systems
- DCS (Distributed Control Systems)

Other OT Devices

- Robotics
- Conveyor Belts
- HVAC Systems
- Manufacturing Equipment
- Power Plant Controls
- Traffic Control Systems
- Building Automation Systems (BAS)
- Scientific Equipment
- Medical Devices

Applications

Application Connected Assets comprise all elements that constitute an application, including its dependencies and how they interact. These can be deployed in various architectures such as monolithic, microservice, hybrid, or SaaS

- Web
- Middleware
- Database
- Productivity
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
- Customer Relationship Management
- (CRM)
- Supply Chain Management (SCM)
- Accounting
- Collaboration

Services

Service Connected Assets are distinct functionalities or modules, often leveraged as building blocks for applications, that operate through a network or the internet

- Functions
- API Services
- Data Processing Services
- Web Apps
- Mobile Backends
- Security Services
- IoT Processing Services

Telecom Circuits

Telecom Connected Assets encompass all data, voice, and video communication circuits utilized by an organization

Data

- Broadband (Fiber, Cable, Wireless)
- Wireless (4G, 5G, 6G)
- Dedicated Internet Access
- MPLS
- Private Line

Voice

- SIP
- Legacy (PRI, POTS)

Video

ANYTHING ELSE WITH AN IP OR URL

Organizations frequently possess additional assets that don't neatly fit into the previously mentioned Connected Asset categories.

Takeaway: Use dependency-aware blast-radius modeling to:

- Device Components
- Other Specialized Hardware
- Custom Data Repositories
- Industry-Specific Edge/Mobile Compute

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