“Rather than delude ourselves that we can block all attacks, let’s acknowledge and accept that some attacks will succeed no matter what we do. Instead, we must focus on containing the ability of the attacker to cause damage and reduce the surface area for attack.”

Citrix Secure Browser

Solution Brief
Surfing the web has become the most common attack method today to compromise a user’s device and gain access to sensitive data according to leading industry analysts and security companies. With an average cost of 40 Million USD per attack, companies cannot continue to disregard this huge threat to their organizations.

But what can be done? Completely denying the use of the web could have drastic effects on productivity. Many companies conduct their daily business on SaaS applications. Individual departments rely on data from different web portals, and individual employees check their personal web-mail and do other personal chores over the web during breaks.

Keeping your defense strategy ahead of the attackers by updating, patching, locking down devices and blocking certain URLs is both tedious and resource-intensive, yet time and time again it is still proven to be ineffective. Innovative means are needed to effectively deal with these attacks while still allowing users to use the web to be productive at work.

Citrix Secure Browser service isolates high-risk web browsing traffic by running it outside of the company’s network on a remote, one-time browser session on public cloud infrastructure. This creates an effective air gap between the potentially harmful surfing activity and the internal network/user’s device, making it impossible for malware to penetrate the corporate network or device. According to Gartner, “We estimate that organizations that isolate internet web browsing will experience a 70% reduction in attacks that compromise end-user systems.”

1, 2 Gartner “Innovation Insight for Remote Browser Isolation”, Gartner ID G00350577 March 2018
Using a highly secure, proprietary protocol (Citrix HDX), only keystrokes and mouse movements are sent to the remote secure browser and only screen updates are sent back. This way, no data is transferred to the public cloud reducing the risk of data leakage, nor can any harmful ransomware reach the corporate network and users’ device. This empowers companies that previously prohibited or blocked web browsing to leverage Citrix Secure Browser service to keep employees productive. By enabling their contractors and employees to surf the web for business use with Citrix Secure Browser service, IT can keep users productive without lowering security standards.

As a fully hosted Citrix Cloud service, it requires no hardware investments and has a minimum administrative overhead. With support for Citrix Workspace app for HTML5 there is zero end-point configuration, making this a highly effective solution that can be available to any users within minutes rather than days or weeks. It integrates well with existing Citrix Virtual Apps and Desktops solutions (on-prem or in cloud) and is an integral part of all Citrix Workspace services offerings.

Customer scenarios

Below we will discuss the most common use cases for a set of Citrix customers.

Government and Federal agencies
Several government functions require IT-solutions that are fully isolated from the internet. In many cases virtualization solutions in private datacenters have been used to create secure access to a non-trusted network, but these high-security solutions are expensive to a build and maintain while also requiring highly skilled personnel to support implementation. Citrix Secure Browser service offers Government and Federal agencies a fast, easy way to accomplish the same goals, without investing in expensive infrastructure or additional IT personnel.
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Finance
As a highly regulated industry that is simultaneously a popular attack target, many banking and insurance companies have drastically restricted internet if not completely removed access to the web from within the company network. However, several departments – such as PR, marketing and social media teams - depend internet access to perform their daily tasks. In many cases the employees demand internet access, putting the companies in dire straits between employee satisfaction and security. Using Citrix Secure Browser service these companies allow surfing without compromising their security standards.

Retail
The PCI-DSS standard requires internet browsing to be disabled from devices that processes credit card data. But in many cases store personnel need access the internet to look up pricing in price-match programs or find additional information about a product from a vendor’s web page. With the help of Citrix Secure Browser service, IT can enable store personnel to use the web without risking compliance.

Manufacturing and Healthcare
Both of these verticals own data (patient records, drawings, logistic plans, etc) that are essential for their existence. Web attacks have, in many cases, managed to steal or encrypt this data causing huge financial losses to the company. By having their employees using a remote secure browser to surf the web, IT can drastically reduce the risk of data theft or ransomware attacks.

In addition to these use cases mentioned above, there are many other sectors that have similar needs or simply cannot afford the risk of being attacked. There are also several organizations both in the private and public sector that need to use the web to conduct investigations without being tracked, such as HR and Legal companies, to mention a few.
How to buy and pricing
Citrix Secure Browser service is a consumption-based service offered from Citrix Cloud services. It has a yearly per-user base fee including 5000 hours of service usage pooled across the organization. Additional usage packs can be bought as needed or up-front. The average SRP for a 200 user, 3-year subscription starts from as low as $3.60 per user per month.

To get a more detailed quote and information about the product, please contact a Citrix Sales office or Citrix Partner near your location.

Additional resources
Secure Browser service use cases blog post:
https://www.citrix.com/blogs/2018/11/19/large-or-small-short-or-tall-secure-browser-service-is-for-all/

Getting started with Citrix Secure Browser service video:
https://youtu.be/pZgvLpKN-tM

Service home page: