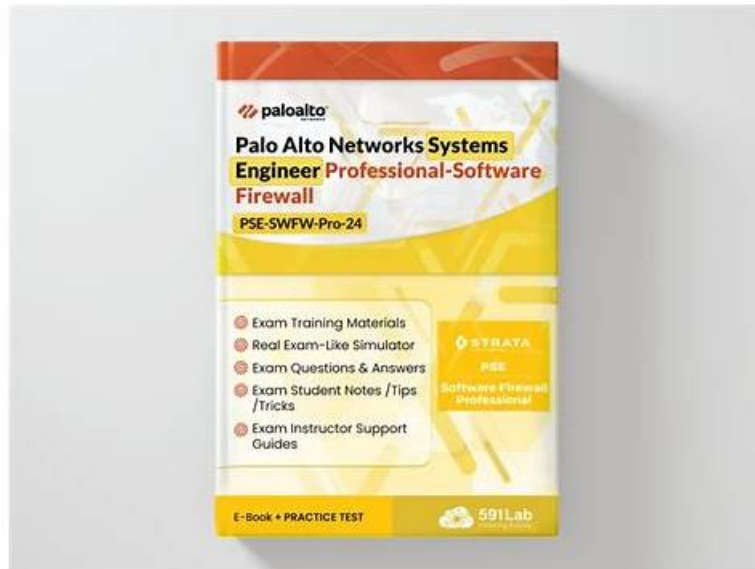


# 2026 Palo Alto Networks PSE-Strata-Pro-24: Palo Alto Networks Systems Engineer Professional - Hardware Firewall High Hit-Rate Latest Test Format



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## Palo Alto Networks PSE-Strata-Pro-24 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details

Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Business Value and Competitive Differentiators:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of Technical Business Value Analysts and focuses on identifying the value proposition of Palo Alto Networks Next-Generation Firewalls (NGFWs). Candidates will assess the technical business benefits of tools like Panorama and SCM. They will also recognize customer-relevant topics and align them with Palo Alto Networks' best solutions. Additionally, understanding Strata's unique differentiators is a key component of this domain.</li> </ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Architecture and Planning:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of Network Architects and emphasizes understanding customer requirements and designing suitable deployment architectures. Candidates must explain Palo Alto Networks' platform networking capabilities in detail and evaluate their suitability for various environments. Handling aspects like system sizing and fine-tuning is also a critical skill assessed in this domain.</li> </ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Deployment and Evaluation:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of Deployment Engineers and focuses on identifying the capabilities of Palo Alto Networks NGFWs. Candidates will evaluate features that protect against both known and unknown threats. They will also explain identity management from a deployment perspective and describe the proof of value (PoV) process, which includes assessing the effectiveness of NGFW solutions.</li> </ul>
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Network Security Strategy and Best Practices:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of Security Strategy Specialists and highlights the importance of the Palo Alto Networks five-step Zero Trust methodology. Candidates must understand how to approach and apply the Zero Trust model effectively while emphasizing best practices to ensure robust network security.</li> </ul>

## Palo Alto Networks Systems Engineer Professional - Hardware Firewall Sample Questions (Q28-Q33):

### NEW QUESTION # 28

In addition to Advanced DNS Security, which three Cloud-Delivered Security Services (CDSS) subscriptions utilize inline machine learning (ML)? (Choose three)

- A. IoT Security
- **B. Advanced URL Filtering**
- **C. Enterprise DLP**
- D. Advanced WildFire
- **E. Advanced Threat Prevention**

**Answer: B,C,E**

### NEW QUESTION # 29

A prospective customer is interested in Palo Alto Networks NGFWs and wants to evaluate the ability to segregate its internal network into unique BGP environments.

Which statement describes the ability of NGFWs to address this need?

- A. It cannot be addressed because PAN-OS does not support it.
- **B. It can be addressed with BGP confederations.**
- C. It can be addressed by creating multiple eBGP autonomous systems.
- D. It cannot be addressed because BGP must be fully meshed internally to work.

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Step 1: Understand the Requirement and Context

\* Customer Need: Segregate the internal network into unique BGP environments, suggesting multiple isolated or semi-isolated routing domains within a single organization.

\* BGP Basics:

\* BGP is a routing protocol used to exchange routing information between autonomous systems (ASes).

\* eBGP: External BGP, used between different ASes.

\* iBGP: Internal BGP, used within a single AS, typically requiring a full mesh of peers unless mitigated by techniques like confederations or route reflectors.

\* Palo Alto NGFW: Supports BGP on virtual routers (VRs) within PAN-OS, enabling advanced routing capabilities for Strata hardware firewalls (e.g., PA-Series).

\* "PAN-OS supports BGP for dynamic routing and network segmentation" ([docs.paloaltonetworks.com/pan-os/10-2/pan-os-networking-admin/bgp](https://docs.paloaltonetworks.com/pan-os/10-2/pan-os-networking-admin/bgp)).

Step 2: Evaluate Each Option

Option A: It cannot be addressed because PAN-OS does not support it

Analysis:

PAN-OS fully supports BGP, including eBGP, iBGP, confederations, and route reflectors, configurable under "Network > Virtual Routers > BGP."

Features like multiple virtual routers and BGP allow network segregation and routing policy control.

This statement contradicts documented capabilities.

Verification:

"Configure BGP on a virtual router for dynamic routing" ([docs.paloaltonetworks.com/pan-os/10-2/pan-os-networking-admin/bgp/configure-bgp](https://docs.paloaltonetworks.com/pan-os/10-2/pan-os-networking-admin/bgp/configure-bgp)).

Conclusion: Incorrect-PAN-OS supports BGP and segregation techniques. Not Applicable.

Option B: It can be addressed by creating multiple eBGP autonomous systems Analysis:

eBGP: Used between distinct ASes, each with a unique AS number (e.g., AS 65001, AS 65002).

Within a single organization, creating multiple eBGP ASes would require:

Assigning unique AS numbers (public or private) to each internal segment.

Treating each segment as a separate AS, peering externally with other segments via eBGP.

Challenges:

Internally, this isn't practical for a single network-it's more suited to external peering (e.g., with ISPs).

Requires complex management and public/private AS number allocation, not ideal for internal segregation.

Doesn't leverage iBGP or confederations, which are designed for internal AS management.

PAN-OS supports eBGP, but this approach misaligns with the intent of internal network segregation.

Verification:

"eBGP peers connect different ASes" ([docs.paloaltonetworks.com/pan-os/10-2/pan-os-networking-admin/bgp/bgp-concepts](https://docs.paloaltonetworks.com/pan-os/10-2/pan-os-networking-admin/bgp/bgp-concepts)).

Conclusion: Possible but impractical and not the intended BGP solution for internal segregation. Not Optimal

## NEW QUESTION # 30

Which three descriptions apply to a perimeter firewall? (Choose three.)

- A. Guarding against external attacks
- B. Securing east-west traffic in a virtualized data center with flexible resource allocation
- C. Primarily securing north-south traffic entering and leaving the network
- D. Power utilization less than 500 watts sustained
- E. Network layer protection for the outer edge of a network

**Answer: A,C,E**

Explanation:

A perimeter firewall is traditionally deployed at the boundary of a network to protect it from external threats.

It provides a variety of protections, including blocking unauthorized access, inspecting traffic flows, and safeguarding sensitive resources. Here is how the options apply:

\* Option A (Correct): Perimeter firewalls provide network layer protection by filtering and inspecting traffic entering or leaving the network at the outer edge. This is one of their primary roles.

\* Option B: Power utilization is not a functional or architectural aspect of a firewall and is irrelevant when describing the purpose of a perimeter firewall.

\* Option C: Securing east-west traffic is more aligned with data center firewalls, which monitor lateral (east-west) movement of traffic within a virtualized or segmented environment. A perimeter firewall focuses on north-south traffic instead.

\* Option D (Correct): A perimeter firewall primarily secures north-south traffic, which refers to traffic entering and leaving the network. It ensures that inbound and outbound traffic adheres to security policies.

\* Option E (Correct): Perimeter firewalls play a critical role in guarding against external attacks, such as DDoS attacks, malicious IP traffic, and other unauthorized access attempts.

References:

\* Palo Alto Networks Firewall Deployment Use Cases: <https://docs.paloaltonetworks.com>

\* Security Reference Architecture for North-South Traffic Control

### NEW QUESTION # 31

An existing customer wants to expand their online business into physical stores for the first time. The customer requires NGFWs at the physical store to handle SD-WAN, security, and data protection needs, while also mandating a vendor-validated deployment method. Which two steps are valid actions for a systems engineer to take? (Choose two.)

- A. Use the reference architecture "On-Premises Network Security for the Branch Deployment Guide" to achieve a desired architecture.
- B. Recommend the customer purchase Palo Alto Networks or partner-provided professional services to meet the stated requirements.
- C. Use Golden Images and Day 1 configuration to create a consistent baseline from which the customer can efficiently work.
- D. Create a bespoke deployment plan with the customer that reviews their cloud architecture, store footprint, and security requirements.

**Answer: A,B**

Explanation:

When an existing customer expands their online business into physical stores and requires Next-Generation Firewalls (NGFWs) at those locations to handle SD-WAN, security, and data protection-while mandating a vendor-validated deployment method-a systems engineer must leverage Palo Alto Networks' Strata Hardware Firewall capabilities and validated deployment strategies. The Strata portfolio, particularly the PA- Series NGFWs, is designed to secure branch offices with integrated SD-WAN and robust security features.

Below is a detailed explanation of why options A and D are the correct actions, grounded in Palo Alto Networks' documentation and practices as of March 08, 2025.

Step 1: Recommend Professional Services (Option A)

The customer's requirement for a "vendor-validated deployment method" implies a need for expertise and assurance that the solution meets their specific needs-SD-WAN, security, and data protection-across new physical stores. Palo Alto Networks offers professional services, either directly or through certified partners, to ensure proper deployment of Strata Hardware Firewalls like the PA-400 Series or PA-1400 Series, which are ideal for branch deployments. These services provide end-to-end support, from planning to implementation, aligning with the customer's mandate for a validated approach.

\* Professional Services Scope: Palo Alto Networks' professional services include architecture design, deployment, and optimization for NGFWs and SD-WAN. This ensures that the PA-Series firewalls are configured to handle SD-WAN (e.g., dynamic path selection), security (e.g., Threat Prevention with ML-powered inspection), and data protection (e.g., WildFire for malware analysis and Data Loss Prevention integration).

\* Vendor Validation: By recommending these services, the engineer ensures a deployment that adheres to Palo Alto Networks' best practices, meeting the customer's requirement for a vendor-validated method. This is particularly critical for a customer new to physical store deployments, as it mitigates risks and accelerates time-to-value.

\* Strata Hardware Relevance: The PA-410, for example, is a desktop NGFW designed for small branch offices, offering SD-WAN and Zero Trust security out of the box. Professional services ensure its correct integration into the customer's ecosystem.

Reference:

"Palo Alto Networks Professional Services" documentation states, "Our experts help you design, deploy, and optimize your security architecture," covering NGFWs and SD-WAN for branch deployments.

"PA-400 Series" datasheet highlights its suitability for branch offices with "integrated SD-WAN functionality" and "advanced threat prevention," validated through professional deployment support.

Why Option A is Correct:Recommending professional services meets the customer's need for a vendor- validated deployment, leveraging Palo Alto Networks' expertise to tailor Strata NGFWs to the physical store requirements.

Step 2: Use the Reference Architecture Guide (Option D)

Explanation:Palo Alto Networks provides reference architectures, such as the "On-Premises Network Security for the Branch Deployment Guide," to offer vendor-validated blueprints for deploying Strata Hardware Firewalls in branch environments. This guide is specifically designed for scenarios like the customer's-expanding into physical stores-where SD-WAN, security, and data protection are critical.

Using this reference architecture ensures a consistent, proven deployment method that aligns with the customer's mandate.

Reference Architecture Details: The "On-Premises Network Security for the Branch Deployment Guide" outlines how to deploy PA-Series NGFWs with SD-WAN to secure branch offices. It includes configurations for secure connectivity (e.g., VPNs, SD-WAN hubs), threat prevention (e.g., App-ID, URL Filtering), and data protection (e.g., file blocking policies).

SD-WAN Integration: The guide leverages the PA-Series' native SD-WAN capabilities, such as dynamic path selection and application-based traffic steering, to optimize connectivity between stores and the existing online infrastructure.

Vendor Validation: As a Palo Alto Networks-authored document, this guide is inherently vendor-validated, providing step-by-step instructions and best practices that the engineer can adapt to the customer's store footprint.

Strata Hardware Relevance: The guide recommends models like the PA-1400 Series for larger branches or the PA-410 for smaller stores, ensuring scalability and consistency across deployments.

Reference:

"On-Premises Network Security for the Branch Deployment Guide" (Palo Alto Networks) details "branch office deployment with SD-WAN and NGFW capabilities," validated for Strata hardware like the PA-Series.

"SD-WAN Reference Architecture" complements this, emphasizing the PA-Series' role in "simplified branch deployments with integrated security." Why Option D is Correct: Using the reference architecture provides a vendor-validated, repeatable framework that directly addresses the customer's needs for SD-WAN, security, and data protection, ensuring a successful expansion into physical stores.

Why Other Options Are Incorrect

Option B: Use Golden Images and Day 1 configuration to create a consistent baseline from which the customer can efficiently work.

Analysis: While Golden Images and Day 1 configurations (e.g., via Panorama or Zero Touch Provisioning) are valuable for consistency and automation, they are not explicitly vendor-validated deployment methods in the context of Palo Alto Networks' documentation. These are tools for execution, not strategic actions for planning a deployment. Additionally, they assume prior planning, which isn't addressed here, making this less aligned with the customer's stated requirements.

Reference: "Panorama Administrator's Guide" mentions Golden Images for configuration consistency, but it's a technical implementation step, not a vendor-validated planning action.

Option C: Create a bespoke deployment plan with the customer that reviews their cloud architecture, store footprint, and security requirements.

Analysis: Creating a bespoke plan is a reasonable approach but does not inherently meet the "vendor-validated" mandate unless it leverages Palo Alto Networks' official tools (e.g., reference architectures or professional services). The question emphasizes a vendor-validated method, and a custom plan risks deviating from established, proven guidelines unless explicitly tied to such resources.

Reference: No specific Palo Alto Networks documentation mandates bespoke plans as a vendor-validated approach; instead, it prioritizes reference architectures and professional services.

Conclusion

Options A and D are the most valid actions for a systems engineer addressing the customer's expansion into physical stores with Strata Hardware Firewalls. Recommending professional services (A) ensures expert-led, vendor-validated deployment, while using the "On-Premises Network Security for the Branch Deployment Guide" (D) provides a proven blueprint tailored to SD-WAN, security, and data protection needs. Together, these steps leverage the PA-Series' capabilities to deliver a secure, scalable solution for the customer's new physical infrastructure.

## NEW QUESTION # 32

Which two files are used to deploy CN-Series firewalls in Kubernetes clusters? (Choose two.)

- A. PAN-CN-NGFW-CONFIG
- B. PAN-CN-MGMT
- C. PAN-CN-MGMT-CONFIGMAP
- D. PAN-CNI-MULTUS

**Answer: A,C**

Explanation:

CN-Series firewalls are Palo Alto Networks' containerized NGFWs designed for protecting Kubernetes environments. These firewalls provide threat prevention, traffic inspection, and compliance enforcement within containerized workloads. Deploying CN-Series in a Kubernetes cluster requires specific configuration files to set up the management plane and NGFW functionalities.

\* Option A (Correct): PAN-CN-NGFW-CONFIG is required to define the configurations for the NGFW itself. This file contains firewall policies, application configurations, and security profiles needed to secure the Kubernetes environment.

\* Option B (Correct): PAN-CN-MGMT-CONFIGMAP is a ConfigMap file that contains the configuration for the management plane of the CN-Series firewall. It helps set up the connection between the management interface and the NGFW deployed within the Kubernetes cluster.

\* Option C: This option does not represent a valid or required file for deploying CN-Series firewalls. The management configurations are handled via the ConfigMap.

\* Option D: PAN-CNI-MULTUS refers to the Multus CNI plugin for Kubernetes, which is used for enabling multiple network interfaces in pods. While relevant for Kubernetes networking, it is not specific to deploying CN-Series firewalls.

References:

\* CN-Series Deployment Guide: <https://docs.paloaltonetworks.com/cn-series>

\* Kubernetes Integration with CN-Series Firewalls: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com>

