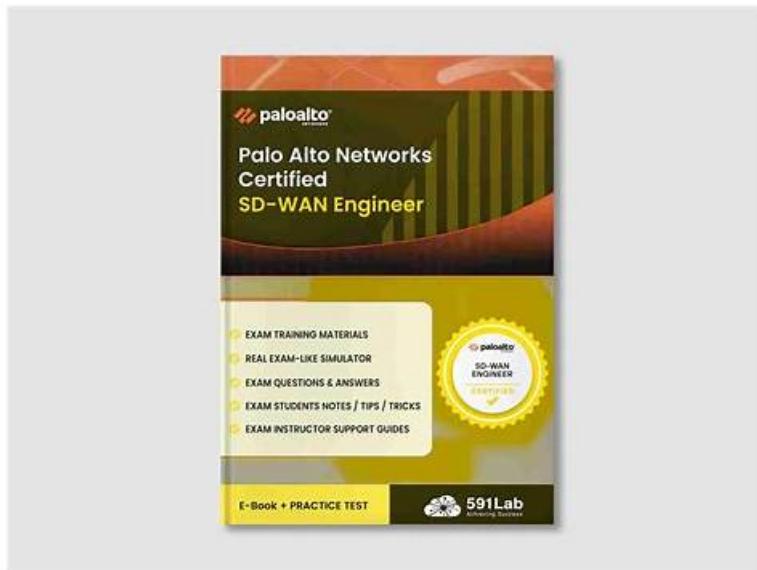


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Palo Alto Networks SD-WAN-Engineer Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Troubleshooting: This domain focuses on resolving connectivity, routing, forwarding, application performance, and policy issues using co-pilot data analysis and analytics for network optimization and reporting.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unified SASE: This domain covers Prisma SD-WAN integration with Prisma Access, ADEM configuration, IoT connectivity via Device-ID, Cloud Identity Engine integration, and User• Group-based policy implementation.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and Design: This domain covers SD-WAN planning fundamentals including device selection, bandwidth and licensing planning, network assessment, data center and branch configurations, security requirements, high availability, and policy design for path, security, QoS, performance, and NAT.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operations and Monitoring: This domain addresses monitoring device statistics, controller events, alerts, WAN Clarity reports, real-time network visibility tools, and SASE-related event management.
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deployment and Configuration: This domain focuses on Prisma SD-WAN deployment procedures, site-specific settings, configuration templates for different locations, routing protocol tuning, and VRF implementation for network segmentation.

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Palo Alto Networks SD-WAN Engineer Sample Questions (Q10-Q15):

NEW QUESTION # 10

In a Prisma SD-WAN deployment, what is the defining characteristic of a "Standard VPN" compared to a "Secure Fabric Link"?

- A. Standard VPNs support BGP, whereas Secure Fabric Links only support static routing.
- B. Standard VPNs use GRE encapsulation, while Secure Fabric Links use VXLAN.
- C. Standard VPNs are automatically built between ION devices, while Secure Fabric Links require manual configuration.
- D. Standard VPNs are manually configured IPSec tunnels to non-ION endpoints, while Secure Fabric Links are automated tunnels between ION devices.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation

In the Prisma SD-WAN architecture, the terminology distinguishes between "Native" automation and "Legacy" interoperability.

Secure Fabric Links: These are the proprietary, automated overlay tunnels created between two Prisma SD-WAN ION devices (e.g., Branch ION to Data Center ION). The controller automatically manages the IP addressing, key rotation, and routing for these links. You do not manually configure "Phase 1" or "Phase 2" parameters for Secure Fabric links.

Standard VPNs: These are traditional, standards-based IPSec tunnels configured to connect an ION device to a Non-ION endpoint (Third-Party Peer). This is used for "Data Center to Data Center" connections where one side is a legacy firewall (e.g., Cisco ASA, Palo Alto Networks NGFW) or for connecting to cloud security services (SSE) that do not have a specific CloudBlade integration. For a Standard VPN, the administrator must manually define the IKE/IPSec profiles, pre-shared keys, and peer IP addresses to match the third-party device's configuration.

NEW QUESTION # 11

By default, how many days will Prisma SD-WAN VPNs stay operational before the keys expire when an ION device loses connection with the controller?

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. 3

Answer: D

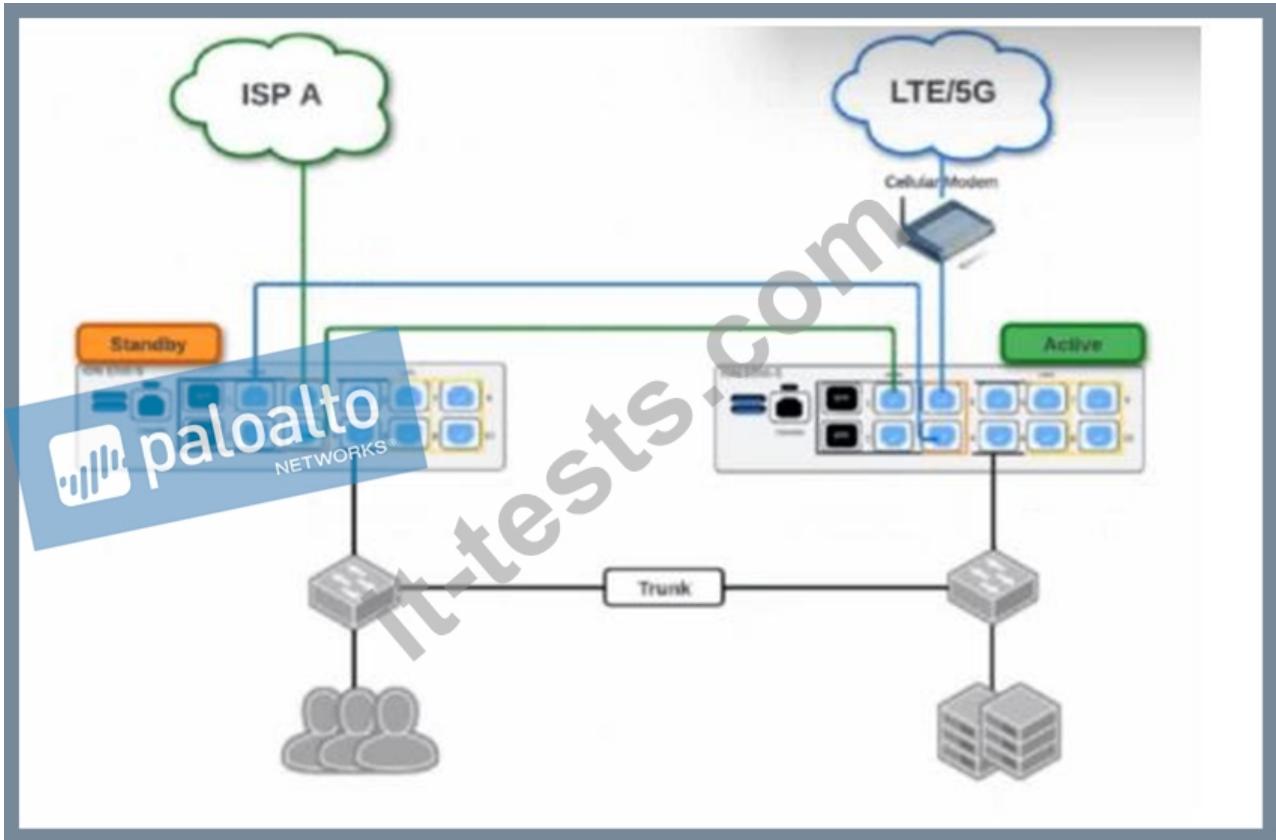
Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation

The Prisma SD-WAN (CloudGenix) solution is designed with a separation of the control plane (Controller) and the data plane (ION devices).¹ In the event that an ION device loses connectivity to the Cloud Controller (often referred to as running in "headless mode"), the device continues to forward traffic and maintain existing VPN tunnels using the keys it currently holds.² However, for security purposes, the VPN session keys (shared secrets) used for the Secure Fabric have a finite validity period. The system is designed such that these keys are rotated regularly.³ If the controller is unreachable, the ION device can continue to rotate keys locally and maintain the VPNs for a maximum default period of 72 hours (exactly 3 days).⁴ If the connection to the controller is not restored within this 72-hour window, the keys will eventually expire, and the ION will be unable to retrieve new authorized key material from the controller.⁵ Consequently, the VPN tunnels will go down, and the "out of shared secret key" error will be observed in the VPN status logs. This mechanism ensures that a permanently compromised or stolen device cannot maintain network access indefinitely without central authorization.

NEW QUESTION # 12

Based on the HA topology image below, which two statements describe the end-state when power is removed from the ION 1200-S labeled "Active", assuming that the ION labeled "Standby" becomes the active ION? (Choose two.)



- A. The connection to ISP A will be usable, but the connection to LTE/5G will not.
- B. Both the connection to ISP A and the connection to LTE/5G will be usable.
- C. The VRRP Virtual IP address assigned to any SVIs will be moved to the newly active ION.
- D. The newly active ION will send a gratuitous ARP to the LAN for the IP address of any SVIs.

Answer: B,D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation at least 150 to 250 words each from Palo Alto Networks SD-WAN Engineer documents: Prisma SD-WAN High Availability (HA) for branch ION devices, particularly the Gen-2 ION 1200-S, is designed to provide "100% WAN Capacity" preservation during a hardware or power failure. This is achieved through the use of Bypass Pairs (Fail-to-Wire). In the provided topology, the ISP A and LTE/5G circuits are cross-connected using the bypass ports (typically ports 3 and 4 on the ION 1200-S).

When the "Active" ION device loses power, the internal physical relays in its bypass ports transition to a closed state, effectively creating a physical bridge between the ports. In this scenario, the LTE/5G signal which enters the Active ION's port 4 is mechanically bridged to port 3, allowing it to pass through to port 4 of the Standby ION. Simultaneously, ISP A is already connected to the Standby ION. Consequently, once the Standby device completes its transition to the "Active" state, it has physical access to both WAN circuits, validating Statement A.

Regarding the LAN transition, Prisma SD-WAN does not use standard VRRP for ION-to-ION HA; instead, it uses a proprietary Control Plane HA mechanism. When the failover occurs, the newly active ION takes over the IP addresses of all configured Switch Virtual Interfaces (SVIs) and LAN interfaces. To ensure the downstream Layer 2 infrastructure (like the LAN switches shown in the diagram) updates its MAC address tables to point to the new physical hardware for those IPs, the newly active ION immediately broadcasts a Gratuitous ARP (GARP). This ensures that LAN traffic is correctly steered to the new device without a significant timeout, validating Statement C.

NEW QUESTION # 13

What is the primary function of the "CloudBlade" platform in a Prisma SD-WAN deployment when integrating with third-party services or Prisma Access?

- A. It acts as a physical line card on the ION device to provide additional 10Gbps interfaces.
- B. It is a monitoring dashboard used exclusively for viewing flow records.
- C. It is a containerized application running on the ION device that performs Deep Packet Inspection (DPI).
- D. It is a cloud-based API integration layer that automates the configuration of the ION devices and the remote service.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation

The CloudBlade platform is a distinguishing architectural component of the Prisma SD-WAN solution. It is not a physical piece of hardware, nor is it software that runs directly on the branch ION device's CPU.

Instead, the CloudBlade platform is a cloud-based API integration layer hosted by Palo Alto Networks. It functions as an intelligent broker or "translator" between the Prisma SD-WAN Controller and external third-party services (such as Prisma Access, Amazon Web Services, Azure, ServiceNow, or Zscaler).

When an administrator configures the Prisma Access CloudBlade, for example, they input their API credentials and intent (e.g., "Connect all US branches to US West"). The CloudBlade engine then:

Communicates with the Prisma Access API to provision the remote IPSec termination nodes (Security Processing Nodes).

Translates this configuration into specific instruction sets for the Prisma SD-WAN Controller.

The Controller then pushes the necessary VPN tunnel configurations, IKE parameters, and routing rules to the relevant ION devices.

This architecture eliminates the need for manual IPSec configuration on every branch device. It ensures that if the third-party service changes its IP addresses or settings, the CloudBlade can detect the change via API and automatically update the branch fleet, maintaining connectivity without manual administrator intervention.

NEW QUESTION # 14

A network administrator notices that a branch ION device is experiencing high CPU utilization due to a suspected TCP SYN Flood attack originating from a compromised host on the local LAN.

Which specific security feature should be configured and applied to the "LAN" zone to mitigate this Denial of Service (DoS) attack?

- A. Zone-Based Firewall (ZBFW) Rule with a "Deny" action
- B. Access Control List (ACL) on the WAN interface
- C. Application Quality Profile (AQP)
- D. Zone Protection Profile

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation

To defend against volumetric attacks such as TCP SYN Floods, UDP Floods, or ICMP Floods, Prisma SD-WAN (like PAN-OS) utilizes Zone Protection Profiles.

Function: A Zone Protection Profile is a specific security object designed to screen traffic for protocol anomalies and flood behaviors before it is processed by the complex firewall policy engine. It sets thresholds (e.g., "Max 1000 SYNs/sec"). If the traffic rate exceeds this threshold, the system triggers an action (Alarm, Drop, or SYN Cookies) to protect the device's resources.

Application: Unlike a standard ZBFW Rule (A) which filters based on Source/Destination/App-ID (which might still allow the initial handshake packets that cause the flood), a Zone Protection Profile is applied to the Zone object itself (in this case, the LAN Zone). This ensures that the flood is mitigated at the ingress stage, preventing the ION's session table and CPU from being exhausted by the attack.

NEW QUESTION # 15

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