Akamai Solution Brief

Agentless Segmentation with Smart Switches

HPE Aruba CX 10000 with AMD Pensando™

Most data centers still run with little to no east-west policy, and that leaves lateral movement and blast radius largely unchecked. Network and security architects also face a practical constraint: You cannot put agents everywhere, and without clear dependency visibility, writing accurate segmentation rules across thousands of flows is slow and risky.

Akamai Guardicore Segmentation integrates Aruba CX 10000 smart switches to deliver agentless visibility and enforcement where agents are not an option. You get faster time to policy, simpler operations using the switching fabric you already trust, and stronger Zero Trust containment across your most critical workloads.

The challenge: Achieving east-west segmentation without host agents or latency

Aruba CX 10000 smart switches embed AMD Pensando™ DPUs into your data center, creating natural enforcement points for east-west traffic. Akamai Guardicore Segmentation integrates with the AMD Pensando™ DPU to deliver agentless segmentation, using Akamai Guardicore's application dependency visibility and policy engine to define and push precise controls through the switch.

Together, they enable enterprises to:

- **Gain application-aware visibility** of workload-to-workload communication without deploying agents
- **Build least-privilege east-west policies faster** using guided policy templates and AI-powered policy modeling
- **Enforce segmentation directly in the switching fabric** to reduce lateral movement and blast radius
- **Simplify rollout and operations** by centralizing policy design and lifecycle management in Akamai Guardicore

This combination delivers agentless visibility and enforcement in the data center fabric, closing the gap between seeing east-west traffic and controlling it with least-privilege segmentation.

Benefits for your business: Agentless segmentation with Akamai and Aruba

Agentless segmentation for critical infrastructure
Enforce east-west controls without deploying host agents, even on sensitive systems where agents are not permitted.

In-fabric enforcement with minimal latency
Apply least-privilege policy directly in the switching fabric to limit lateral movement without adding measurable application overhead.

Faster policy creation with real context
Use application-aware visibility and guided templates to design accurate segmentation policies quickly, without manual rule-building.

Simplified rollout and ongoing policy operations
Centralize policy design, change control, and auditing in Guardicore to keep segmentation consistent as the data center evolves.

Akamai Security

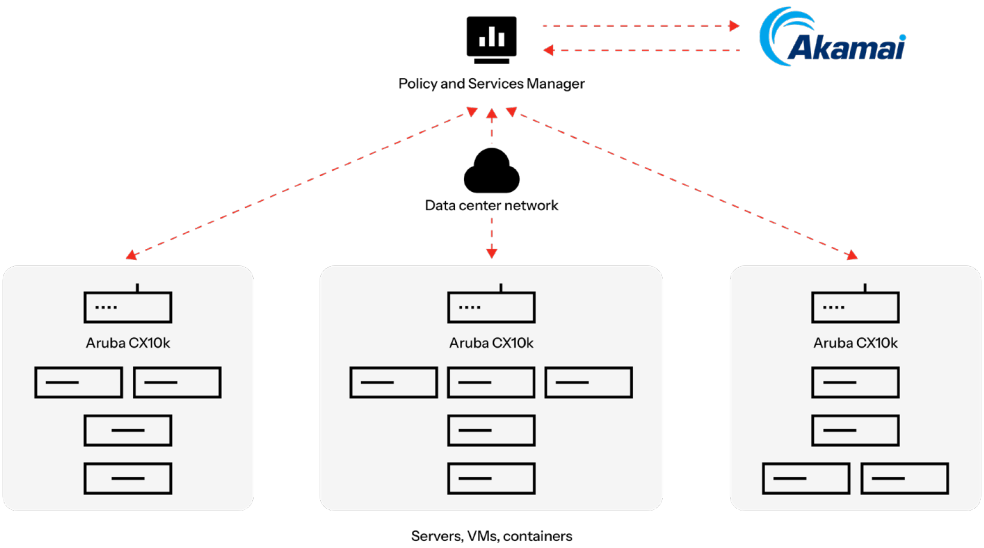
Use case: New data center and no agents

A large, critical organization is standing up a new data center architecture to support high-availability services. They know they need east-west segmentation to reduce blast radius, but they cannot tolerate host agents on sensitive systems or introduce measurable latency into application traffic. At the same time, the network and security teams need a practical way to see dependencies and enforce least-privilege controls from day one, without slowing the buildout.

With Akamai Guardicore working on Aruba CX 10000 smart switches:

- The Aruba CX 10000 provides a high-performance, in-fabric enforcement point for east-west traffic via the AMD Pensando™ DPU.
- Akamai Guardicore delivers agentless visibility into application and workload communications to map dependencies accurately.
- Architects use Akamai Guardicore's policy templates and modeling to design least-privilege segmentation safely before enforcing.
- Policies are enforced through the switch fabric, and changes are managed centrally in Akamai Guardicore for consistent control over time.

This scenario shows how teams can deploy segmentation in a new data center without agents and without trading off performance while still achieving tight east-west control and simpler policy operations at scale.



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