aws marketplace

F5 Distributed Cloud Services

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users

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Product Recap

F5 Distributed Cloud Services

F5 Distributed Cloud Services Recap

F5 Distributed Cloud Services excel in enhancing security, optimizing web application delivery, and ensuring robust network performance. Users value its integrated Web Application Firewall, DDoS protection, global server load balancing, and intuitive management interface. It boosts organizational efficiency, reduces operational costs, and scales seamlessly, making it essential for businesses operating in distributed environments.

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Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- "Technical support from F5 is good compared to Cisco and HP."

Mohan Janarthanan
Associate Vice President at Novac Technology Solutions

- "F5 Distributed Cloud Services provides a single unified console for security operations, network operations, and DevOps across all environments."

RickyMakkar
Senior Network Security Consultant at NTT DATA

- "Elastic environments are the most valuable features because I can pull these apps and migrate the on-premises environment to the Distributed Cloud environment, and this capability is very strong and the security regarding the apps is really very powerful."

FernandoSilva3
Engineer Solutions Architect at SCitum

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"F5 Distributed Cloud Services has helped improve my traffic management efficiency overall because it is cheaper than Silverline."

Dimitrov Nikolay

Tech Lead and Senior DevOps Engineer at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

"F5 Distributed Cloud Services has positively impacted my organization from the security point of view, as all our applications are in a very stable, safe mode."

Yuliia Boldyrieva

Project Manager at a insurance company with 1,001-5,000 employees

"Overall, I would recommend it; it is very easy to use and effective, and you can immediately configure the policies and configurations you need, with results appearing in seconds."

AhmedEl Kayal

Cybersecurity Solutions Architect at BMB

"I appreciate the UI of F5 Distributed Cloud Services and the backend cost, alongside the actual value proposition that they provide with the load balancer, which is excellent."

Validated user

Information Security at a consultancy with 1,001-5,000 employees

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What users had to say about valuable features:

"The best features F5 Distributed Cloud Services offers in my experience are load balancing, traffic routing, and WAF. These are the strongest features for us. Traffic visibility is also very useful, especially when we are validating changes or troubleshooting routing issues.

"Traffic visibility has helped our team significantly. For instance, after a routing change, we can look at the actual requests going through the load balancer and can quickly confirm that the traffic is reaching the new route. This is the most practical example of how we use the visibility.."

Yuliia Boldyrieva
Project Manager at a insurance company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"The key benefits that my clients have seen from using F5 Distributed Cloud Services are the ease of configuration and the platform itself. It provides a unified platform for all policies and configurations, making it very easy and user-friendly, unlike the Big-IP appliance.

"F5 Distributed Cloud Services helps improve traffic management efficiency. My clients previously worked with load balancers and LTM policies on Big-IP, and they now manage these from F5 Distributed Cloud Services itself, making configuration much easier.."

AhmedEl Kayal
Cybersecurity Solutions Architect at BMB

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I appreciate the UI of F5 Distributed Cloud Services and the backend cost, alongside the actual value proposition that they provide with the load balancer, which is excellent.

In my opinion, the best features F5 Distributed Cloud Services offers include their ability to operate without running on the cloud, which is why they provide good value to Indian customers. This feature benefits my organization by providing overall value and cost with the product. When I say the product is not hosted on the cloud, I mean that the product itself is managed by data centers as most clouds do. However, their seamless management of their own data center and the fact that F5 Distributed Cloud Services holds its own data center is what benefits customers in India. ."

Validated user

Information Security at a consultancy with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"In my opinion, the best features F5 Distributed Cloud Services offers are that the complexity is very low. It is simple to use and gives the opportunity to do whatever I want, basically. It acts as a firewall and as a load balancer. It is pretty important to use if I have a lot of things online, shared online, and published. The simplicity of the use matches the big difference that it does the job. Also, I can access it by SSH, which is pretty interesting.

"I pretty much appreciate the interface of F5 Distributed Cloud Services because it allows me to understand what I am doing, where I am going, and it is pretty comfortable to navigate.

"I noticed that with F5 Distributed Cloud Services, I can manage network uptime pretty easily, the nodes inside of a VIP, manage all the VIPs, and all the clusters. It is pretty easy, and all the system runs pretty well.."

Giancarlo Festa
IT System Administrator at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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"Elastic environments are the most valuable features because I can pull these apps and migrate the on-premises environment to the Distributed Cloud environment. This capability is very strong, and the security regarding the apps is really very powerful.

"I put the DDoS protection for the application solution at the company, Minera Mexico, which has many profiles for DDoS protection.

"The DDoS security protection has an overview of the security available and has the streams and the capabilities to patch the security of the application in on-premises. It has a very good capability to convert an on-premises application into a Distributed Cloud application. It has the capabilities regarding that.

"The real-time intelligence feature is very advanced, but at this moment, I really do not have an environment with the availability for AI or advanced features.."

FernandoSilva3
Engineer Solutions Architect at SCitum

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"Regarding F5 Distributed Cloud Services, Silverline is no longer in use. I have been working with F5 Distributed Cloud Services and was even part of the migration of some customers from Silverline to F5 Distributed Cloud Services.

"F5 is attempting to make F5 Distributed Cloud Services function in the cloud similarly to BIG-IP, bringing the same processes the TMOS operating system uses into the cloud environment. F5 Distributed Cloud Services is based on Envoy proxy. F5 Distributed Cloud Services is not as robust as desired. Although it has many beneficial features, it does not have TMOS in the background. It has the same WAF daemon; the BD daemon is the same WAF. They use the same WAF processes across their products: NGINX, BIG-IP, and F5 Distributed Cloud Services.

"Regarding the DDoS protection feature in F5 Distributed Cloud Services, I would rate it seven out of ten. It provides layer three and four DDoS protection, and it also has layer seven DDoS protection. It has improved. Previously, I would have rated it six out of ten. Now it is seven out of ten because it includes machine learning capabilities.

"For some virtual servers, the feature should trigger earlier, and for others, it should trigger later, depending on the virtual server's purpose and transaction volume.."

Dimitrov Nikolay

Tech Lead and Senior DevOps Engineer at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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Other Solutions Considered

"I find BIG-IP pricing is high, but as I mentioned, it is worth it. BIG-IP, the previous product, is expensive but worth it. F5 Distributed Cloud Services is at a medium price point.."

Dimitrov Nikolay
Tech Lead and Senior DevOps Engineer at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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"Compared to other providers, F5 Distributed Cloud Services is a little expensive. However, on the performance side, it is a robust solution. If comparing Check Point and F5 Distributed Cloud Services, F5 is a little expensive. The only difference is in price; technically, they are pretty much the same.."

Mohan Janarthanan
Associate Vice President at Novac Technology Solutions

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"Before F5 Distributed Cloud Services, we used a traditional on-premise F5 load balancer, and for our cloud application, we also used Azure Application Gateway and WAF. We moved to F5 Distributed Cloud Services because those solutions were outdated and were not aligned with the new requirements, specifically security requirements.."

Yuliia Boldyrieva
Project Manager at a insurance company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"F5 Distributed Cloud Services has good competition, including Akamai and Cloudflare, and essentially all the SaaS offerings. They are also good. I am not a big fan of Akamai, but Cloudflare and CloudFront are alternatives. CloudFront was another option.."

Dimitrov Nikolay
Tech Lead and Senior DevOps Engineer at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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"I did not use F5 Distributed Cloud Services for myself, so I use it for a company. In the previous company where I was, they were using a FortiGate, Fortinet solution for the system. They were load balancing this way, and I did not really prefer it much in terms of graphically, and it was a bit complicated to publish something and to get it rounded up. Then I got to watch in a call, in a meeting, another load balancer, but I do not remember the name. It was pretty basic and easy, and it was more something of a WAF, of a Web Application Firewall. I think that F5 Distributed Cloud Services does the work better.

"As I mentioned, I did not choose F5 Distributed Cloud Services myself because the company chose that solution. When I came here, it was already working. They were already working with F5 Distributed Cloud Services, so it was not my choice.."

Giancarlo Festa
IT System Administrator at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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"If the organization is pretty old and already established in the market, then F5 Distributed Cloud Services is good for their investment. But for small players, it is completely not worth it. There are other players which provide similar features in a very affordable price, so I would give them a low rating.

F5 Distributed Cloud Services is definitely good with what they do. They have so many other technologies including BIG-IPs, distributed cloud services, CDN, and WAF, and they are doing pretty much good in this segment. As I mentioned earlier, if an already established organization wants to buy a bundle, then F5 Distributed Cloud Services has a clear, outstanding reputation in the market. Some people who cannot go with that, the big organization, then there are other options available. Whatever they promise, if they are charging a higher amount, they are giving the network organization a secure environment for sure.

One thing they need to work on is support, and the other one is that instead of a bundle, they should also come up with small packages for smaller players and smaller organizations who want to buy only services such as CDN or security APIs or simple WAF. They have the features available, but still, they can work on it. If with the cloud services, somebody wants to customize it, they should have that ability.."

RickyMakkar
Senior Network Security Consultant at NTT DATA

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

I have seen specific outcomes where it has improved security. It has not saved time, but it has reduced costs for the first year at least.

I would estimate the cost was reduced by approximately 30 percent in the first year. ."

Validated user

Information Security at a consultancy with 1,001-5,000 employees

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Use Case

"I address security threats to my clients and customers through the capabilities of F5 Distributed Cloud Services, but I need clarification on some details.."

AhmedEl Kayal
Cybersecurity Solutions Architect at BMB

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My main use case for F5 Distributed Cloud Services is WAF protection.

I am using F5 Distributed Cloud Services primarily for securing my infrastructure with layer 7 protection, which F5 provides. The scenarios and use cases I am protecting involve geo-blocking, rate limiting, and allowing specific traffic to my applications. I have OWASP Top 10 protections enabled, as F5 Distributed Cloud Services offers OWASP Top 10 for layer 7 protections, which provides multiple protection capabilities. ."

Validated user
Information Security at a consultancy with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"F5 Distributed Cloud Services works as a Software as a Service based security, networking, and application management that can be deployed across multi-cloud, on-premises, or edge locations. It comes with an integrated package that includes Network Firewalls, Web Application Firewall, API security, and API Gateways into a single software. You don't have to buy four different vendors or four different bundles from other vendors. F5 Distributed Cloud Services comes as a package or bundle which has the load balancer, network firewall, web application firewall, and API security all in a single software stack.."

RickyMakkar
Senior Network Security Consultant at NTT DATA

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"Our main use case for F5 Distributed Cloud Services is the application traffic management and security for our web applications. We rely on F5 Distributed Cloud Services primarily for load balancing, WAF capabilities, and routing traffic to applications across our cloud environment.

"We use F5 Distributed Cloud Services as we migrate our online application away from the previous gateway and WAF solution. The application traffic can be protected and managed through the F5 Distributed Cloud Services platform. We use F5 Distributed Cloud Services as a front end for the application traffic with logical HTTP load balancer and hostname-based rules directing requests to the appropriate origin pools.."

Yuliia Boldyrieva
Project Manager at a insurance company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"I collect reviews for F5 Distributed Cloud Services and F5 Silverline Managed Services. I work with F5 Distributed Cloud Services as a consultant in the implementation environment.

"I have already implemented the cloud services for F5 environment as a service and migrated the on-premises environments to the cloud with F5 Distributed Cloud Edge Networks and customer services. I already have three projects to migrate to the cloud with the F5 solution.

"I have a lot of on-premises setups, but I am already working with the cloud environment. I already have many clients that need to migrate to the AWS cloud environment. I need to work with the direct F5 Distributed Cloud Services solution.."

FernandoSilva3
Engineer Solutions Architect at SCitum

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"My main use case for F5 Distributed Cloud Services is to associate SSL certificates to some VIPs, and I also check nodes of servers in a VIP and exclude them or include them. I often use some iRules to show a certain page or another in maintenance mode.

"The client I am working for requested that an update should be done on their website, so they wanted to show on the front end of the website a certain page, which we call a courtesy page. It showed, 'Sorry for the inconvenience, this page is not available right now. Wait until 10:00 p.m.' Something similar to this. So, I put this iRule with that HTML page inside, waited to substitute the nodes inside of the VIP, and then removed that iRule and got everything online as usual.

"I can add something about my use case for SSL certificates. I do not always import them because the company I work for created an automation that whenever a certificate got renewed, it got imported automatically in F5 Distributed Cloud Services. Sometimes this does not work and I go import them manually.."

Giancarlo Festa
IT System Administrator at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

"I participate in all the setup and implementation environments. At this moment, I may deliver the SOC or SOC support deliveries.

"I have a lot of challenges regarding that. In the first steps, I need to visualize the goals of the client and establish the project plan to migrate this solution.."

FernandoSilva3

Engineer Solutions Architect at SCitum

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"F5 Distributed Cloud Services has an easy implementation across all the service providers including AWS, GCP, and Azure. F5 DXE has been implemented everywhere, and it is very easy to integrate.."

Mohan Janarthanan

Associate Vice President at Novac Technology Solutions

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Customer Service and Support

"Technical support from F5 is good compared to Cisco and HP. This support is very good. F5 provides remote support also. I would provide 9.5 for support.."

Mohan Janarthanan
Associate Vice President at Novac Technology Solutions

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"I did not have the opportunity to use F5 Distributed Cloud Services' customer support, as I have to be honest. In my opinion, when I do not have to use the customer support, it means that it works perfectly.."

Giancarlo Festa
IT System Administrator at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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"Call services they need to work on because mostly whenever I had some issues with F5 support, I have to send an email. Email sometimes gets a delayed response and they cannot immediately respond to your questions. Sometimes it is urgent, so again, I have to rely on their email services. Email services are good, but they need to have a good human-based interaction with the call centers.."

RickyMakkar
Senior Network Security Consultant at NTT DATA

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"I have a lot of tickets already in the F5 Distributed Cloud Services platform. I can open tickets for support with the migration plan. I have classified these tickets for different issues. I remember opening a ticket for support when I migrated the on-premises solution, needing to work with an engineer during the maintenance windows. The F5 team supported me during these maintenance windows. There is a lot of support from F5 Distributed Cloud Services and the knowledge on the page is very good and reliable.."

FernandoSilva3
Engineer Solutions Architect at SCitum

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"I am familiar with F5 customer service and the technical support team, as I opened a support ticket from my tenant to the Distributed Cloud support.

"I would evaluate F5 technical support as not particularly fast in replying, but it is effective.

"On a scale of one to ten, I think seven would be a fair rating for the technical support. This rating is based on the response time, which needs to be improved.."

AhmedEl Kayal
Cybersecurity Solutions Architect at BMB

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Other Advice

"F5 Distributed Cloud Services is a very nice solution to migrate the application already in Mexico. This solution in Mexico is growing very well. I have a nice relationship with the F5 team in Mexico. I think this is the strength of F5 Distributed Cloud Services. I gave this review a rating of nine.."

FernandoSilva3
Engineer Solutions Architect at SCitum

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F5 Distributed Cloud Services offers a bundle of use cases which are certainly good for a WAF and API. Regarding F5 Distributed Cloud Services's AI capabilities, I think their governance and security are good. I note that they are working on AI but have not yet released anything; they are combining something from AI and working in the backend, so I would say it is progressing well.

I rate F5 Distributed Cloud Services an eight out of ten overall. ."

Validated user
Information Security at a consultancy with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"I would give F5 Distributed Cloud Services a rating of nine out of ten.

"I did not choose a ten for F5 Distributed Cloud Services because I personally know some load balancers, but I do not really know what is on the market as a load balancer on the enterprise level. So, I did not want to give it a ten because I do not really know how other load balancers work at this moment.

"I would suggest trying F5 Distributed Cloud Services in a demo before buying it, but it could really help manage all infrastructure on the web point clearly. So, I would suggest it.."

Giancarlo Festa
IT System Administrator at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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"Unfortunately, I do not have any examples that demonstrate improvements in security posture with F5 automated threat detection, as I did not investigate it on the technical side.

"Given my extensive experience with F5 technologies, I have no piece of advice or recommendation that I can share with other organizations considering F5 Distributed Cloud Services.

"Overall, I would recommend it. It is very easy to use and effective, and you can immediately configure the policies and configurations you need, with results appearing in seconds.

"Other organizations do not need to keep anything specific in mind, as I have no specific advice to share before they consider moving to F5 Distributed Cloud Services.

"I have given this review an overall rating of 8.5 out of 10.."

AhmedEl Kayal
Cybersecurity Solutions Architect at BMB

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"F5 Distributed Cloud Services is deployed in our organization as a hybrid model right now, as we are still using all possible capabilities.

"My advice for others looking into using F5 Distributed Cloud Services is to do your preparation.

"Regarding F5 Distributed Cloud Services's AI capabilities, governance and security are obviously major parts of the product. I feel the way F5 Distributed Cloud Services handles AI governance and security is promising. The capabilities look promising. However, we are not widely using the AI-specific features extensively enough. AI governance and security are one of our critical focuses. Governance, data protection, and having a clear control area around how AI is used would be very important before expanding the adoption.

"I cannot judge F5 Distributed Cloud Services's AI capabilities thoroughly at this time. Our use of F5 Distributed Cloud Services today is much more focused on traffic management. I would say it is still too early to assess AI output.

"I rate F5 Distributed Cloud Services an eight out of ten. The reason for this eight rating is that we must keep a buffer for future improvements. If I would score a ten, that would mean the product is absolutely perfect and ideal. However, we need room for future improvements.."

Yuliia Boldyrieva
Project Manager at a insurance company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"I would rate F5 Distributed Cloud Services seven out of ten overall.

"F5 Distributed Cloud Services still does not have the same flexibility as BIG-IP. It does not have iRules. It has service policies that are a way of scripting, but they are not on the same level as BIG-IP. F5 Distributed Cloud Services uses Envoy proxy in the background, which is open-source.

"For their real-time intelligence feature, I would rate it seven and a half out of ten.

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"There is room for improvement.

"Regarding the load-balancing feature, I rate it seven out of ten, as mentioned. It is similar to the general platform because it does not have the same iRule capabilities. It has some scripting with a service policies feature, but it is not at the level of F5 iRules on BIG-IP.

"F5 Distributed Cloud Services has helped improve my traffic management efficiency overall because it is cheaper than Silverline. In that respect, it is better than Silverline.

"IRule support is definitely needed.

"Speaking of the interface, the GUI is not the greatest, but I would rate it eight out of ten. It is a modern GUI.

"It is much newer. It is not ten years old like BIG-IP. It is approximately three or four years old.

"My overall rating for F5 Distributed Cloud Services is seven out of ten.."

Dimitrov Nikolay
Tech Lead and Senior DevOps Engineer at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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Company Size

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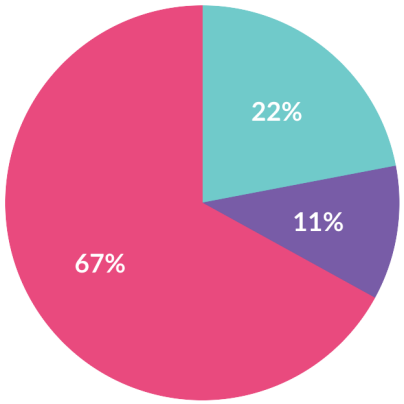

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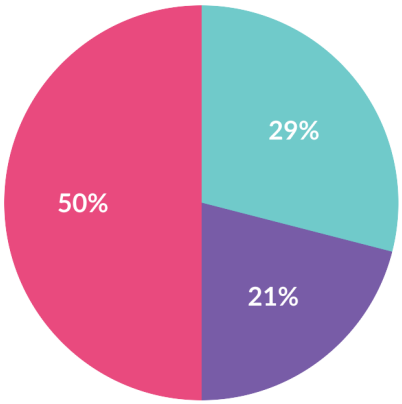

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