Hybrid Active Directory Stretched Domain

Using AWS Directory Service AD Connector

This architecture demonstrates a single customer domain stretched to the AWS and VMware Cloud on AWS. **AWS Directory Service AD Connector** proxies domain joins to a native domain controller and supports seamless domain join for AWS instances. Domain controllers can be placed on-premises, on AWS, or on **VMware Cloud on AWS** to optimize performance and high availability.

1. The customer domain is deployed on-premises with users, computers, and Group Policy as the AD source of identity.
2. AD Connector is provisioned to accept and proxy domain controller (DC) requests to domain controllers.
3. Member servers are deployed on VMware Cloud (VMC), joined to the customer domain across DX/VPN, promoted to DCs, and configured as an high availability (HA) VMC AD site for the cloud.
4. AWS instances are seamlessly joined to DCs in the cloud or on-premises through the AD Connector.
5. AD Connector connects AWS instances and VMware VMs to native domain controllers.
6. **Amazon WorkSpaces** users authenticate via AD Connector and proxy AD requests to native DCs.
7. On-premises users authenticate to DCs with the lowest Site Link cost.
8. On-premises users access cloud resources in the stretched Customer Domain.