AT&T Business

AT&T Cybersecurity
2023 The Edge Ecosystem

Focus on Energy and Utilities

The edge ecosystem is rapidly developing in energy and utilities. Our research uncovers the trends to help you start strategically planning and investing for securing this dynamic shift in computing.
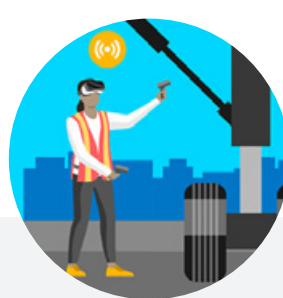
Based on survey results from the 2023 AT&T Cybersecurity Insights Report: Edge Ecosystem.

What are the common characteristics of edge computing?

Software defined
Cloud - private or public or on-premise

Data driven
Closer to user creation and consumption

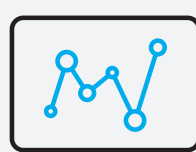**Distributed configuration**
Intelligence, networks, and management

Think of the edge ecosystem as a new opportunity for competitive differentiation and business outcomes.
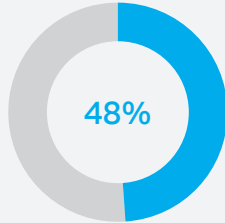
Energy and utilities edge computing benchmarks

Primary use case

2022
Remote-control operations

2023
Intelligent grid management

Top endpoint
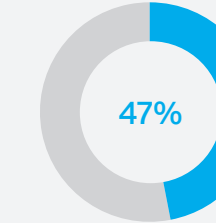48%
Mobile devices
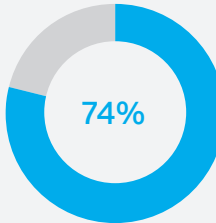
Top network
74%
Private 5G

Top configuration
47%
Combined cybersecurity and networking functions on-premises

The Opportunity: creating a secure edge computing ecosystem in energy and utilities

Three key initiatives emerged as respondents reported the changes they are making.

1 **Proactive investing**
Respondents anticipate change and are allocating resources accordingly.

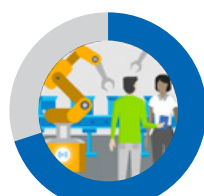| 25%	31%	20%	21%
Strategy and Planning	Network	Application	Security
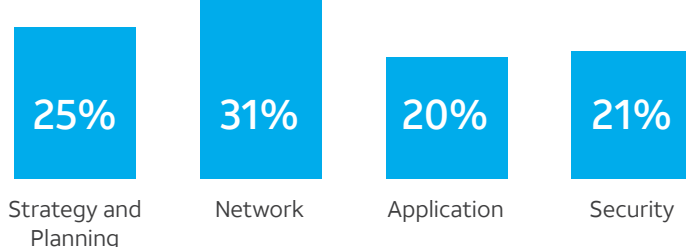
2 **Cross-functional collaboration**
Respondents report value in tapping both internal and external ecosystem expertise.

59%
use external expertise in project planning

70%
use external expertise in production

3 **Dynamic cyber resilience**
The edge ecosystem requires new thinking. It's constantly evolving, and legacy thinking won't solve emerging challenges.

Use cases anticipated in next three years:
44%
of use cases are IoT, IIoT, and OT

Prepare to secure your edge ecosystem

Define your edge computing profile
Work with lines-of-business on use cases. Include business partners and vendors to identify which initiatives impact security.

Develop an investment strategy
Bundle security investments with use case development. Evaluate investment allocation and include a security budget.

Increase your compliance capabilities
Regulations can vary significantly. Keep up with tech mandates and compliance by tapping advisors with expertise.

Build-in resilience from the start
Evaluate investment allocation as use cases multiply. Consider bundling security expense with use case development.
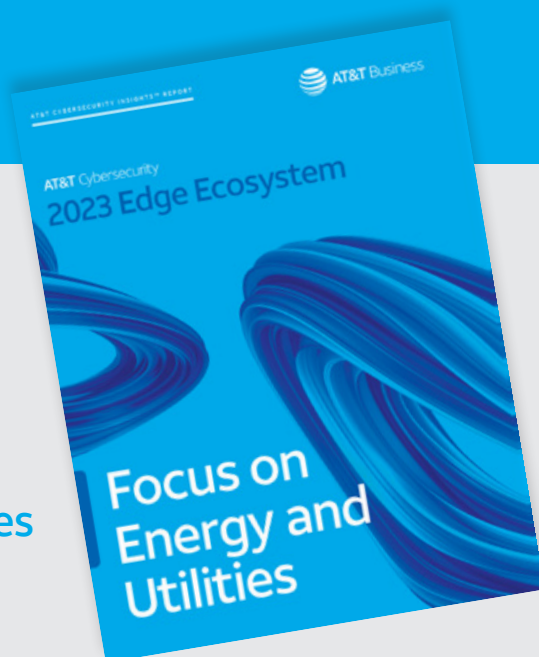
Align resources with security priorities
Collaboration expands expertise and lowers resource costs. Edge use case security experts can help streamline use case development.

Prepare for ongoing, dynamic response
Use cases require high-speed, low-latency networks; at the same time, network functions and cybersecurity controls will converge.

Get the 2023 AT&T Cybersecurity Insights Report: Focus on Energy and Utilities

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