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The Salad Gateway Service

Supporting VPN providers' streaming video needs with the world's fastest, most ethically-sourced network of residential IPs.

What are Salad Nodes?

Salad is a globally distributed, workload agnostic computing platform comprised of hundreds of thousands of nodes across over 180 countries. Each node is an individually owned and operated desktop PC whose owner opted in to share their network bandwidth and local compute resources. Node owners, or 'Salad Chefs', are compensated by Salad based on the amount of compute resources or bandwidth they provide to the network. The IP and bandwidth data below represent averages taken from a sample of the network as a whole. In each region, we select only the fastest nodes with residential IP addresses and low IP scores to serve your traffic.

Nodes Online
(24 hrs)

53,052

Bandwidth
(Concurrent Upload)

935 Gbps

Streaming
(Average Download)

139 Mbps

Avg. IP Score
(Ipqualityscore.com, lower is better)

19 /100

Residential
(% non-proxy or VPN)

78%

![Salad logo]

Node Distribution

Germany

Daily Nodes: 1,561

Avg. IP Quality Score: 23

Avg. Netflix Speed: 95 Mbps

USA

Daily Nodes: 12,050

Avg. IP Quality Score: 6

Avg. Netflix Speed: 162 Mbps

India

Daily Nodes: 2,523

Avg. IP Quality Score: 33

Avg. Netflix Speed: 75 Mbps

Brazil

Daily Nodes: 2,168

Avg. IP Quality Score: 15

Avg. Netflix Speed: 154 Mbps

Fig. 1: Global map of Salad Nodes, highlighting select regions.

Salad Gateway Service

Salad Gateway Service (SGS) is a proxy service that routes requests from VPN operators to Salad nodes. SGS monitors and orchestrates nodes while providing sticky session routing and load balancing across nodes. It allows parameter-based targeting of nodes by their location and ability to reach specific streaming services. Below are a few key features available to SGS customers.

- **Sticky Session Routing:** All requests sent to SGS should include a sessionID. SGS assigns new SessionIDs to the least-loaded node in the region. All future requests sent using that sessionID will be forwarded to the same node.

- **Automatic Failover:** If a node disconnects or is removed from the network, any sessionIDs assigned to that node are seamlessly reassigned to fresh, least-loaded nodes.

- **Multiple Protocol Support:** SGS supports either HTTP CONNECT using TLS encryption or HAproxy's proprietary PROXY v2 protocol using client certificates for authentication. We can provide example HAproxy configuration documentation if you are unable to use HTTPS.

- **Node Removal API:** If you wish to remove a node from the pool for any reason, simply send a JWT-authenticated request with a sessionID assigned to that node to our API. The node will be removed within a minute.

- **Service Block Detection (optional):** For streaming platforms with aggressive IP blocking policies, we can check each node to see whether it is blocked. By appending your sessionIDs with a custom string or header, we can detect and intelligently route requests for those streaming platforms to nodes which are able to access the service.

- **TTFB Optimization:** SGS was designed from the ground up for rapid connection setup and routing to minimize latency for your customers.

- **Dedicated Account Manager:** Communicate easily with your Account Manager via Slack, Email, or calls.

- 24/7 Monitoring and Regular Updates

- Technical Support

How it Compares

In a recent head-to-head comparison conducted by an SGS customer, Salad outperformed all three of the other providers in the same region. Take a look at the results below:

Latency

We've put a lot of work into optimizing SGS for extremely rapid connection setup and time to first byte (TTFB). The results speak for themselves.

Fig. 2: Comparison of TTFB between providers, measured in seconds.

	Min.	Avg.	Med.
Salad	0.033	0.098	0.094
Provider A	0.034	0.173	0.133
Provider B	0.032	0.158	0.123
Provider C	0.031	0.146	0.119

Latency results derived from continuous, multi-day testing. Each provider handled more than 6,000 requests.

Speed

Salad maintains a direct relationship with our Salad Chefs, and select only those with the fastest residential broadband connections to support your traffic.

Fig. 3: Comparison of high-speed nodes between providers in mbps.

	Avg.	Med.	Max
Salad	183.75	128.09	741.29
Provider A	108.63	106.82	149.82
Provider B	125.80	119.00	246.01
Provider C	103.56	101.87	108.98

Table displays speeds above 100 Mbps. In the same test, approximately 38% of SGS nodes averaged speeds between 20–99 Mbps, compared to 71% of competing connections averaged across all providers.
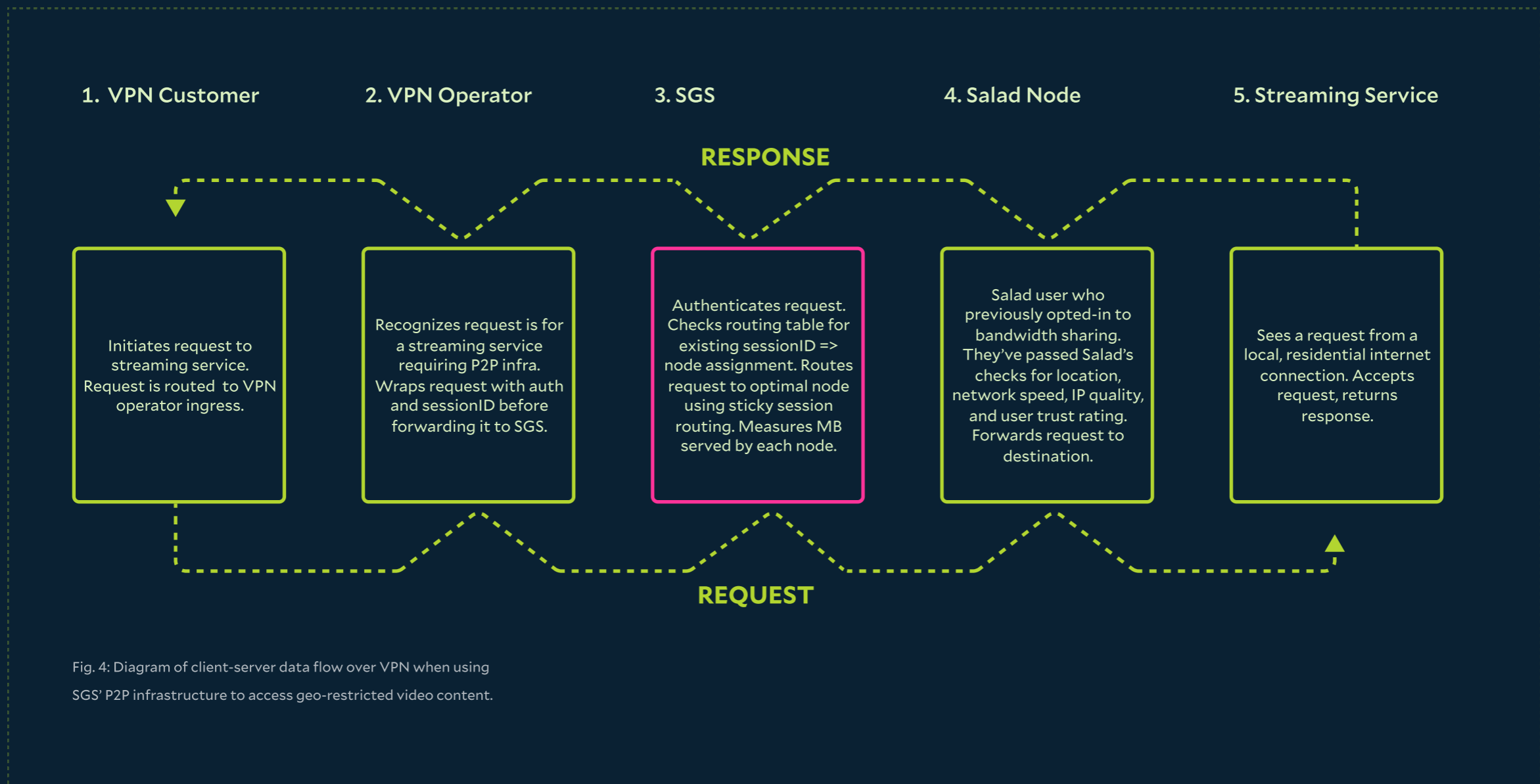
How it Works

1. VPN Customer **2. VPN Operator** **3. SGS** **4. Salad Node** **5. Streaming Service**

RESPONSE

Initiates request to streaming service. Request is routed to VPN operator ingress.	Recognizes request is for a streaming service requiring P2P infra. Wraps request with auth and sessionID before forwarding it to SGS.	Authenticates request. Checks routing table for existing sessionID => node assignment. Routes request to optimal node using sticky session routing. Measures MB served by each node.	Salad user who previously opted-in to bandwidth sharing. They've passed Salad's checks for location, network speed, IP quality, and user trust rating. Forwards request to destination.	Sees a request from a local, residential internet connection. Accepts request, returns response.

REQUEST

Fig. 4: Diagram of client-server data flow over VPN when using SGS' P2P infrastructure to access geo-restricted video content.

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Contact Salad to see how **SGS unlocks streaming platforms** for VPN providers.

Visit: salad.com/cloud/sgs

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