The Distributed Processing Appliance (DPA) is an add-on appliance designed to support the distributed architecture deployment requirements of Privileged Password Manager (PPM) and Privileged Session Manager (PSM).

**DPA deployment** – One or more DPAs can be added to an existing PPM or PSM deployment in order to distribute various processing functions and thereby better support widely distributed architectures, as shown in Figure 1.

**Distributed processing** – The distributed processing features provided by the DPA depend on the products enabled on the primary appliance. The DPA supports distributed processing options for the PPM and PSM products, including local processing for password checks, password changes, session proxy, session recording and recording archive. Each DPA is able to support up to 150 concurrent PSM sessions, and adding DPAs provides unlimited session management and recording scalability.

**Reduced port requirements** – Because the DPA is deployed locally, WAN-based port requirements for PPM/PSM appliance deployments are limited to Secure Shell (SSH) protocols only. Distributed PPM features (i.e., password checks and changes) are processed via a SSH connection between the primary PPM/PSM appliance and its associated DPA. Distributed PSM features (session

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**Figure 1.** DPAs can be added to a PPM or PSM deployment to distribute various processing functions and thereby better support widely distributed architectures.

**Benefits:**
- Provides distributed controls
- Reduces external port requirements
- Supports local processing for:
  - Password checks
  - Password changes
  - Session control
  - Session recording
  - Storing the recording archive
- Offers automatic load balancing
- Scales easily to meet enterprise growth
proxy) are established through a SSH connection between the user and the associated DPA. All target device connections are established by the associated local DPA over the LAN.

**DPA affinity** – DPA configuration options support the ability to associate specific DPAs to handle PSM proxy sessions for access to specific target resources. This allows control over which DPAs will handle proxy sessions and recordings for resource access. If, for example, an authorized user requests access to a resource in a UK data center, proxy processing and session recording can be targeted to the UK DPAs, whereas access to resources in the Hong Kong data center will be processed by the HK DPAs.

**Automatic load balancing and failover** – The DPA supports local load balancing and failover. If multiple DPAs are deployed at a site, the primary PPM/PSM appliance can be configured to automatically load balance processing across designated DPAs. If one DPA is unavailable, the primary appliance will mark the DPA as "down," and processing will continue through the other available DPAs.

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