KEYSIGHT

GNV Get Network Visibility

SUCCESS STORY

Prominent University Upgrades Its Network Visibility to Improve Scale and Avoid Subscription-based Pricing Model

HIGHLIGHTS

Industry: Higher Education

Customer: A century-old congressionally chartered research university with multiple sites in the mid-Atlantic region of the US

Challenge: Achieving scalable visibility and avoiding being locked into a risky subscription-based support model

Solution: Scalable visibility and monitoring solution featuring VIAVI monitoring tools and Keysight's Vision 400 network packet broker (NPB) delivering ensuring ease of use, centralized control and a pathway for growth into the future

Higher education institutions must modernize their IT infrastructures quickly to accommodate the rise in remote learning and mounting risk from cyberattacks. For one century-old university in the US, transformation includes upgrading its network visibility and monitoring capabilities to improve investigations and pave the way for future growth.

The university's IT team first opted to expand its use of monitoring and analysis tools from VIAVI, a long-time Keysight Technology Alliance Partner. To equip the VIAVI solution with reliable data needed to speed investigations, the project called for replacing its existing network packet brokers (NPBs) from Gigamon with a more scalable visibility fabric from Keysight.

The Challenge: Scaling to Meet Current and Future Needs

The private, federally chartered university planned to maintain its existing 1G and 10G tool requirements short-term but needed a visibility solution that could scale to support 40G and 100G within a few years. Along with accommodating additional VIAVI port capacity, the team wished to upgrade its visibility solution quickly to avoid transitioning to a new subscription-based support pricing model being proposed by Gigamon. Ill-suited to the university's annual budgeting process, the new approach could potentially cause access to visibility data to be abruptly switched off down the road.

The team began exploring new options and invited Keysight and CNI, a trusted solution provider, to take part in a formal Request for Quote (RFQ). After meeting to discuss the customer's present needs and IT roadmap, CNI and Keysight designed a scalable, cost-optimized visibility solution built on Keysight's Vision 400 packet brokers.

Several product demonstrations showed the Vision 400 NPBs could meet both the university's current and foreseeable needs for visibility. Along with inherent scalability to 40/100G and beyond, the university's IT leaders preferred Keysight's user-friendly, drag-and-drop UI. The demonstration also showed that the Keysight Visibility Orchestrator (KVO) could deliver the flexibility needed to manage, configure, and centralize control of key visibility elements – taps, virtual taps, data monitoring switches, and packet brokers.

The Solution

With CNI continuing to provide project leadership, the university set out to install Keysight's Vision 400 NPBs at two locations to capture and preprocess data packets for analysis by its monitoring solution. The customer also engaged Keysight's Professional Services team to help its IT team build workflows that optimize new and existing investments in visibility, monitoring, and cybersecurity.

The new visibility architecture can assure VIAVI and other performance and cybersecurity monitoring and analysis tools of receiving all — and only — the data they need. Vision NPBs aggregate traffic from multiple network access points (ideally physical and virtual taps) then remove duplicates and unwanted information before forwarding analysis-ready data onto monitoring devices.

Its scalable, future-ready visibility architecture assures the university of basing real-time performance and security decisions on reliable data, and scaling cost-effectively as student needs, the higher ed threat landscape, and data privacy regulations all continue to change.

Visit **GetNetworkVisibility.com** for the latest from Keysight on insights for optimizing network monitoring, security, and analysis.

For more info, contact: 1-888-438-4942 or visibilitysales@keysight.com