



## SUCCESS STORY

# Federal Agency Upgrades Aging Packet Brokers to Keysight's Hybrid Visibility Solutions

## COMPETITIVE TAKEOUT

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Industry:** Government

**Customer:** Multiple divisions within a prominent government agency

**Challenge:** Upgrading network packet brokers (NPBs) reaching end of life to achieve higher performance, ease of use, and long-term investment value

**Solution:** Keysight's hybrid physical and virtual visibility platform featuring network and virtual taps, Keysight's Vision NPBs and CloudLens technology

**Results:** Higher performance, 100% access to data, streamlined operations, scale, and ease of use

## The Challenge: Enhancing Visibility Fabric Capabilities During Tech Refresh

With network packet brokers (NPBs) installed at its data centers nearing end of life (EOL), a U.S. government agency division opted to replace its existing solution with Keysight's hybrid visibility platform. The agency's IT team took the impending change as an opportunity to consider newer solutions from its incumbent vendor as well as advanced offerings from Keysight and other providers.

While several potential options proved able to process and deliver traffic from the network to monitoring and analysis tools, the agency wanted the new solution to deliver powerful performance and operational benefits:

- Time-saving, error-preventing configuration UI and workflow
- On-the-fly traffic mapping changes
- Extensive virtual/cloud visibility capabilities
- Single Pane of Glass for management
- Long-term cost of ownership advantages

After careful consideration, the Keysight solution emerged as the clear winner on all counts.

### **The Solution: Upgrading to Keysight's Vision NPBs**

Once the decision was made, Keysight visibility experts aligned and worked closely with the division's engineering team to upgrade the network packet brokers across data center sites. As the rollout progressed, other departments within the agency followed suit, upgrading aging devices from the previous vendor to Keysight's Vision ONE, Vision Edge 40, and Vision Edge 10S network packet brokers.

### **Visibility Helps Put Security to the Test**

The ongoing competitive upgrades included modernizing the visibility infrastructure within a virtual cyber range test lab environment that would be spun up at regular intervals to evaluate cybersecurity solutions. Along with traditional network traffic, the new visibility platform needed to capture 'east-west' traffic flowing between virtual machines (VMs) that cannot otherwise be seen with physical taps.

In this scenario, Keysight's physical and virtual visibility portfolio demonstrated compelling advantages over competitive offerings in terms of scope, ease of use, and performance. The agency team found Keysight's virtual taps (vTaps) easy to spin up dynamically using Kubernetes containers while deploying virtual security solutions to be tested. Hundreds of virtual devices can be brought up or down on demand to simulate capacity and test performance at scale.

Keysight taps capture all virtual and physical traffic to be processed and load balanced by Keysight's Vision NPBs. After filtering out duplicate packets and other unwanted information, the visibility platform sends traffic from the hybrid network/cloud environment to the security tools being evaluated.

### **What's Next?**

As older solutions mature, Keysight's portfolio of taps, Vision series NPBs and CloudLens technology ensure a flexible foundation for real-time performance and security monitoring into the future.

Visit [GetNetworkVisibility.com](https://www.keysight.com/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](mailto:visibilitysales@keysight.com)**