POWERFUL METADATA CAPABILITIES DECIDING FACTOR FOR IXIA VISIBILITY DECISION

SKEPTICISM TURNS TO BELIEF FOR ONLINE GAMING COMPANY

This online gaming company is a premier developer and publisher of entertainment software. By focusing on creating well-designed, highly enjoyable entertainment, the company has maintained an unparalleled reputation for quality since its inception.

The network is at the heart of their business. Last year the company reported customers spent as much time online with their games as other viewers spent watching Netflix. The company was supporting huge volumes of traffic, and planning for more.

Throughout 2015 they had searched extensively for the right network packet broker (NPB) to complete their networking and application monitoring solution. Having selected the TruView Application Monitoring tool, the company trialed multiple NPB’s, but nothing had met their complete needs.

The company needed BGP to be included within the NetFlow feeds. None of the Proof of Concept (POC) trials had been able to demonstrate this function, prior to Ixia.

Company:
Online Gaming and Entertainment Software

Key Issues:
To continue offering the highest quality online entertainment available, this customer wanted to:

• Enable Application Performance Monitoring (APM) finding the right Network Packet Broker to feed their APM TruView Product
• Capacity planning was required — they were preparing for dramatic new subscriber growth — in the millions
• Core requirements included packet aggregation, deduplication, and slicing
• The company also wanted to obtain NetFlow data on every flow, not just sampling which was available from their network vendor

Solution:
• Ixia NTO 7300 Series in four data centers
• Application Threat Intelligence Processor (ATIP) for NetFlow and MetaData streams
To position for future subscriber growth, forecasted to be in the millions of new online users, the company had high expectations:

1. They wanted to enable application performance monitoring, and needed best-in-class aggregation, deduplication and slicing capabilities. The NPBs would be working in conjunction with the TruView application and network performance monitoring platform - their tool of choice.

2. The company required NetFlow data on every flow, not just sampling which was available from their network vendor. They sought to extend the life of their routers and switches by offloading NetFlow functions.

3. Perhaps the toughest, most unique requirement was the request to include BGP within the NetFlow feeds. None of the Proof of Concept (POC) trials had been able to demonstrate this function, prior to Ixia.

ATIP’S FLEXIBLE CHIP SET CUSTOMIZED TO MEET NEEDS

After discussions with the customer, the team invited Ixia Product Management and Engineering to help address the gaming company’s needs. Six weeks after their first meeting, Ixia was ready with a customized answer.

Following multiple unsuccessful NPB trials with other switch and visibility vendors, the customer team was very skeptical their needs could be fully met by any Packet Broker. Ixia removed the doubt from the faces of the customer as they demonstrated NetFlow MetaData with BGP in the stream. The flexible chip set in the Application Threat Intelligence Processor (ATIP), was able to add this functionality to its list.

Combined with Ixia’s superior deduplication, which cut payloads, the added simplicity of the solution increased the speed of network troubleshooting.
In this company’s world “Data is Currency” in a very real sense. For every hour of downtime experienced they actually submit refunds to customers. The ease of use for the NTO Packet Broker from Ixia was unparalleled in their experience. They chose Ixia for all of these reasons.

ABOUT Ixia
Ixia provides testing, visibility, and security solutions, strengthening physical and virtual network elements for enterprises, governments, service providers, and network equipment manufacturers.

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