



NFA CASE STUDY

Streamlining and scaling network traffic analysis with the Noction Flow Analyzer

CUSTOMER OVERVIEW

T-2 is a telecommunications company that provides various services such as internet, television, and telephone to residential and business customers in Slovenia. The company was founded in 2004 and has since grown to become one of the country's leading telecommunications services providers. T-2's services are delivered through a modern fiber optic network that covers over 90% of Slovenian households. This network provides customers with fast and reliable internet speeds of up to 10 Gbps and a variety of digital television channels and phone services.



Customer Name:

T-2 ooo

Industry:

Telecommunications

Location:

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Business Challenges:

- Real-time network traffic visibility
- BGP traffic monitoring enhancement
- Network Anomaly and Network Threats detection
- Network Security compliance monitoring

In addition to its telecommunications services, T-2 also furnishes a range of other offerings, such as cloud computing, IT security solutions and digital marketing services.

The company's focus on innovation, reliability and customer satisfaction has helped it become a trusted telecom service provider in Slovenia and beyond.

NETWORK DETAILS

T-2's BGP network is a complex system of routers and switches that connect the company's network to other networks on the Internet. The network handles balanced traffic levels of more than 500gbps and is carefully designed to provide high availability and reliability to ensure that all traffic is routed efficiently and securely. The company operates multiple points of presence (POPs) throughout Slovenia and other European countries, which serve as regional hubs for its network. These POPs are interconnected using high-speed links and run BGP to exchange routing information with each other and with other ASs on the Internet.

T-2 has several upstream providers, including Cogent Communications, Level 3, Hurricane Electric, Voxility, Arelion Sweden AB, and others, providing the company with multiple routes to the global Internet.

In addition to its upstream providers, T-2 has established peering connections with many ASs, both in Slovenia and in other parts of Europe. Some of T-2's key peering partners include major content/enterprise networks such as NETFLIX, Amazon, Meta, etc. T-2 is also a member of several Internet exchange points, including the NetIX Communications Ltd.(NetIX), the Vienna Internet eXchange (VIX), Peering.cz eXchange, and others, which allow it to exchange traffic with other ASs in a neutral and cost-effective manner.

BUSINESS CHALLENGES:

As a company that strives to deliver high-quality services to its customers, T-2 has always been committed to ensuring its network efficiency and effectiveness. The company was investing heavily in network infrastructure and interconnection strategy over the years. However, with a dispersed workforce and complex network architecture, it was difficult for the IT team to gain real-time visibility into network traffic and performance. The company engineers needed a robust, scalable, and flexible network analysis tool that could provide real-time visibility and insights to make informed decisions, as opposed to traditional network traffic analysis practices using the legacy approach/tools.

The company trialed a variety of network traffic monitoring, analysis, and troubleshooting tools, but with each test deployment, the engineers were still struggling to find a perfect fit that would satisfy all of the requirements, specifically:

- Be able to collect ip traffic data from different sources, process and analyze the data, and provide insights into network traffic patterns and behavior.
- Help enhance network security by providing real-time network traffic monitoring to detect any anomalies or threats.
- Be flexible and allow complex customization/filtering options when performing data queries.
- Be capable of handling large amounts of flows/s
- Be easy to implement and scale, and allow for adding multiple and varied device types and brands.
- Be user-friendly and provide an intuitive interface for configuring, managing, and analyzing IP flow data.
- Remain cost-effective to stay within the allocated budget.

Noction Flow Analyzer was selected to be trialed as one of the top contenders.

SOLUTION

The decision to deploy NFA followed a thorough assessment of the product features and their alignment with the company's network performance, analysis and security needs. The actual installation, configuration, and fine-tuning of the system, however, took T-2 engineers only a few hours to complete. "We were pleasantly surprised at how straightforward the NFA deployment process was. The instructions were clear and easy to follow, and the entire setup was completed in no time." - mentioned Primož Vidnar, the Network Engineer/TK specialist at T-2.

RESULTS

Noction Flow Analyzer has successfully fulfilled all the requirements. It has proven to be an exceptional solution for T-2 from both functional and cost-effective perspectives.

The company engineers stressed that one of the key NFA benefits was its ability to enhance network security/performance by providing real-time monitoring of network traffic to detect any anomalies or threats. The tool offered a flexible and customizable approach to data queries, allowing engineers to filter data based on specific parameters and receive alerts when unusual traffic patterns were detected.

NFA was capable of ingesting and handling large amounts of flows/s from a variety of devices, making it ideal for use in T-2's high-traffic network. The company noted that NFA offered an intuitive interface for configuring, managing, and analyzing IP flow data, making it easy for the company's network administrators to access and use the data they needed. The tool was easy to implement and scale, as it supported multiple device types and brands, making it a flexible solution for T-2's intricate network architecture.

"At T-2, we have been highly impressed by the responsiveness and knowledge of Noction's support team when it came to addressing our questions about NFA. They have consistently provided timely and helpful replies and have been instrumental in helping us to get the most out of the system.

We were also pleased to see that Noction was willing to take into account some specific feature enhancements that we suggested, e.g., the increased limits for the default number of AS paths visualizations, and they were able to quickly and efficiently implement these into the system. This level of responsiveness, flexibility, and accommodation has been greatly appreciated and has helped us to better meet our business needs." stated Primož Vidnar.

Ultimately, T-2 noted that the Noction Flow Analyzer remained cost-effective and did fit the allocated budget. The tool provided a powerful set of features at a reasonable cost, making it a prudent solution for organizations looking to enhance their network security and performance. "Out of all the tools we've tested, Noction Flow Analyzer truly shone and delivered outstanding performance. It stood head and shoulders above the competition." mentioned Primož "...moreover, NFA did not impose any limits on the number of devices, interfaces, users, or sites that we could add to the system. It's nice to be able to scale the tool to meet our needs without having to worry about additional licensing costs or restrictions."

T-2's successful trial of the Noction Flow Analyzer highlighted the tool's effectiveness in collecting, processing and analyzing large volumes of IP traffic. With its flexible customization options, real-time monitoring capabilities, and user-friendly interface, the Noction Flow Analyzer is an excellent choice for organizations looking to optimize their network performance and enhance their security posture.



Primož Vidnar

Network Engineer/TK
specialist at T-2

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