



VyOS

The universal networking platform

/ VYOS SUCCESS STORY

Leading Renewable Energy Group Successfully Transforms Network Infrastructure with VyOS

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The Challenge

Leading Renewable Energy Cooperative, found itself facing significant challenges with its existing Cisco network infrastructure. The vendor support deteriorated over time, scalability options were limited, and complex licensing models constantly changed. Additionally, the major vendor frequently forced expensive upgrades, making it increasingly difficult for the Cooperative to manage their network effectively.

Exploring Options

Recognizing the need for change, the Cooperative sought alternatives to their current network operating system (NOS). While considering their options, they explored popular choices such as PfSense and Opensense. However, these solutions lacked a crucial requirement: a command-line interface (CLI). The Cooperative desired a CLI to maintain consistency with their existing workflows and configuration management processes.



Why VyOS?

Several factors led the Cooperative to choose VyOS as their preferred network operating system. Firstly, they recognized the advantages of an open-source solution with a large user community contributing to its development. This active involvement ensured greater stability and security for VyOS compared to proprietary alternatives. Additionally, VyOS allowed the Cooperative to leverage their existing x86 platform hardware, maximizing their infrastructure investment.

The scalability of VyOS was another significant factor in their decision-making process. With Ansible integration and a simple, programmatically readable configuration, the Cooperative found it easy to scale and manage their network infrastructure. They appreciated the ability to export the configuration as a flat file, enabling streamlined deployment and maintenance processes.

Solution and Benefits

After careful evaluation, the Cooperative implemented VyOS as their network operating system. The results were outstanding, and they are thrilled with their choice. VyOS offered robust security features, including IPSec and secure traffic, enhancing the overall protection of their network. Notably, VyOS allowed them to achieve strong authentication using Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) directly on the device, eliminating the need for an external RADIUS server.



In addition to the improved security and authentication capabilities, VyOS proved to be a cost-effective solution compared to other vendors. The Cooperative appreciated the lower cost without compromising on functionality. They also found the level of service from other vendors to be subpar, further affirming their decision to switch to VyOS.

With VyOS as their chosen network operating system, the Cooperative experienced a successful transformation of their network infrastructure. Their ability to disentangle themselves from the limitations and complexities of the major vendor's products allowed them to gain control and leverage the benefits of disaggregation. VyOS not only met their initial use case requirements of high latency management, on-premises VPN endpoints, and routing capabilities but also offered the potential for further expansion into disaggregated switching and enhanced routing functionality.

The Cooperative is eager to explore these possibilities and intends to deploy VyOS alongside other vendors in a Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol (VRRP) configuration. As they continue their journey with VyOS, the Cooperative looks forward to joining other organizations that have adopted VyOS in their core networks, expanding their network capabilities, and realizing the long-term benefits of this versatile and cost-efficient network operating system.

