



VyOS

The universal networking platform

/ VYOS SUCCESS STORY

Leading Knowledge Management Tech Provider Solves Networking Challenges with VyOS

JANUARY 2024

The Challenge

A Leading AI-Driven Governance & Knowledge Management technology provider, faced multiple networking challenges across their estate. They needed a reliable and flexible solution to handle internal routing between subnets and services on their private cloud infrastructure, customer VPN termination, and on-premises gateways to Azure express route for their hybrid cloud setup. After exploring various options, the KnowTech provider chose VyOS, an open-source virtual router and firewall system, to address their networking needs effectively.

Exploring Options

Before adopting VyOS, the KnowTech provider had been a legacy Brocade customer, utilizing Vyatta for their networking requirements. However, as updates for Vyatta ceased, they sought an alternative solution. One option they considered was Cisco, a renowned networking provider. While Cisco showed some promise, the licensing complexity posed a major challenge. The KnowTech provider, not being an enterprise IT company, did not want to deal with the intricacies of Cisco's licensing and the need to run DNA Center. This led them to prioritize a simpler licensing structure, which VyOS offered as a major advantage.



Why VyOS?

For the KnowTech provider, uptime and stability were critical factors in their decision-making process. They measured success based on user complaints, and with VyOS, they found that they rarely received any real service tickets, indicating a high level of stability. VyOS provided them with a reliable and hassle-free solution, allowing them to deploy it and forget about it, as it rarely generated monitoring alerts. The ability to drop VyOS into their infrastructure and have it run smoothly without constant maintenance was a significant benefit.

Solution and Benefits

When the KnowTech provider embarked on a greenfield deployment for their Azure express route gateway, they turned to VyOS. Leveraging tools like Terraform, cloud-init, and Ansible, they found the automation capabilities of VyOS to be exceptional. VyOS facilitated effortless build and teardown processes, making deployment and management straightforward. This automation feature enabled the KnowTech provider to maintain control and efficiency in their networking operations.

Furthermore, the KnowTech provider had plans to utilize VyOS for their disaster recovery datacenter edge routers. Although they had Cisco ASR9001 in their production datacenters, they found the XRV virtual routers lacking in terms of cost-effectiveness. Cisco's offerings were consistently more expensive, pushing the KnowTech provider towards VyOS for their networking needs.



One of the key advantages of VyOS for the KnowTech provider was the absence of a separate appliance requirement. They could easily spin up VyOS instances as virtual machines, aligning with their automation-driven approach. The Zero Touch Provisioning (ZTP) option offered by VyOS was particularly valuable, streamlining the deployment process and enhancing their automation capabilities.

Reflecting on their experience, the KnowTech provider expressed their satisfaction with VyOS, stating that it had consistently delivered excellent performance. They commended its versatility, describing it as a "general-purpose Swiss army knife" that catered to their specific use cases. The ease of configuration and management, combined with VyOS's robust features, allowed the KnowTech provider to tailor the software to their exact networking needs. They highlighted VyOS's ability to handle both internal and external routing, including full tables, as a significant advantage. The seamless integration with their existing infrastructure and the simplicity of spinning up new instances using automation tools like Terraform and cloud-init further solidified their positive experience with VyOS.

The KnowTech provider also emphasized the reliability of VyOS, noting that it played a crucial role in ensuring uninterrupted service for their tenants. With VyOS in place, they experienced minimal downtime and received positive feedback from their users, further confirming the stability and performance of the solution. The ability to drop VyOS into their network and have it operate seamlessly without constant monitoring or maintenance was a substantial time and resource saver for the KnowTech provider team.

Looking ahead, the KnowTech provider sees VyOS as a key enabler for their future growth and expansion plans. The scalability and flexibility of VyOS make it well-suited for accommodating their evolving networking needs, whether it be replacing existing appliances, extending into the public cloud, or supporting their disaster recovery initiatives. The positive results achieved with VyOS have instilled confidence in the KnowTech provider, driving them to explore further possibilities and maximize the benefits of this versatile network operating system.

In conclusion, the KnowTech provider's success story exemplifies how VyOS can be a game-changer for businesses seeking a reliable, customizable, and cost-effective networking solution. With its stability, ease of use, automation capabilities, and adaptability to diverse use cases, VyOS empowers organizations to optimize their network infrastructure, enhance performance, and meet the demands of today's dynamic business environment. The KnowTech provider's endorsement of VyOS reinforces its position as a trusted choice for organizations aiming to overcome networking challenges and unlock the full potential of their networks.

