

Healthcare Insurance Provider Eliminates Security Blind Spots

Network monitoring solution provides visibility of FabricPath and VxLAN encapsulated traffic and remote site packet capture and analysis



Summary

Customer: Fortune 100 Enterprise

Industry: Healthcare

Location: USA multiple locations

Challenge:

- Encapsulated traffic blind spots
- Limited to one voice/video tool
- Needed to monitor remote locations

Solution:

- IntellaFlex Monitoring System
- IntellaStore II Appliance

Benefits:

- Visibility of encapsulated traffic
- Load balancing and advanced features
- Support of multiple voice/video tools
- Packet capture at remote locations

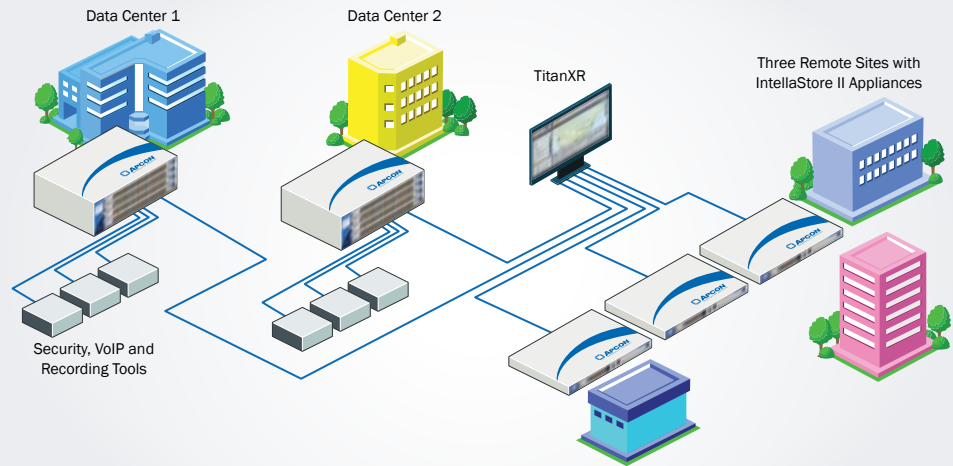
Healthcare companies face the challenge of securing their customers' private information, such as social security numbers, financial records, healthcare information, birth records and more. A leading healthcare insurance provider reevaluated their security network monitoring architecture to ensure their customers' and employees' private information was secure.

Background

This particular healthcare insurance provider has multiple teams, network, security and unified communications, who were all looking for more robust network monitoring solutions for their network challenges. Previously, the healthcare provider used a competitor's monitoring equipment that was unable to address the latest network visibility challenges. During their reevaluation process, these teams expressed the need for complete network visibility.



IntellaFlex at the datacenter locations eliminates FabricPath and VxLAN blind spots for security and VoIP analysis tools. IntellaStore II at remote locations provide onboard traffic capture and analysis.



Monitoring without Blind Spots

When determining the right network monitoring solution to implement for their data centers, the healthcare provider's security team was looking for a visibility architecture that had the ability to remove FabricPath and VxLAN from the header of encapsulated traffic. They realized their previous network solutions weren't capturing important packets due to blind spots.

APCON's IntellaFlex XR monitoring systems were deployed in two data centers with multi-function blades that offered FabricPath and VxLAN protocol stripping as well as packet deduplication, payload removal and time stamping options on every port. FabricPath and VxLAN protocol stripping was key to removing blind spots. Instead of having packets running through the network that the security team couldn't see, with IntellaFlex the healthcare provider can now simply select either the ingress or egress of the port with protocol stripping to remove the encapsulation header, allowing the classical Ethernet frame to be sent to the security monitoring tools.

Remote Location Monitoring

In addition to looking for network monitoring solutions for their large data centers, the healthcare provider's network and security engineers needed a cost effective solution for multiple remote sites.

APCON's IntellaStore II is an all-in-one network monitoring solution with the ability to provide onboard packet capture, storage, and analysis, which reduces deployment and operational costs. The IntellaStore II is preloaded with Wireshark and nTop and supports several certified security and performance applications that enable remote analysis of the packets and network performance. Like before, FabricPath was removed with protocol stripping.

With IntellaStore II, the healthcare provider's network and security engineers are now able to monitor and diagnose traffic across multiple remote locations.

VoIP Monitoring

Lastly, the healthcare provider was looking to implement more flexible solutions for VoIP and video conference monitoring. Previously, the unified communications team could only pass traffic to one of their monitoring tools per network segment. They needed a solution to aggregate and distribute traffic of interest to multiple VoIP and video monitoring devices while preventing oversubscription and data loss.

The IntellaFlex monitoring system deployed in the data centers provided aggregation, filtering and load balancing of VoIP and voice traffic. The unified communications team is now able to aggregate their network traffic and load balance to multiple tools, which has improved their overall voice over IP monitoring.

Partnership Continues

The value shown during the first few weeks after implementing APCON's network monitoring solutions was definitely noticeable. The network, security and unified communications teams easily justified the cost of their purchases with APCON. And since APCON's IntellaFlex solutions are currently running on their production networks and easily scalable, the healthcare provider is in the process of considering additional monitoring solutions for future growth.