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OPENSTACK SPECIAL

NOVEMBER 11 - 2015

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20 Most Promising OpenStack Solution Providers 2015

OpenStack is increasingly gaining industry attention today, supported by a community of individuals and enterprises to create a standard platform and build open, massively scalable clouds. OpenStack is representing the best of what cloud technology offers. Essentially, OpenStack software is controlling large pools of compute, storage, and networking resources throughout a datacenter, managed through a dashboard or via the OpenStack API. OpenStack is further working with popular enterprise and open source technologies making it ideal for heterogeneous infrastructure.

As more and more enterprises are relying on OpenStack to run their businesses every day, developers and technologists from around the world are collaborating on OpenStack to create more efficient workflows and increase operational

efficiency. Being an obvious candidate for building hybrid clouds, OpenStack has the stamp of approval from major cloud vendors, including Red Hat, HP and Rackspace. This strong ecosystem allows users who seek commercial support to choose from a multitude of OpenStack-powered products and services from different vendors.

In the past few months, we have analyzed hundreds of enterprises who primarily serve the OpenStack arena and shortlisted the ones that are at the fore-front of tackling challenges in the arena. To help organizations find the best-of-breed OpenStack solutions that suits their business needs, in this issue of CIOReview, we present the 20 Most Promising OpenStack Solution Providers, featuring the best vendors offering technologies and services that aid the customers in leveraging OpenStack solutions.



Company:
CPLANE NETWORKS

Description:
CPLANE NETWORKS extends OpenStack Networks to multiple data centers and public clouds like Amazon Web Services

Key Person:
Brandon Williams,
CEO & Director

Website:
www.coplanenetworks.com

CPLANE NETWORKS

Fully Automated OpenStack Platform for Network Service Orchestration

When Brandon Williams, CEO and Director, CPLANE NETWORKS ventured into the OpenStack arena in 2013, it was not a popular thing to do. Two years into the industry Williams remarks—“OpenStack has just started the ‘third inning’ of adoption.” While he states that the first inning in OpenStack built an amazing team in terms of the community, the second inning has been all about demonstrating that it belongs in the Major Leagues. Today, as the third inning sets in, OpenStack is the most sought after cloud computing platform for business operations, to an extent that even startups have an OpenStack roadmap. That said, Williams observed that most CIOs today face one common challenge—“I’m in a pilot right now, and I cannot find enough talent that is familiar with OpenStack.”

Eliminating these challenges, Silicon Valley, CA based, CPLANE NETWORKS extends OpenStack Networks to multiple data centers and public clouds like Amazon Web Services. The company offers an affordable Red Hat-certified OpenStack solution, which is available through global distributor SYNEX. “We are leading OpenStack out of the trial

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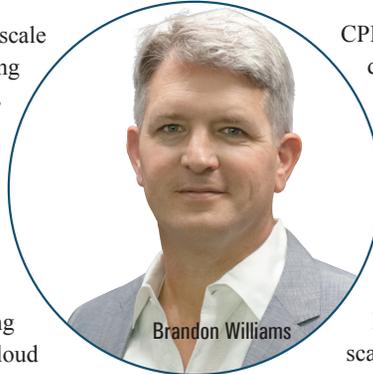
The way to solve networking for OpenStack or any cloud environment is built on the principles of distributed computing and systems

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phase and into full-scale production networking capabilities,” says Williams. As cloud networking is a new technology frontier in the industry, the platform lacks a defined roadmap. “The way to solve networking for OpenStack or any cloud environment is built on the principles of distributed computing and systems,” states Williams. At CPLANE they begin by modeling the whole network topology including the capabilities of the network hardware and then modeling the demands of the network services. They then proceed to crunch the problem using a series of very sophisticated algorithms for path selection and policies, amongst others. Further, with no human intervention CPLANE automatically and proactively pushes the configurations and flow rules to the target devices.

CPLANE NETWORKS creates fully automated OpenStack networks with its Dynamic Virtual Networks – Data Center (DVNd). The company’s software-only solution automates end-to-end network service orchestration and provisioning within data centers and across wide area networks (WAN). The networks are extended to multiple sites through its intelligent WAN automation solution— Dynamic Virtual Networks – Interconnect (DVNi). Williams further states, “CPLANE NETWORKS provides a productivity platform for developing and managing policy-based network virtualization applications and services to enable dynamic workload management.”

Considering that cloud networking is still a new concept in the industry,



Brandon Williams

CPLANE invests a great deal of time and effort in this technology. “We’ve placed a lot of emphasis on optimizing network performance at the compute nodes,” expounds Williams.

Having learned that full-scale network automation is not a simple problem, CPLANE invested in Open vSwitch (OVS) performance enhancements and security features. Being an orchestration system, CPLANE is also developing products like Software-Defined Networking (SDN) and virtual-overlay networking for OpenStack. CPLANE’s other products include Overlay Gateway Router (OGR) which connects VXLAN to other networks. OGR easily extends OpenStack to VMware, containers, legacy and bare-metal networks, and public clouds.

At present CPLANE is deploying some of the largest and most sophisticated networks. Citing that the company has ‘exciting’ customer success cases to discuss, Williams hints “CPLANE is working with a tier-1 telecommunications service provider, a leading global SaaS company and a large government systems integrator.”

CPLANE, which is now well versed with network management automation, aims to extend its OpenStack orchestration beyond the data centers to address full workload agility. Furthermore, they will continue to address the L2/L3 orchestration and automation challenges. With respect to the future, Williams states that CPLANE has some “exciting announcements” coming out in the next few months. [CR](#)