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NETSCOUT Packet Flow Switch Fabric Manager for Dell Technologies Solutions

Centralized Orchestration and Management of Visibility Fabric

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

NETSCOUT Packet Flow Operating System (PFOS) software on Dell EMC PowerSwitch hardware enables pervasive network visibility from small or remote sites to large, core, or spine deployments in data centers and central offices. As a complement to these advanced packet broker capabilities, a centralized orchestration and management system is available for Dell Technologies' advanced visibility solutions. The Packet Flow Switch Fabric Manager from NETSCOUT provides a single pane of glass that enables administrators to easily configure, deploy, and troubleshoot monitoring networks and inline toolchains. It provides an intuitive, drag-and-drop configuration with powerful but simple-to-use workflows that cover the three major areas, or lifecycles, of a packet flow switch system: configuration, deployment, and monitoring. Inline toolchains are configured via the Inline lifecycle.

CONFIGURATION

In the Configure Lifecycle, administrators can easily configure physical entities such as switches, blades, and ports. Reusable logical entities such as filters and load balance groups can be configured for drag-and-drop deployment in graphical traffic maps, called topologies. Intelligent workflows allow administrators to, for example, create new filters or new filters based on a previously configured filter, allowing for quick and easy changes to filters already in deployment.

DEPLOYMENT

In the Deployment Lifecycle, administrators configure their monitoring fabric in a graphical representation called topologies. Topologies are comprised of user-created flows of traffic from ingress ports (typically connected to a TAP) through the packet flow switch or switches and out to the monitoring tools. Changes are not made to the underlying infrastructure until the administrator chooses to push the configuration to the switches. Pre-staging of changes can be made ahead

NETSCOUT.

THE NETSCOUT / DELL TECHNOLOGIES PARTNERSHIP

NETSCOUT provides organizations with Commercial Off the Shelf (COTS) deployment options for both the InfiniStreamNG and Packet Flow Switch solutions. As part of the current portfolio, NETSCOUT PFOS software is available for purchase and use on Dell EMC PowerSwitch hardware configurations.

Dell Technologies' OEM Engineered Solutions program enables streamlined purchase and deployment of turnkey solution configurations in collaboration with leading technology partners.

Program benefits include the following:
- Accelerated and cost-effective deployment
- Certified/Qualified hardware from Dell Technologies
- Fully integrated solutions
- Turnkey purchase-to-deployment process
- NETSCOUT MasterCare support coverage

of a maintenance window without disrupting the current configuration or having to wait until the maintenance window arrives to make the changes. Topology versioning enables snapshots of topologies at given points in time, providing backups to existing configuration and giving administrators peace of mind.

INLINE

In the Inline Lifecycle, administrators configure their active inline toolchains in a graphical representation called topologies. Inline topologies are more structured than passive monitoring (Deployment Lifecycle) topologies, allowing the administrator to graphically configure toolchains (active inline tools and the connections between them including any filtering) and the Inline Network ports whose traffic is sent through the toolchains. NETSCOUT PFS Fabric Manager's graphical representation of inline configurations makes even complex inline configurations intuitive. As with passive monitoring topologies, changes are not made to the underlying infrastructure until the administrator chooses to push the configuration to the switches. Topology versioning allows pre-staging changes ahead of maintenance windows and quick rollback to previous "known good" configurations.

MONITOR

In the Monitor Lifecycle, administrators oversee the health of the current system, including system status and statistics.

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FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Features	Benefits
Centralized Management • Embedded PFOS Software for Dell EMC PowerSwitch hardware configurations	• Provides a single pane of glass for the entire monitoring network
HTML5 drag-n-drop web UI	• No software to install – just a web browser • Lightweight, modern interface
Graphical Topologies	• Provides intuitive configuration of traffic flows from TAP to tool
Graphical Inline Toolchains	• Provides intuitive configuration of toolchains for inline security deployments
Transparent Cross-switch Flow Configuration with pfsMesh	• Allows intuitive configuration of traffic flows between switches – no need to build hop-by-hop configuration, just connect the ingress port to the egress port
Centralized Configuration Management	• Configure all switches from a single point • Create logical entities such as filters once and use throughout the monitoring fabric
Centralized Monitoring	• View statistics from all switches • Centralized view of events from all switches • Centralized view of alarm activity from all switches
Centralized Lifecycle Management	• Centralized software upgrade • Centralized license management
Configuration Learning • The central server learns the device's configuration	• No need to re-configure when upgrading to the central management server
Role-Based Access (RBAC) • User-defined roles • Multiple roles per user	• Conforms to security policy needs • Allows least-privilege access
Local and Remote Authentication and Authorization • Local • RADIUS • TACACS+	• Local AAA for standalone deployments • Remote AAA meets security policy needs and allows user and role configuration to be centralized
Software-Based Solution	• Features and functions supported on Dell PowerEdge R740

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Dell EMC PowerSwitch

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Dell OEM Solutions

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