

Network Cloud, Better for Operations

What are the operational benefits of a disaggregated network model?

E-BOOK



DRIVENETS

How Operations teams Benefit from DriveNets Network Cloud

The endless need for service providers to deliver increased performance and capacity continues to grow and take its toll. As a result, service providers are seeking better, more flexible, and more cost-effective network architectures.

DriveNets Network Cloud, based on disaggregated cloud-native architectures, has already been deployed by many tier-1 service providers. Additional providers are expected to deploy Network Cloud in the next few years in their next-generation core, aggregation, peering and edge networks. However, there are still some providers that are concerned about the cloud-based model, particularly when it comes to network operations.

Operations teams can benefit from the many advantages provided by DriveNets Network Cloud. Its redesigned network architecture improves network flexibility and redundancy while maintaining familiarity among engineers.

Here are five main reasons behind the superior network operations of DriveNets Network Cloud.

Higher availability, faster recovery

In case of a component failure, the network cluster continues to operate seamlessly, and a replacement can be done on-the-spot

01

No forklift upgrading

Scaling one white box at a time vs. forklifting a large monolithic chassis

02

Built like a cloud, operated like a network

A familiar network operation environment with improved agility and scalability

03

Any router, only 2 types of white boxes

Building any network function using only 2 types of standard white boxes

04

Multi-vendor, one owner:

Service providers select the preferred responsibility model

05

01 Higher Availability, Faster Recovery

Network outages can be devastating to the operator's business, resulting in churn, lost revenues, and a decline in net promoter score (NPS). Therefore, service providers do all they can to avoid network outages; if one happens, they strive for a small blast radius and fast recovery so that the side effects of the outage will be minimized.

Higher Availability

DriveNets Network Cloud architecture inherently enables high availability in software and hardware. On the hardware level, it includes built-in redundancies for any hardware element; if any component fails, the network cluster can continue to operate seamlessly. On the software level, DriveNets Network Operation System (DNOS) combines classic router high-availability features, such as non-stop routing (NSR)/non-stop forwarding (NSF), with its cloud-native advantage of each microservice backed by another. Running every function on a dedicated container isolates each function and minimizes blast radius, so that a failure in one service will not affect the operation of other services on the shared infrastructure.

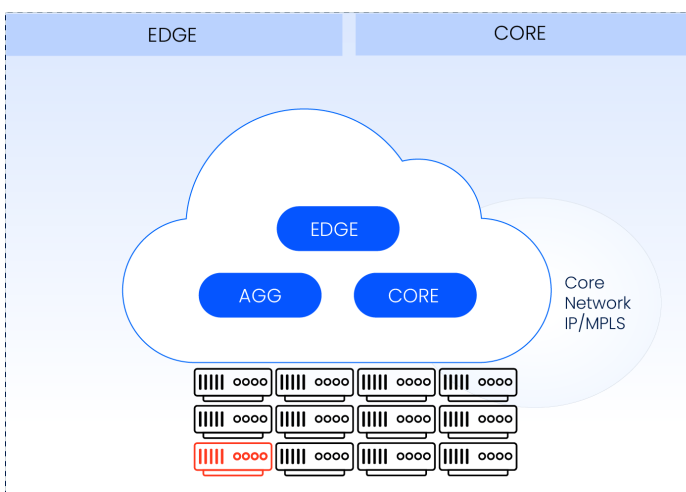
Faster Recovery

Networks may fail, and this is true for any system. But DriveNets Network Cloud can assure network performance even when failures occur due to its inherent redundancy and fast recovery.

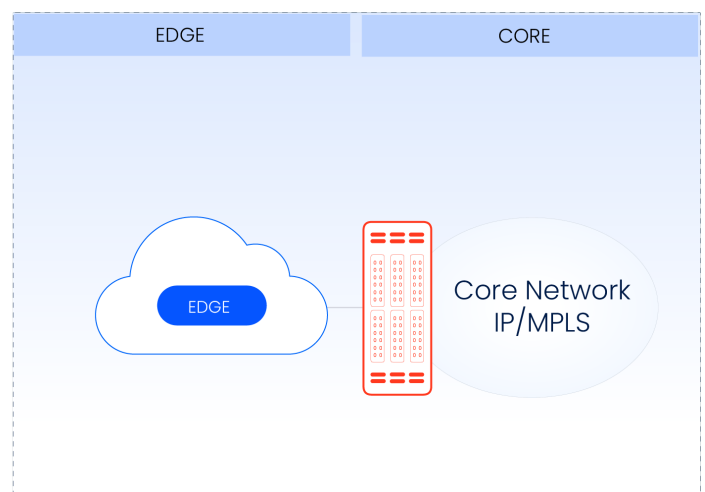
Thanks to Network Cloud's fully redundant disaggregated router model, even a fabric failure has no impact whatsoever on the router's functionality and traffic-forwarding capacity. Furthermore, a replacement of a white box (fabric or packet-forwarding function) can be done immediately without scheduling or waiting for a maintenance window.

As opposed to that, when there is an issue in the fabric or backplane of traditional monolithic routers, the entire chassis needs to be replaced, which is a costly, timely, and burdensome process affecting network availability.

Disaggregated & Distributed Networking
Architecture



Legacy Networking
Architecture

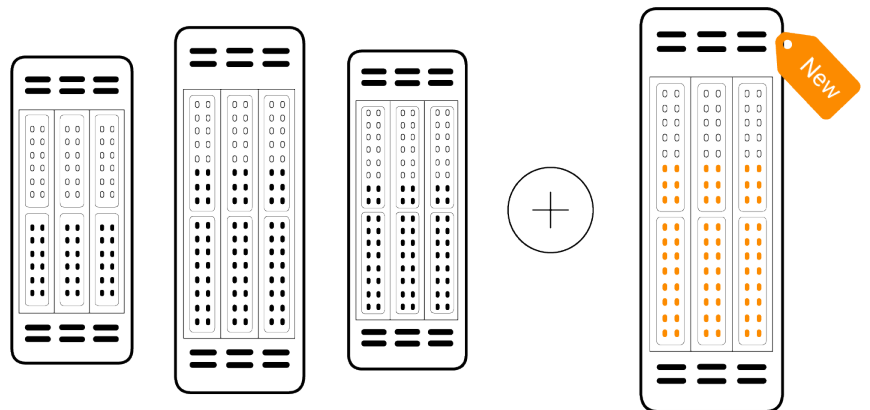


02 No Forklift Upgrades

In the planning phase or in the event of network failure, traditional monolithic routers create many limitations due to their size and inflexible architecture.

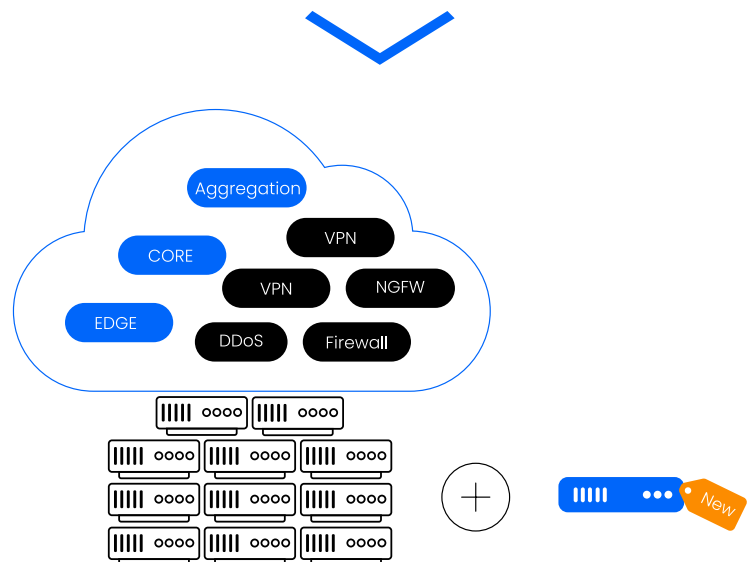
DriveNets Network Cloud is different. It is based on a small form factor, with only 2 rack units in height. It uses standard white boxes – one for packet forwarding (NCP) and one for fabric (NCF) – that are deployable across all network domains. It can scale one box at a time up to a cluster size of 69Tbps. And service and maintenance are simple as well, as it is possible to replace any white box (NCP or NCF) on-the-spot without replacing the whole chassis.

TRADITIONAL NETWORK



Scale = replacing the whole chassis

DRIVENETS NETWORK CLOUD



Scale = One White Box at a Time

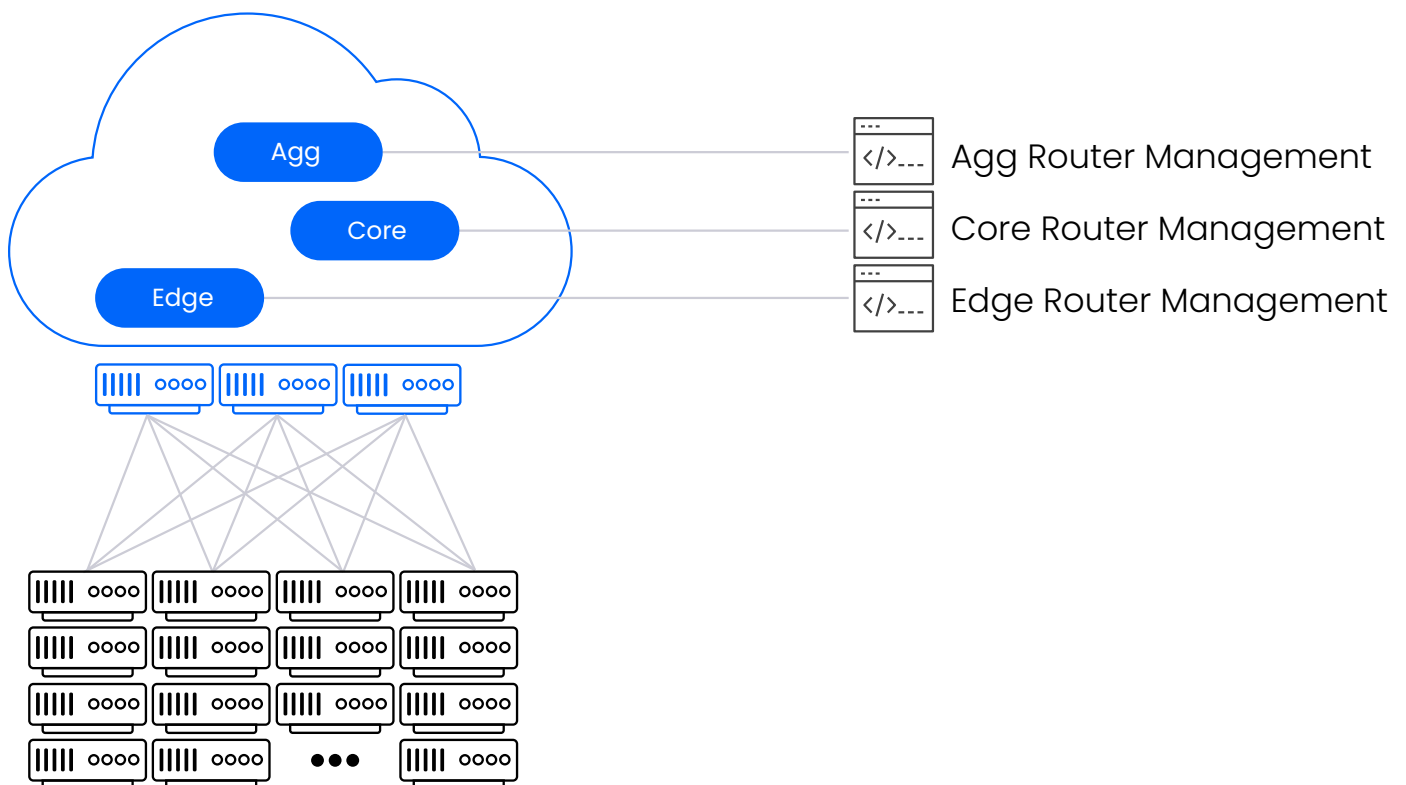
Traditional monolithic routers, on the other hand, require costly and time-consuming processes of planning, scaling and maintenance. The result is usually a forklift upgrade and a brand-new chassis model that replaces the entire system.

03 Built Like a Cloud, Operated Like a Network

Telecommunication networks today are built almost no differently from how they were built thirty years ago. New networking solutions based on distributed disaggregated chassis (DDC) architecture can improve resource utilization and scaling while innovating economic models. Yet some service providers are still reluctant to implement these solutions on a large scale.

One reason for this reluctance is the concern of network operations teams regarding new technologies and their unfamiliar operational processes. After all, any change potentially can impact their main KPI – network availability. To address this issue, service providers are looking for solutions that can provide frictionless operations on top of technological and business promises.

DriveNets Network Cloud offers the required agility with better scale-to-cost balance, while still offering the same familiar network environment. Network Cloud turns simple “off-the-shelf” white boxes into one orchestrated shared resource, over which network functions, like routers, are installed in a container. Therefore, any one of these network functions can be operated directly through a single command-line interface (CLI), just like a classic router.



Build network like clouds - deliver agility with better scale to cost balance

Frictionless operation - a white box cluster behaves exactly like a regular router

04 Any Router, only 2 Types of White Boxes

When using traditional routing solutions, typically 5-20 different types of boxes are used in a network, on top of multiple line cards and other modules. When considering the operational processes of service providers, this is counterproductive.

The use of traditional routers entails a built-in compromise – different network domains require operating and maintaining numerous and completely different routing solutions. In addition, network operators are required to choose between two sub-optimal options. One option is to select devices that are optimized for immediate capacity requirements, but which must be replaced when capacity is exceeded. Another option is to invest in large underpopulated boxes and accept their associated high costs (CAPEX and OPEX), physical limitations, and complicated procurement and spares management. In short, traditional networking solutions are unable to deliver the agility and scaling required by today's networks.

DriveNets Network Cloud, on the other hand, relies on only two standard hardware building blocks (NCP and NCF). These are not restricted to a specific chassis, can be deployed across any network domain, and meet any performance or capacity requirement. Service providers can build and maintain their entire network using only two types of white boxes, resulting in simpler and more cost-efficient planning, procurement, homologation, and spares management.

05 Multi-Vendor, One Owner

One of the perceived disadvantages of disaggregated networking architectures is that receiving technical support can be difficult. A multi-vendor solution (with one or more vendors for software, and one or more vendors for hardware) may lead to a "blame game" between vendors regarding a root-cause analysis. No matter what, when vendors start blaming each other it can become extremely difficult to solve the issue at hand.

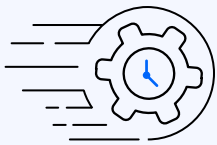
DriveNets can offer any responsibility model required by the service provider. DriveNets can take end-to-end responsibility for the solution, with any issue (software or hardware) subject to DriveNets' SLA. If required/requested by the service provider, DriveNets can offer a shared responsibility model where the service provider leads hardware-related issues. With DriveNets, service providers can benefit from the multi-vendor model while eliminating their responsibility concerns.

DriveNets Network Cloud Improves the Operational Experience

After the dust settles following a marketing announcement about a great innovation, operations teams are the ones left to deal with any technical difficulties. Hence, a successful new technology must deliver superior network operations on top of its innovative and enhanced capabilities.

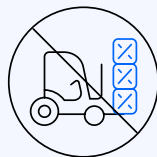
In addition to offering better, more flexible, and more cost-effective network architectures, DriveNets Network Cloud greatly improves the operational experience for service providers.

Higher Availability, Faster Recovery



Inherent redundancy and on-the-spot fix

No Forklift Upgrading



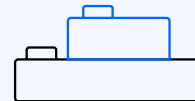
Scaling one white box at a time vs. forklifting a large monolithic chassis

Built Like a Cloud, Operated Like a Network



Familiar network operation with improved agility and scale-to-cost balance

2 Types of White Boxes Any Function



Building any network function using only 2 types of standard white boxes

Multi-Vendor, One owner



Flexible responsibility model

DRIVENETS

About DriveNets

DriveNets is a leader in cloud-native networking software and network disaggregation solutions. Founded in 2015 and based in Israel, DriveNets offers service providers and cloud providers a radical new way to build networks, substantially growing their profitability by changing their technological and economic models. DriveNets' solution – Network Cloud – adapts the architectural model of cloud to telco-grade networking. Network Cloud is a cloud-native software that runs over a shared physical infrastructure of standard white-boxes, radically simplifying the network's operations, offering telco-scale performance and elasticity at a much lower cost.

For more information, visit us at www.drivenets.com