

5 Reasons Why EfficientIP DDI is Better

Evolving networks and acceleration of strategic IT initiatives have caused IT infrastructure to become incredibly complex to manage and to secure. The consequences of this are important – inaccurate configurations, slow service rollout, loss of control, weaker security, reduced resilience, and siloed incorrect data.

DDI (DNS-DHCP-IPAM) plays a big part in helping mitigate these risks, as it is foundational for managing apps and networks - DNS routes users to their apps - DHCP enables devices to connect to networks - IPAM consolidates IP data into a central repository & manages the IP Address plan.

But not all DDI solutions are equal.

Issues Encountered By Organizations Who Have Implemented a DDI From Other Vendors

- complex administration and siloed management of appliances and configurations
- difficulty coping with a mishmash of too many function-specific appliances
- DDI licensing costs spiraling out of control
- upgrades always being a big headache
- forced hardware refreshes breaking IT budgets
- IPAM solution having a limited level of flexibility

EfficientIP offers you a better possibility with our SOLIDserver DDI, which improves efficiency, lowers costs and reduces risks. More than 1000 customers worldwide have chosen SOLIDserver DDI over others due to it having: simpler, more scalable architecture, greater flexibility (for customization etc), wider range of policy enforcement, more efficient DNS security, and proven, more cost-effective TCO.

Seamless, Risk-free Migration to EfficientIP DDI

EfficientIP has the expertise, the experience, and the technology to help businesses transition smoothly. There's no need to change your current way of working. We just make things more simple for you. We've performed numerous successful migrations and deployments for customers worldwide, and are ready to design, migrate, test, implement and deploy your new and improved DDI solution.

EfficientIP's customer-driven culture ensures we understand your business objectives and are committed to making your move easy and error-free.

Customer Testimonials

“We needed a solution that could support all of our facilities together, on Linux, onsite. Our current solution was also becoming far too expensive to maintain.”

Daniel Erlendson, IT Manager – NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

“The easy option would have been to carry on with Infoblox, but financially, it made sense to go with EfficientIP. Their DDI solution was three times less expensive and more feature-rich.”

Justin Michell, Network Engineer – MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY

“Business needs were 100% covered by EfficientIP [...] 99.999% uptime of the DHCP service [...] easily manageable via intuitive GUI and API-calls.”

Koen VAN CAUWENBERGHE, Solution Engineer – PROXIMUS

5 Reasons to Choose SOLIDserver DDI

Moving to EfficientIP's leading integrated DDI solution will future-proof your infrastructure by bringing:

1 Lower TCO by simplifying your architecture, with all-in-one server

The SOLIDserver software architecture offers a single software that can run any service depending on the appliance configuration, managed centrally. Specialized versions of the server are only necessary for optimization purposes (Blast appliance for very high DNS performances). A single software is easier to maintain, proposes a better coherence between the modules and rich links between objects. By simplifying the architecture with fewer appliances, TCO is reduced from acquisition time up to the end of life of the installation, since management will be easier and software upgrades simple to perform.

Managed from any cloud or on a physical appliance in the datacenter, the software can easily fit multiple topologies with dedicated or mixed service appliances. Light versions of the service engines (DNS and DHCP) can be embedded into small Linux systems or containers for edge services, or used for small offices with virtualization capacities while maintaining the same level of integration and central management capacities.

3 Comprehensive functionality such as DNS Firewall, IPAM Cloud Sync and reporting built into core product

For optimal running of a DDI solution, SOLIDserver integrates all that's required from a service standpoint. Automation between IPAM and the core network services, enhanced object hierarchy with VLAN, VRF, devices, applications, identities and a ready-to-use rich set of services. DNS service is provided with the ability to run the firewall function, with either internal RPZ feed built on-premise or through subscription to any external DNS feed available on the market.

The IPAM offers by default more than just the IP address plan, with VLAN and VRF, but more importantly with the ability to synchronize IPAM data from cloud providers like AWS or Azure. This provides visibility across all the networking resources deployed as well as control over the IP address plan. And as data is so important now for management and control, the reporting engine is embedded in the manager of the SOLIDserver itself. It automatically collects any relevant metric or information from all appliances in order to present valuable information to administrators. When this information needs to be integrated into a more global analytics solution, the service data can be made available through standard procedures.

2 Simplified management of DDI resources with intuitive and consistent GUI across all products

The architecture of the SOLIDserver DDI solution is simplified by having just a single software to deploy, which also has the additional capability to pilot an overlay core service layer based on Microsoft and Linux systems. All these functions are managed through a single operation appliance and a comprehensive GUI providing visibility and control over all the modules and services. From appliance configuration, user management to DNS and DHCP service management, everything is performed through a standard interface with rich links between modules and objects. Through its IPAM centric view, the SOLIDserver displays DNS zones, records, DHCP scopes and VLAN information easing the navigation and search of information, even when millions of entries are managed from a central administration point.

Through our SmartArchitecture it is possible to simply administer complex topologies of DNS or DHCP services without complex configuration design and setup. This simplifies management by providing an abstraction layer between the core network service and the appliances or servers used to run it, saving tremendous amounts of time and effort for server replacement or topology evolution.

4 Flexible IPAM with actionable metadata for advanced automation (policy enforcement)

IPAM data consolidates IP and related information which is valuable but not related to any other repository or business information. The role of metadata that can be associated to any data within the SOLIDserver IPAM is to extend the data model towards new directions. Metadata are typed in order to avoid mistakes and allow surface control (e.g. an IP address is not a simple string), and can be utilized within the web GUI forms and templates.

More importantly, all the metadata enhancing internal objects are actionable, they can be queried through the API, within the automation process and in the GUI. As a simple example, an IP subnet can carry metadata regarding security zoning for the firewalls to add it in the proper zone or filtering rule, and can carry a business unit identifier for cross billing the usage of the associated IP addresses. Any corporate policy impacting the IP network, applications or devices can be stored within some metadata in the IPAM playing its central role of «source of truth» for the rest of the IT ecosystem.

5 Extensible APIs for smooth IT ecosystem integration

APIs are at the core of IT automation and infrastructure-as-code initiatives. SOLIDserver is built natively around API and everything is orchestrated around the API. The user interface uses these extensively to perform any user action, similar to what any scripting or coded external playbook can do. No restriction exists at the API level and all services are covered for easy and complete integration.

Administration usages can scale from full user interface on the web GUI to full headless usage through API, most commonly both GUI and API are used at the same time. In addition to the northbound API, triggered events from user interactions can be pushed via websockets and enterprise service bus messages for easy integration to the IT ecosystem.

Key Takeaways

EfficientIP offers a simple way to free yourself from the complexity and cost of your current DDI solution, so there's no reason to hesitate. Here's why:

- **SOLIDserver Enhances Your Technology**

Simplify architecture, remove management complexity, increase IPAM flexibility, accelerate design & deployment of services

- **Moving to EfficientIP Will Reduce Your Costs**

No forced refreshes, easy to understand licensing, all-in-one server, built-in API, RPZ & reports

- **Migration is Easy and Risk-Free**

Proven methodology, project-based, not simply "like-for-like", in-house expertise, dozens of migrations already performed from all other solutions



As one of the world's fastest growing DDI vendors, EfficientIP helps organizations drive business efficiency through agile, secure and reliable network infrastructures. Our unified management framework for DNS-DHCP-IPAM (DDI) and network configurations ensures end-to-end visibility, consistency control and advanced automation. Additionally, our unique 360° DNS security solution protects data confidentiality and application access from anywhere at any time. Companies rely on us to help control the risks and reduce the complexity of challenges they face with modern key IT initiatives such as cloud applications, virtualization, and mobility. Institutions across a variety of industries and government sectors worldwide rely on our offerings to assure business continuity, reduce operating costs and increase the management efficiency of their network and security teams. Copyright © 2021 EfficientIP, SAS. All rights reserved. EfficientIP and SOLIDserver logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of EfficientIP SAS. All registered trademarks are property of their respective owners. EfficientIP assumes no responsibility for any inaccuracies in this document or for any obligation to update information in this document.

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