The Case for Monitoring Virtualization Traffic

ARGUMENT

Server virtualization accounts for a **large percentage of compute resources.**

EVIDENCE

In 2015, **75%** of workloads were **virtualized.**[1]

Virtualization is a **high priority** for **many businesses.**

EVIDENCE **80%** consider virtualization **a strategic priority.**[2]

Virtualization powers many **business-critical applications.**

EVIDENCE **2 out of 3 companies** run critical apps on virtual servers.[2]

Monitoring physical links **does not cover all virtualization traffic.**

63% are **not monitoring** their virtual data center.[2] **EVIDENCE**

DISCOVERY

We asked business and IT professionals about their virtualized environment and if they monitor network traffic. **This is what 673 of them told us.**[2]

65 PERCENT
plan to **increase** their virtualization deployments.[2]

51 PERCENT
are **unaware of virtual taps** or unclear what they do.

34 PERCENT
monitor **virtual and physical** environments **differently.**

32 PERCENT
are **concerned they can't effectively monitor** inter-VM traffic.

RULING

Develop a network monitoring strategy that fits your virtualized environment.

ORDER

75 PERCENT
of the traffic in a data center is **east-west traffic** (server to server).[3]

A simple and effective place to start monitoring your east-west traffic is with virtual network taps.

Answer these 3 questions. They will help guide you towards choosing the best visibility strategy for your virtualized environment.

1. **What application traffic do I need to see?**
2. **How much of the traffic do I need to see?**
3. **Will I adversely affect the application if I copy its traffic?**

[1] "Magic Quadrant for x86 Server Virtualization Infrastructure", ID:G00268538, Gartner, July 14, 2015.
[2] "The State of Virtualization for Visibility Architectures," Ixia survey report, March 2015.
[3] "Cisco Global Cloud Index, 2015" 28 October 2015, Cisco.

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