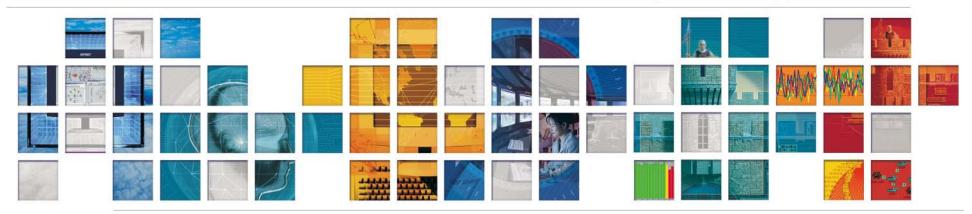


Making Networks and Applications Perform™

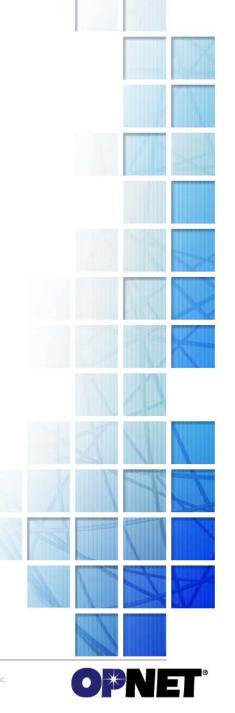


# **Automated IPv6 Readiness Assessment and Migration Planning**

Ashish Zalani, Applications Engineer, OPNET Technologies, Inc.



- OPNET Corporate Overview
- IPv6 Migration Considerations
- Fundamentals of a Sound Migration Strategy
  - Documenting your network
  - -IPv6 Network Readiness Assessment
  - -Automated IPv6 Network Design
  - -Predicting the impact of IPv6 on your network
- Conclusion





## About OPNET Technologies, Inc.®

#### **Corporate Overview**

- Founded in 1986
- Publicly traded (NASDAQ: OPNT)
- HQ in Bethesda, MD
- Approximately 600 employees
- Worldwide presence through direct offices and channel partners

#### **Best-in-Class Solutions and Services**

- Application Performance Management
- Network Engineering, Operations, and Planning
- Network R&D

#### **Strong Financial Track Record**

- Long history of profitability
- Trailing 12-month revenue of over \$120M
- Approximately 25% of revenue re-invested in R&D

#### **Broad Customer Base**

- Corporate Enterprises
- Government Agencies/DoD
- Service Providers
- Network Equipment Manufacturers







## OPNET's Solutions for Network Engineering, Operations, and Planning



- Complementary suite of solutions leveraging a rich behavioral network model, based on operational network data
- Full life-cycle coverage
  - -Pre-deployment and planning
  - -Continuous network engineering
  - -Reliable network operations
- Combined on-line and off-line analytics for:
  - -Network design and optimization
  - Network configuration assurance
  - -Automated network documentation
  - Real-time visualization and situational awareness







## IPv6 Migration Considerations

- Industry analysts: migration to IPv6 is a major network transition that requires considerable planning
- Errors could result in costly network outages, security gaps, and application performance problems
- A few of the questions that need to be addressed prior to migration:
  - -What is in my network today? Which parts need to be upgraded first?
  - -Do existing network devices support IPv6? If not, can they be upgraded?
  - -What migration strategy should be used for addressing, tunneling, etc?
  - -How will existing legacy applications perform over IPv6?
  - -Will network capacity be adequate to support migration to IPv6?
  - -How will operational integrity and network security be ensured during the incremental migration?





# Fundamentals of a Sound Migration Strategy

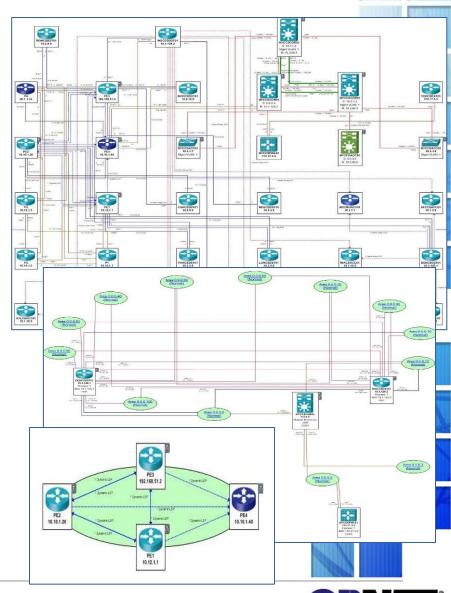
- Incremental migrations are more manageable and minimize risk
  - -Existing network is sub-divided into smaller parts
  - Each part is transitioned separately to minimize risk to overall network
- Migration involves several phases
  - -Document the current state of your network
  - -Assess the "IPv6 readiness" of existing equipment
  - -Upgrade equipment and implement transition mechanisms
  - -Predict the network impact of IPv6
- Network design software accelerates network migration and mitigates associated risks
  - -Software can automatically document the network and validate equipment compatibility quickly and efficiently
  - Automated workflows facilitate network design especially for users who have limited experience with IPv6





## Step 1: Document your Network

- Before making any changes to your network, make sure you understand:
  - -The devices in your network
  - -The physical and logical interconnectivity of devices
  - -How the devices are configured
- OPNET provides:
  - -Automated up-to-date network diagrams
  - -Available in Visio® format
  - -Comprehensive and detailed unified network views
    - Physical layouts
    - Detailed configuration information
    - Logical views: L2/3, VPN, OSPF, BGP, VLANs, etc.
    - Custom annotations







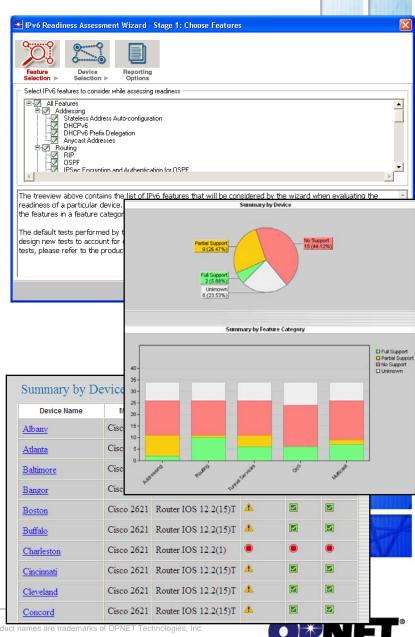
## Step 2: Assess IPv6 Readiness



- What does IPv6 readiness mean?
  - -Software (OS) readiness
    - All features may not be available in all releases
    - E.g. addressing, routing, QoS, multicast, security, etc.
  - -Platform readiness
    - Most vendors support IPv6 on all platforms
  - -Hardware readiness
    - Additional RAM/CPU may be required
    - Additional requirement depends on network size and design

### OPNET provides:

- -Automated rules-based assessment of device capabilities with IPv6 features
- -Comprehensive reports detailing compliant and non-compliant equipment
- -Integrated authoring environment for customizing rules



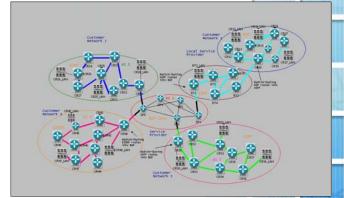


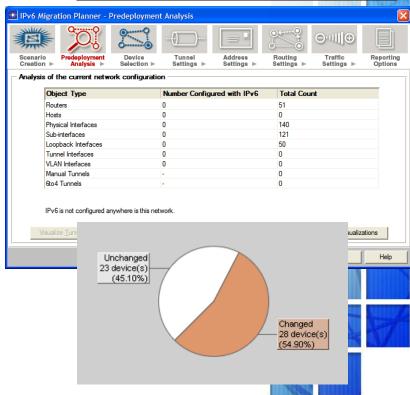
## Step 3: IPv6 Migration Design

- Incremental migration from IPv4 to IPv6
  - -Identify subnets and devices need to be migrated
    - E.g. migrate your core first
  - -Upgrade all non-compliant devices
  - -Identify tunnels that need to be enabled on each subnet
  - -Determine IPv6-compatible routing protocol(s) to be deployed

#### OPNET provides:

- A guided workflow to automatically generate designs that transition existing IPv4 networks to IPv6, supporting multiple transition mechanisms
- -Recommendations on changes required
  - Capacity and configuration changes
  - Equipment enhancements
  - Tunnels and dual-stack devices









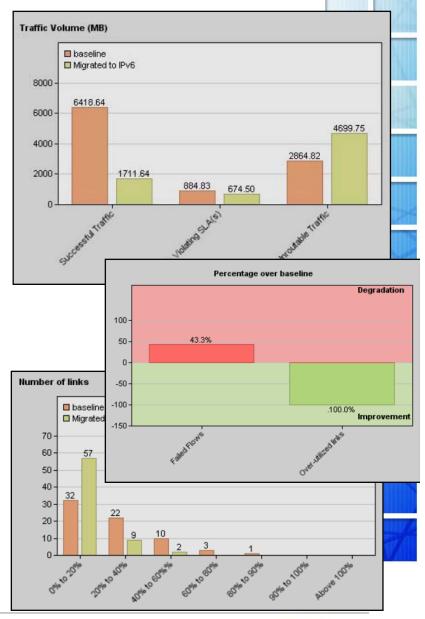
## Step 4: Predict the Impact of IPv6

### IPv6 can impact:

- -Network capacity and performance, due to larger overhead and changes in routing
- -Network security due to changes in addressing and security features
- -Network survivability

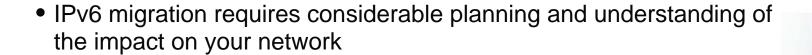
### OPNET provides:

- -What-if analysis to predict the impact on different IPv6 migration scenarios
- -Automated network capacity planning
- -Optimization of routing metrics and QoS to guarantee network performance
- -Auditing of routers, switches, firewalls to identify misconfigurations and security gaps
- -Failure impact analysis
- -Comprehensive before-after reports









- Step by step migration plan
  - Document the current state of your network
  - -Assess the "IPv6 readiness" of existing equipment
  - -Upgrade equipment and implement transition mechanisms
  - -Predict the network impact of IPv6

 OPNET software accelerates network migration and mitigates risk, through automation, guided workflows, and targeted what-if analysis





## Additional Information

- Visit OPNET's website at <a href="www.opnet.com/ipv6">www.opnet.com/ipv6</a>
- Free White Paper available on IPv6 Migration Planning
- Send an email to <u>info@opnet.com</u> for a web demo of our solutions
- Visit our booth later today!

