# Niksun Virtual Appliance®



Correlate flow statistics with other network information (packets, SNMP, etc.)



Obtain a clear understanding of the when, what, who and how of non-compliant network events



Get a unified view of your entire network



The Network Information Portal: A central place to monitor, correlate & analyze distributed networks, applications & services



Send alarms when performance or security thresholds are breached

## Features & Benefits

- Brings the unequalled realtiime analysis and deep forensic power to a virtualized or cloud environment
- Hosted in a virtual server; reduces hardware footprint to support infrastructure scaling
- » Eliminates network blind spots with proactive monitoring of traffic within a virtual server
- Helps generate a unified view of virtual and physical network environments
- Today's best solution for performance and security monitoring of virtualized environments, leading to reduced TCO
- Quick and easy centralized deployment, configuration and control
- » Reduces power consumption leading to increased energy efficiency
- » Runs on VMware ESXi 5.0 and vSphere 5.0 platforms

The benefits associated with virtualization have led to the proliferation of virtual networks and the explosion of cloud computing. Both public clouds that share infrastructure, and private clouds that operate behind a firewall, present new security and performance problems, which have complicated the deployment of otherwise appealing new technologies. Total visibility into the virtual network infrastructure and cloud environments, in terms of availability and performance of virtual applications, is just as critical as insight into the physical network. Security risks are just as real, but more difficult to diagnose.

## Solution

NIKSUN's Virtual Appliances are real-time data capture and analysis devices that reside within a virtual server. They glean insight into the performance and security of the cloud network by recording and analyzing all traffic directed to it, from either virtual or physical segments. Equipped with the uniquely powerful, award-winning NIKSUN technology, these appliances bring the strengths of NIKSUN NetVCR and NetDetector - full packet capture and network performance analysis, and today's most advanced network forensic tool - into virtual and cloud environments. Data from distributed virtual appliances can now be aggregated and viewed on a central NetOmni console, not only for a unified view but also for more effective security and performance management.

# **Reduced Complexity**

Virtual Appliances reduce the cost and complexity associated with adding physical hardware to the existing infrastructure. Out-of-the-box features reduce implementation time and costs so you are up and running fast. The appliances can be deployed across multiple virtual servers and within a private or public cloud for complete monitoring across the virtual infrastructure, providing a total view of the virtual world.

The deployment is a seamless process managed by the NIKSUN Virtual Controller. Users can easily deploy the software-only appliances through a simple point and click process.

# **Proactive Virtual Performance Monitoring**

The Virtual NetVCR continuously monitors virtual application traffic in real-time for proactive discovery of applications and services. Servers host a number of virtual applications within them, which typically communicate with each other. This generates a significant amount of network traffic, which can tax service levels. Highly automated processes with high service level expectations in terms of availability, data protection, and response turnaround are important for mission critical applications - whether you are inside or outside a cloud architecture. Virtual NetVCR quickly analyzes traffic characteristics and patterns within these environments to detect and immediately address any changes that may impact service levels. Performance analysis of virtual traffic is done via loss, latency, service/application response time, goodput, throughput, and other similar metrics.

# **Proactive Virtual Security Monitoring**

Cloud or virtual servers face the same security hazards as physical servers. As traffic between virtual servers or within the cloud is isolated from the physical network, having an Intrusion Detection System residing within those environment is essential to counteract threats. The Virtual NetDetector monitors virtual network traffic for user-defined and threshold-based behaviors, while packets are analyzed and compared to preset signature and anomaly definitions. Incident alerts are linked to all packet information corresponding to an event occurrence. These alarms are available for further forensic investigation through an easy to use GUI that enables you to navigate anywhere with a simple point and click. The NIKSUN Knowledge Warehouse (NKW) stores the indexed packets and provides the necessary data to reconstruct any incident and quickly analyze the traffic within the virtual network.

#### **Unified View of All Network Traffic**

While data from all distributed virtual appliances can be viewed on NIKSUN NetOmni for a complete picture of a virtualized enterprise environment, traffic from deployed appliances can also be pulled into NetOmni to present a unified view of all traffic across the virtual, LAN, WAN and MAN environments. As organizations move towards virtualization, as well as public and private cloud networks, NIKSUN's Virtual Appliances ensure visibility into both the existing physical, virtual, and cloud infrastructure, providing a comprehensive platform that ensures the integrity of all facets of the network.

## **Technical Information**

- » Models: Virtual NetVCR, Virtual NetDetector
- » Available Storage: 1TB
- » VMWare Servers Supported: VMware ESXi 5.0 (requires Cisco Virtual Span Port) and vSphere 5.0



Real-time Traffic Analysis

#### Interested in learning more?

For more information, please visit us online at *niksun.com*.



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