

Performance and Threat Management with Software-Defined Visibility



The Challenge

Network operations and security teams depend on packet-based analysis to optimize and validate acceptable service assurance in IT and data center environments. Ensuring tools have easy access to the right data can require complex deployment planning.

The Solution

The Observer Performance Management Platform can control Gigamon's Visibility and Analytics Fabric™ to collect or drop selected traffic whenever it is determined to be useful, thus ensuring sufficient traffic data is available for full analysis and that deployments are not overwhelmed by unnecessary flows.

Joint Solution Benefits

- Detect network and application anomalies and rapidly pinpoint the source of issues and rogue activity
- Leverage layer 2 and layer 3 insights of enriched flow records to navigate between user to MAC to IP address relationships
- Assess the scope of network problems and triage response based on end-user impact
- Achieve quick resolutions by pinpointing failing application, device, or network components
- Maximize the platform effectiveness through visibility into all traffic, whether physical or virtual
- Maximize platform efficiency by just analyzing the right amount of traffic – automatically controlled by the solution itself

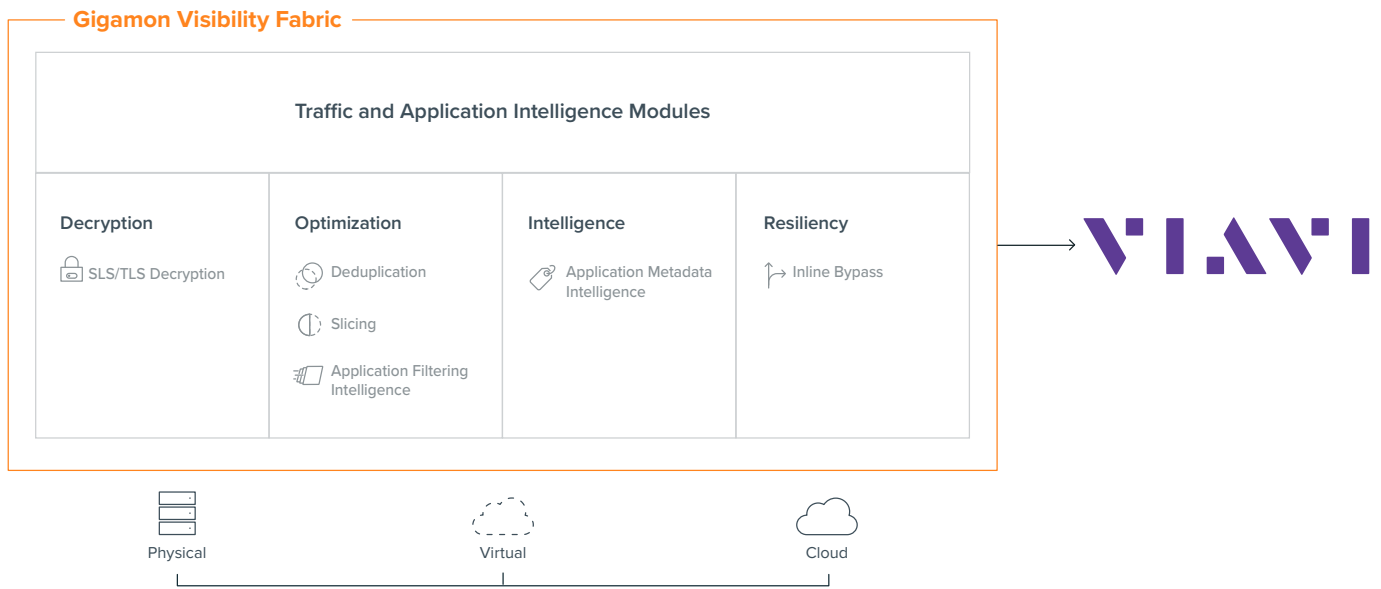
The Gigamon and Viavi Joint Solution

To minimize the 'black holes' created when users roll out or move IT services and resources without the network team's knowledge, the new Observer Platform ties together the provisioning of IT resources with the automatic deployment of monitoring tools via RESTful APIs. By combining packet-based and flow-based analyses, the Observer platform provides SecOps and NetOps teams with comprehensive visibility into their network. With the ability to fully integrate with Gigamon's rich application metadata, this joint solution empowers IT teams to:

- Proactively pinpoint network and application performance problems with patent-pending End-User Experience scoring
- Streamline root cause analysis and reduce MTTR by using Observer's End-User Experience scoring to isolate a problem domain in seconds
- Drill down into interface information, usage patterns, network device types (including SD-WAN forwarders, proxy servers, firewalls and more),
- Navigate between IP, User, and Mac relationships using unique, interactive visualizations
- Deliver monitoring into the deployment of IT initiatives, including cloud or SD-WAN migration
- Easily manage access and share performance data with other business units.
- Quickly assess and optimize user experience with web services.
- Investigate abnormal or malicious network activity in an integrated threat map with capabilities like Traffic Profiling, IP Blacklisting, and SYN Forensics

Deploying the Observer Platform alongside Gigamon's Visibility and Analytics Fabric (VAF) ensures that the platform has access to all the relevant traffic information that it can effectively use. VAF nodes provide easy, efficient access to traffic and Application Metadata from across the entire network, both physical and virtual, while also enabling the easy manipulation and distribution of that data. Packets can be deduplicated, sliced, or masked to hide sensitive data such as personal identifiers or credit card data, before delivery to the Observer Platform.

The traffic is delivered with contextual information about the time and location within the network that it was collected, allowing comparative analysis to be done by the Observer Platform to aid with troubleshooting and determining remediation actions. Through use of the Gigamon REST APIs the Observer Platform can control the wire and flow data it receives, analyzes and retains to maximize the efficiency of the deployment. Dynamic Traffic Management means the Observer Platform can choose to drop irrelevant traffic from the flows it receives to reduce processing overhead or it can request increased traffic information where anomalies are detected and further investigation is required.



For more information on Gigamon and Viavi, visit: www.gigamon.com and www.viavisolutions.com

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