Pluribus NETWORKS

Virtual Netvisor

Highlights

- vNV is a virtual machine running Netvisor ONE
- Offloads resource-intensive services from switches
- Joins fabrics as a node
- Most commonly deploys with UNUM in high-traffic environments
- Deploys with Netvisor fabrics to offload vNet managers

As the Pluribus Networks Adaptive Cloud Fabric™ scales to accommodate more services, such as multi-tenancy and analytics, additional resources can be beneficial. In these cases, centralizing the services in a fabric node with more CPU and memory than a typical network switch provides a powerful and cost-effective means of scaling.

Enter Virtual Netvisor or vNV, a virtual machine running Pluribus Networks' Netvisor® ONE operating system. Once deployed and added to a fabric, vNV enables administrators to offload multiple vNET managers and other services from physical network nodes, freeing up switch resources. Please refer to the **Virtual Netvisor Deployment Guide** on the Pluribus Networks technical support documentation page for more detailed information on vNETs and vNET managers.

Deployment Options and Use Cases

Virtual Netvisor installs on a VMware ESXi server as a virtual machine. Used as a separate fabric node, vNV connects to the fabric through the management network and supports both greenfield and brownfield environments.

Virtual Netvisor typically deploys with UNUM™, Pluribus Networks' fabric management, analytics and automation platform, to move resource consumption from a fabric node known as a seed switch onto the more powerful vNV virtual machine. vNV is especially helpful in environments with high numbers of traffic flows.
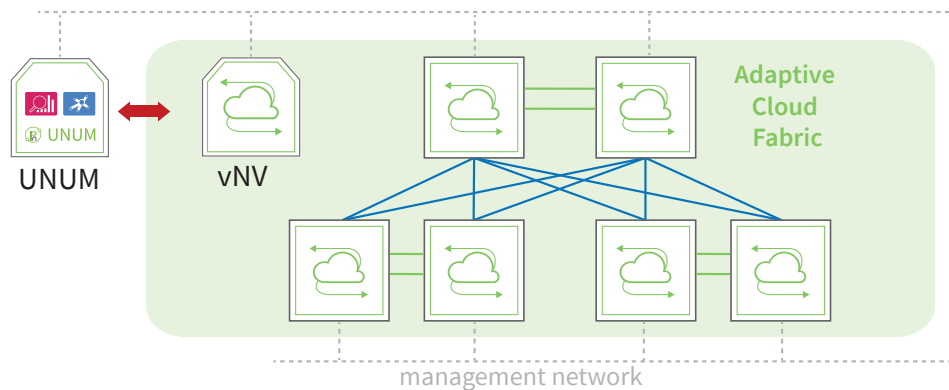

Figure 1: Virtual Netvisor deployed in a six-switch, leaf-and-spine fabric with UNUM

Virtual Netvisor also deploys without UNUM as a means of offloading the vNET management function, supporting more tenants than a fabric deployed solely on physical switches.
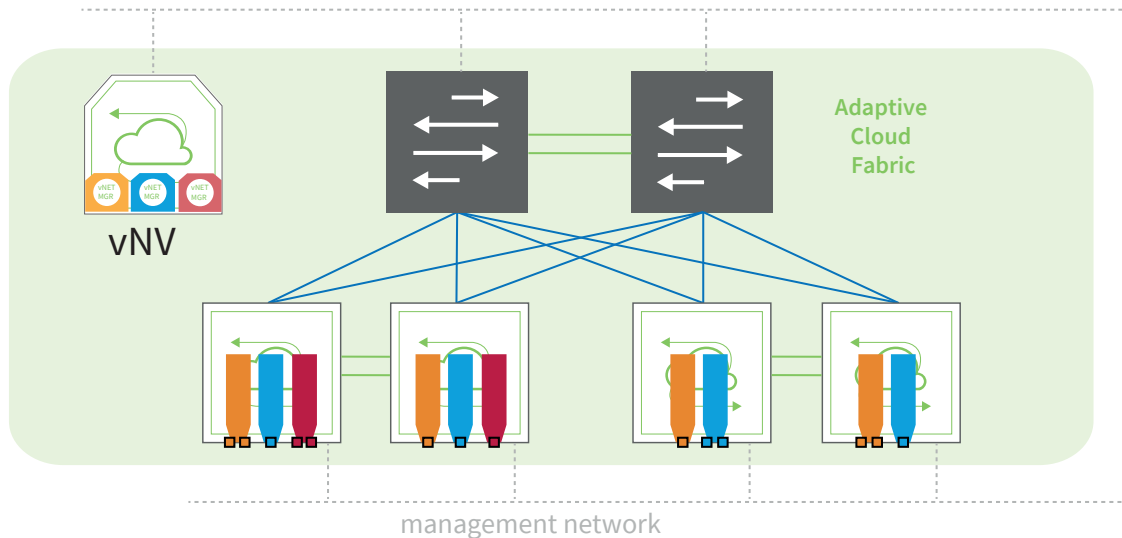

Figure 2: Pluribus Adaptive Cloud Fabric with third-party spines and three vNET managers hosted in a Virtual Netvisor instance

Refer to the **Virtual Netvisor Deployment Guide** on the Pluribus Networks technical support documentation page for more detailed information on typical vNV deployments.

Requirements and Prerequisites

VMware ESXi	6.0.x, 6.5.x	
Virtual Machine	Hardware	9+
	Platform	64-bit
	Type	Other 64-bit Linux
	Processor	4 virtual CPUs
	CPU speed	> 2 GHz
	Memory	32 GB
	Storage	80 GB (thin provisioned)
Management Network	In-band or out-of-band	
Network Interfaces	Eth1 – management interface Eth2 – data/in-band interface	
Netvisor ONE-supported versions	Virtual Netvisor releases with each version of Netvisor ONE. For example, Netvisor ONE 5.1.0 would be deployed on the switches in a fabric, along with Virtual Netvisor 5.1.0.	
UNUM-supported versions	When using UNUM in a deployment with vNV, UNUM supports the current and prior release. For example, UNUM 5.1.0 supports Netvisor ONE vNV 5.1.0 and 5.0.0	
Licensing	Virtual Netvisor does not require a separate license. However, each switch in the fabric using vNV requires a PLEX license.	

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