

IPSO vs SPLAT

Free discussion

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By Valeri Loukine, 2009

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A few words about myself

- Dimension Data Switzerland, Senior Security Consultant
- CCMA 0019
- Before that:
  - 8 years with Check Point Israel
  - Last 2 years Check Point PS
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Agenda

- Motivation
- Feature comparison
  - OS foundation
  - CLI & WebUI
  - Backup and recovery procedures
  - Routing
  - Clustering
  - Performance
  - Product supported
- Summary

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## Motivation

- Check Point:
  - Acquiring Nokia IPSO branch
  - Announcing merging appliance model lines in the future
- Nokia appliances are quite popular on the field
- Some issues with IPSO releases during the last several years

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## Future is unclear

- We need to see what is to come

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## Making our mind

- What is good in Nokia
- What we like in SPLAT
- How we want to see the future IPSO/SPLAT hybrid OS

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# COMPARING IPSO AND SPLAT

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## OS details - IPSO

- BSD-based
- Only Nokia appliances are supported
- Different versions for different appliances
- bash and/or tcsh are not standard interfaces
- No direct dependence on CP products and versions

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## OS details - SPLAT

- Linux RH based
- Wide range of platforms supported
- cpshell is default prompt
- bash is available in expert mode
- Directly related to CP product and its version

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## WebUI - IPSO

- Full range configuration and monitoring
- Backup and restore
- Packages management

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## WebUI - SPLAT

- No HW monitoring, most of OS parameters controlled
- Backup and restore
- Limited CP features management
- CP product upgrades

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## Password recovery

- IPSO – built in feature of Bootmgr
- SPLAT – a bit more complex
  - Admin password
  - Expert password
  - Both passwords

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## Backup/Restore

- IPSO – built in backup and restore, ftp, tftp
- SPLAT – several options:
  - Backup/restore
  - Snapshot/Revert
  - Can be made remotely

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## Static routes

- Both: WebUI and CLI options
- SPLAT - less user friendly (IMO)

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## Dynamic routing

- IPSO
  - native support
  - perfect implementation
- SPLAT
  - Has to be PRO flavour
  - gated/drouter,
  - known problems

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## Multicast routing

- IPSO
  - Native support
- SPLAT
  - PIM with gated

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## Clustering

- IPSO
  - VRRP
    - Standard
    - No FW monitoring by default
    - Extensive configurations
    - Slow with default configurations
- SPLAT
  - ClusterXL
    - Fast
    - Easily configured
    - FW is monitored by default
    - Multiple clusters issue – manual resolution

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## FW Acceleration

- IPSO
  - Nokia flows – API to SecureXL
  - HW or SW
  - Multicast acceleration
- SPLAT
  - SecureXL
  - SW (mostly)
  - Multicast is not accelerated

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## Appliance performance

- Share your opinion

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## Check Point products supported

- IPSO
  - VPN-1
  - limited UTM features
  - no decent VSX version
- SPLAT – full portfolio

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## What did we miss?

- Your ideas and opinions

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Summary

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- Should we vote? ☺

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Thank you for your time!

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