DATA SHEET

Plixer Network Intelligence

NetOps automation

- Dynamically predict capacity needs
- Harness ML to monitor massive data volumes
- Supplement staff resources through automation

Data sharing

- Quantify NetOps value in securing the business
- Enhance NetOps and SecOps collaboration
- Speed up network & security incident time-to-resolution

Data streaming

- Stream to external data lakes in real time
- Extract business intelligence from network metadata
- Extend value and ROI of existing network infrastructure

ServiceNow integration

- Streamline trouble ticket creation workflows
- Improve NetOps and SecOps collaboration
- Eliminate duplicative investigation efforts

For over 20 years, Plixer has been at the forefront of collecting, visualizing, and reporting on metadata generated from every conversation that crosses the network, from the end user all the way into the cloud. Unlike competing solutions that require the implementation of expensive and proprietary appliances, Plixer's implementation collects content-rich metadata that is exported directly from the existing infrastructure (switches, routers, firewalls, packet brokers, etc.). This differentiated approach is frictionless. It eases implementation, reduces complexity, and improves ROI. Plixer provides the NetOps teams with the data and insight needed to ensure positive and safe user experiences.

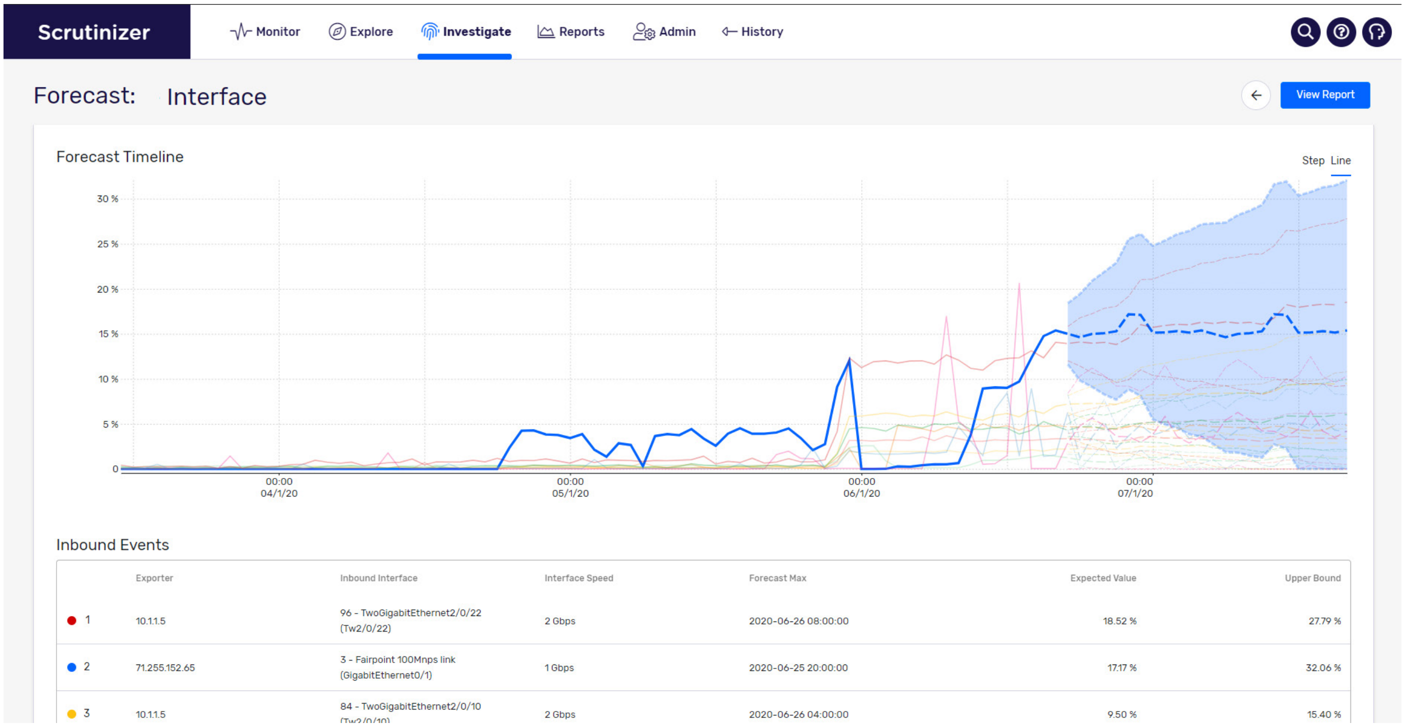
Through the addition of Plixer Network Intelligence, powered by advanced machine learning (ML), network teams can precisely predict future network capacity requirements. In addition, network operation functions get automated, investigative workflows are improved, data is automatically shared with SecOps, network traffic data is exported to external data lakes, and workflows seamlessly integrate with ServiceNow.

Automation and predictive capacity planning

Plixer Network Intelligence harnesses the power of ML to augment NetOps staff capabilities. It applies ML algorithms that have been specifically tuned to network assets (switches, routers, firewalls, etc.), rather than end devices.

Plixer Scrutinizer securely streams real-time metadata to Plixer Network Intelligence so that it can dynamically monitor, baseline, and predict network and WAN utilization, as well as proactively calculate capacity requirements before service degradation occurs.

Due to the high cost of adding new infrastructure and the associated downtime that comes with capacity upgrades, organizations have traditionally been forced into reactive approaches. Lacking empirical data to back up the ROI of an infrastructure upgrade request,



Forecast: Interface

Forecast Timeline

Inbound Events

	Exporter	Inbound Interface	Interface Speed	Forecast Max	Expected Value	Upper Bound
🔴 1	10.1.1.5	96 - TwoGigabitEthernet2/0/22 (Tw2/0/22)	2 Gbps	2020-06-26 08:00:00	18.52 %	27.79 %
🔵 2	71.255.152.65	3 - Fairpoint 100Mnps link (GigabitEthernet0/1)	1 Gbps	2020-06-25 20:00:00	17.17 %	32.06 %
🟡 3	10.1.1.5	84 - TwoGigabitEthernet2/0/10 (Tw2/0/10)	2 Gbps	2020-06-26 04:00:00	9.50 %	15.40 %

Plixer Network Intelligence allows organizations to visualize LAN/WAN utilization from both a historical and future-looking perspective. Applying ML to utilization data trends automates the process of capacity planning and provides the empirical proof needed to justify capacity upgrades.

it has been exceedingly difficult for NetOps to gain CFO buy-in. ROI for capacity upgrades was only obvious after the business suffered quantifiable losses from reduced employee productivity, a rise in customer dissatisfaction, and lower revenues. To make matters worse, long lead times for rectifying capacity problems have resulted in prolonged business losses. Upgrading WAN capacity can take several months from the time that a new circuit is ordered until it goes live. That translates into prolonged inefficiency and productivity loss.

Plixer Network Intelligence solves these problems by applying ML to the metadata coming from every network conversation to proactively analyze and trend capacity utilization. It provides advance notice of capacity requirements and delivers the empirical data needed to obtain C-Level approvals long before users and customers are negatively affected. Plixer Network Intelligence lets organizations get in front of the capacity planning and optimization curve.

Sharing investigative data

Plixer Network Intelligence enhances NetOps and SecOps collaboration with the capacity to collect and share investigative data. As network analysts navigate Plixer Scrutinizer's user interface during an investigation, they can use the collections feature to keep track of where they went and what data they collected. When they need to assign follow-up, they can share that collection data with a colleague. This ensures everyone has access to the same data, eliminates duplicate effort, and speeds up time-to-resolution.

This also provides a mechanism for NetOps to bring tangible value to the security team. The leading indicators of most security breaches and attacks are first seen on the network. Plixer Network Intelligence provides the ability for the network team to identify these early indicators and share that information in real time with the security team. Not only can NetOps notify SecOps, but they can now also share all the event-related information to ensure they are speaking the same language. This eliminates the need for security analysts to duplicate investigative efforts and allows them to identify root cause much faster. Collections take NetOps and SecOps collaboration to an entirely new level.

Real-time data streaming

Many organizations have established centralized data lakes where they consolidate information from all areas of their business. Plixer Network Intelligence allows these organizations to stream network traffic intelligence using Kafka, in real-time, into them. Network teams can configure what data is streamed, and how it is aggregated, to ensure that data scientists can have access to the data they want and extract value. This capability expands the ROI of the existing network infrastructure and allows the network team to further broaden value to the business.

ServiceNow integration

Plixer Network Intelligence introduces bi-directional integration with ServiceNow, enabling NetOps to streamline the process of trouble ticket creation. In addition, NetOps can share the "collected" network- and end-device-related data that is associated with any incident. This provides context into why the ticket was opened and eliminates the need to duplicate investigative effort. NetOps can now track security-related tickets, allowing them team to demonstrate and quantify their value in keeping the business safe.

Plixer Scrutinizer stands out as the market leader in scalable metadata collection, visualization and reporting. When this metadata is streamed to Plixer Network Intelligence, network teams can predict network capacity requirements and automate operations. In addition, investigative workflows are improved, data is shared with SecOps, network traffic data is exported to external data lakes, and workflows seamlessly integrate with ServiceNow.

Plixer Network Intelligence deployment options

The Plixer Network Intelligence product consists of two systems. The core product is deployed on the existing Plixer Scrutinizer instance. The ML (Machine Learning) Engine, which performs the ML processing, is deployed on a separate server.

Machine Learning (ML) engine hardware appliances

Plixer ML engine appliances are rack-mountable servers. Hardware appliance specifications are listed on the following page.

ML engine virtual appliances

The Plixer ML engine virtual appliance is available for deployment on a VMware, Hyper-V, or KVM server.

- The VMware virtual engines are packaged in the .OVA file format (defined by VMware).
- The Hyper-V virtual engines are packaged in the .ZIP file format.
- The KVM virtual engines are packaged in the .TAR.GZ file format.

The virtual appliance minimum system specifications are:

- Network connection; Gigabit Ethernet recommended
- VMware ESXi 5.5 and above, Hyper-V 2012, or KVM 14 and above
- 3.0 GHz Eight Core CPU, minimum
- 40 GB DDR3 RAM, minimum
- 200 GB SATA drive, minimum

Hardware appliance specifications

	ML engine
Chassis configuration	2U chassis
Storage	3.6 TB capacity
Networking	QP 1 Gb Network Daughter Card (10 Gb available as an option)
Power	Dual, hot plug, redundant power supply (1+1), 750W
Power cords	NEMA 5-15P to C13 wall plug, 125 volt, 15 amp, 10 ft (3m), power cord, North America
Weight	72 lbs (32.65 kg)
Dimensions	26.92" x 17.49" x 3.44" (68.40cm x 44.40cm x 8.73cm)
Hardware warranty	5 years
Rails	Sliding ReadyRails with cable management arm
Heat dissipation	2891 BTU/hr

Plixer Network Intelligence purchasing options

Plixer Network Intelligence is an add-on product to Plixer Scrutinizer and can be purchased as a subscription license or Software-as-a-Service (SaaS).

Both the subscription and SaaS licensing have an ongoing Customer Service Contract as part of the terms of your subscription or SaaS license.

Subscription license

Subscription licensing is an option that allows the purchase of Plixer Network Intelligence in annual contracts. Users are free to use the software as long as they maintain a contract with Plixer and have a licensed Plixer Scrutinizer deployed. Product updates and customer support are included as part of the subscription. Hardware and virtual installations can be on-premise or within a customer's instance of private cloud/public cloud.

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS)

The SaaS option of Plixer Network Intelligence allows users to leverage Plixer's cloud infrastructure to analyze data collected in the cloud-based Plixer Scrutinizer instance. Plixer maintains the server and automatically upgrades users to the latest version of the software. Users may continue to collect and report on their flow data as long as they maintain a contract with Plixer.

Ordering information

Ordering subscription licenses of Plixer Network Intelligence software is based on the number of flow-exporting devices. Multiple license tiers are available. License cost is determined by the number of metadata exporters. Customized license options are available upon request.

ML Engine virtual appliances are included in the Plixer Network Intelligence license. Plixer can provide hardware for these virtual appliances at additional cost; the number of ML Engines (servers) required will vary based on details of your environment.