iNetLTE.

Leading private LTE 4G/5G communications provider in the US simplifies and improves edge connectivity for remote industrial customers.







Key Points

- Offers faster, more efficient cloud connectivity as part of the Company's remote connectivity managed services offering to oil and gas companies.
- Improves security by using private connectivity to reduce exposure of sensitive customer field data to the public internet.
- Shortens time to service for customers from 30-90 days to minutes.
- Reduces carbon footprint of customers by enabling them to manage connectivity at remote sites in a point-and-click manner.

Case Study Snapshot

As the largest private LTE communications provider in the US serving remote industrial companies such as Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, and Schlumberger, Infrastructure Networks (iNet) sought a cloud connectivity solution that would simplify and improve connectivity for their customers. With a growing number of customers using the Company's remote connectivity managed services, iNet turned to Megaport to provide the most efficient, streamlined, and secure way for iNet's customers to connect to major cloud providers.

About Infrastructure Networks

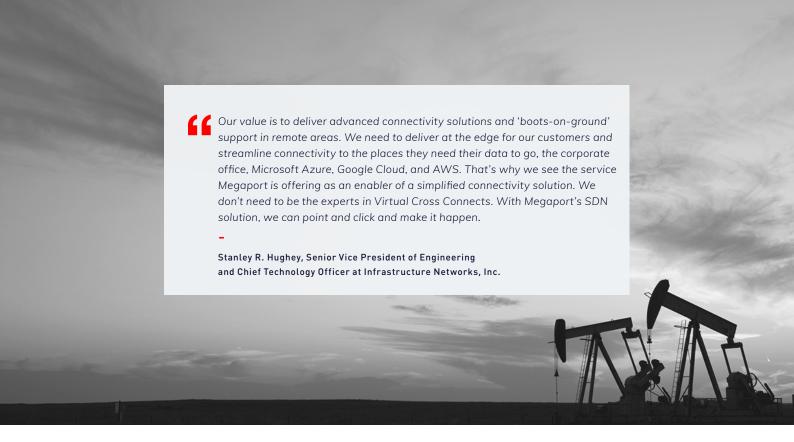
iNet was founded in 2011 with a mission to bring broadband wireless connectivity to upstream oil and gas operators in remote, rugged environments. Over the years, the Company has expanded its network coverage to over 130,000+ miles in the Permian, Bakken, Eagle Ford, and Scoop/Stack shale basins. The Company delivers services across a variety of remote industries and is focused on delivering a level of reliability, availability, security, and throughput previously available only in corporate data centers and large downstream, highly automated facilities.

Challenge:

Seeking smarter, faster connectivity

Over the past several years, an increasing number of iNet's customers, particularly in the energy industry, used the Company's managed services offering for bundled remote connectivity--phone, broadband wireless network, and related applications. While some of iNet's customers just wanted internet access or broadband wireless connectivity from iNet's private, purpose-built 4G/5G LTE network, many customers also wanted their services tied back into their enterprise network.

"To date we've been hosting VPN appliances at the edge," said Stanley Hughey, Senior Vice President of Engineering and Chief Technology Officer at Infrastructure Networks. "We've also been hosting routers via dedicated leased circuits back to our Dallas, Texas data center. Customers have had the option of establishing a physical presence in our facility with direct peering connections to their own infrastructure or third parties. That was our focus with Megaport: the idea of a lot of customer equipment in racks hosted in our facility seemed obsolete and inefficient. We ask ourselves, 'How can we do this smarter?'. We saw the ability to use Virtual Cross Connects as a meaningful way to help customers connect faster at a lower cost."



Solution

By using Megaport's Virtual Cross Connects (VXCs), iNet can provide private, flexible, and on-demand connections between any of the locations on the Megaport network in a point-and-click manner. Not only can iNet's customers connect directly to cloud service providers such as AWS, Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud, they can also connect from the cloud back to their on-premises infrastructure or to their leased data center Points of Presence (PoPs) or from data center to data center.

Cutting down on time to service

The advantage of Megaport's global, on-demand Software Defined Network (SDN) was clear to Hughey. "Our network architect no longer needs to coordinate customer equipment installations in our facility," he said. "It's about connecting customers into our private LTE network. That's where the push is: give our customers the ability to connect to the cloud or back to their enterprise much more efficiently and in a streamlined way."

Hughey said that Megaport's connectivity will significantly cut down on time to service. Rather than ordering a leased line inside a data center and then waiting 30 to 90 days for installation, provisioning can be established in minutes on the Megaport portal.

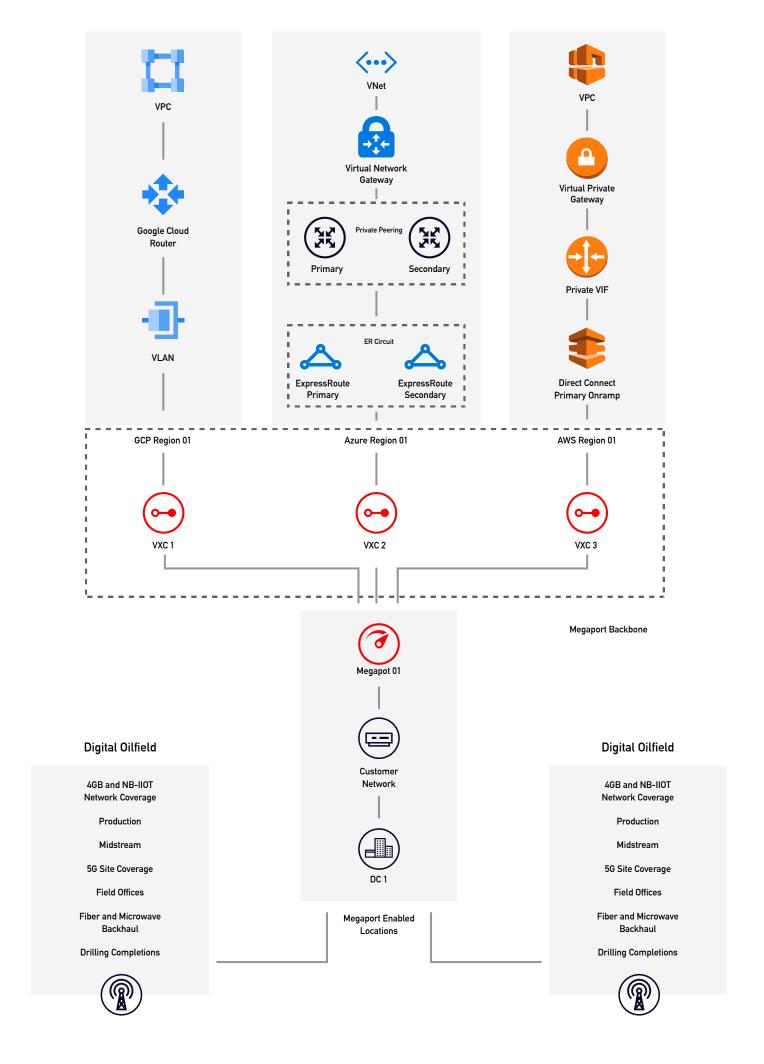
"Our value is to deliver advanced connectivity solutions and 'boots-on-ground' support in remote areas. We need to deliver at the edge for our customer and streamline connectivity to the places they need their data to go, the corporate office, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud, and AWS. That's why we see the service Megaport is offering as an enabler of a simplified connectivity solution. We don't need to be the experts in Virtual Cross Connects. With Megaport's SDN solution, we can point and click and make it happen."

Securing sensitive field data

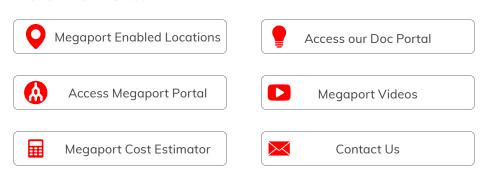
More and more of iNet's customers are hosting sensitive workloads in the cloud, such as data from sensors on production valves or a wind or solar farm. Exposing those sensors over the internet creates a variety of cybersecurity risks such as hacks, malware, and BGP route hijacks. Megaport's private, dedicated cloud connectivity significantly reduces those risks, and allows iNet's customers to keep this sensitive data secure in transit to the cloud.

Connecting the remote edge

For managed edge services at remote sites, iNet is evaluating the use of its private LTE network for more redundant backhaul compared to long-haul fiber. iNet is currently evaluating Megaport's new on-demand Network Function Virtualization (NFV) service, Megaport Virtual Edge (MVE).



More information



With thanks to



Reimagine connectivity.

Megaport is a leading provider of Network as a Service (NaaS) solutions. The company's global Software Defined Network (SDN) helps businesses rapidly connect their network to other services via an easy-to-use portal or our open API. Megaport's network offers greater agility, reduced operating costs, and increased speed to market compared to traditional networking solutions. Megaport partners with the world's top cloud service providers, including AWS, Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud, as well as the largest data center operators, systems integrators and managed service providers in the world. Megaport is an ISO/IEC 27001-certified company.



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