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Netshield SA announces Data Centre in a Box now 100% IoT enabled

Netshield South Africa is pleased to announce that as a result of the finalisation of its recent developments to its Data Centre in a Box (DCiB), the self-contained cabinets (SCC) are now 100% IoT and cloud-enabled.

This recent development enables customers to not only take advantage of the SNMP functionality already inherent in the cabinets, but also full AMQP and MQTT capabilities too. In a nutshell, the addition of both protocols into the SCCs enables customers to ensure that their cabinets can easily communicate with, or link into, any cloud or IoT-enabled service. An example of which would be full integration with public cloud services such as the likes of Azure and even AWS.

“By expanding the protocols on the cabinets, customers can now seamlessly deploy their SCC for a multi- or single tenant environment,” states Inus Dreckmeyr, CEO at Netshield South Africa. “Furthermore, we have also upgraded our current dashboard to ensure that it is easier to use, and is BI future ready.”

One of the key benefits of the upgrade, is that a customer can now view multiple installations of the SCCs in their environment through a single pane of glass. This will allow a customer to make quantified decisions on environmental factors, such as heating, cooling, moisture etc., affecting each individual installation and then compare the results of each cabinet in order to define the best environmental conditions for them.

According to Dreckmeyr, if for example certain cabinets are experiencing consistently high temperatures where they are deployed, or there are several failures on the UPSs, they can then draw comparisons between multiple installations and use the data to evaluate downtime and take corrective action to fix the problems.

Features of the Netshield DCiB SCCs:

- IP54 rated Data Centre in a Box (DCIB) – is a completely self-contained, standalone server room that can be wheeled in and deployed within minutes
- It comes equipped with access control keypad, electronic locking, central SNMP, AMQP and MQTT management
- The device can be controlled through a dashboard from which you can, monitor temperature, flooding detection, leverage an application specific air conditioner and UPS, optional humidity monitor, smoke and fire detectors and extinguishers.
- It is a complete movable asset for a company.

“With the added intelligence in the cabinet, IT can now better manage their service level agreements, both internally as well as with third party suppliers or systems integrators, using the data collected. Furthermore, reseller and service providers onselling or deploying the SCCs can now either sell a complete unit and put it onsite at a customer, or place them in their own datacentre and then sell the Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS). This then opens the door to improved financing options for service providers, and more flexible return on investment for end-user customers,” adds Dreckmeyr.

The SCCs can still be managed within a private network, but now due to the new features, can also connect to the cloud and therefore be remotely managed through the dashboard in either a public or hybrid cloud environment.

Applications may include multiple branch offices, buildings with multiple floors who do not want to shoulder the expense of building a full datacentre per floor to support communications distribution on each floor. According to Dreckmeyr the application of the cabinets is highly scalable as they can be cascaded up to 16 SCCs. (2 x 8 cold isle configuration).

“Looking ahead, with the new features, our partners can now use the cabinets not just to manage their networking environment (as an example), but also to insert or attach blades that host a cloud service. An example of which would be Azure services, this gives customers the ability to now offer not only the physical infrastructure (IaaS), but Platform as a Service (PaaS) too.”

“With a cloud-enabled SCC, a customer can now proactively respond to a customer, use nominal bandwidth to manage the environment and still deliver the highest payload possible. Simply, it is the perfect extension of an infrastructure environment for customers looking to scale to the cloud, but afraid of the exorbitant costs of building their own data centre,” ends Dreckmeyr.