



SYSTEMS INTEGRATION HIGH AVAILABILITY MANAGED SERVICES IT STAFFING

Case Study

Dual-Vendor MPLS WAN Redesign

Challenge:

Replace existing single-vendor MPLS implementation with a dual-vendor, fully redundant, regionalized MPLS WAN solution.

Issues facing previous solution:

- Single vendor – single support
- Many single points of failure
- No QoS support on the WAN
- Single, worldwide WAN route table made regional routes impossible
- Carrier controlled edge routers and configuration

Benefits of Blackbriar's solution:

- RFP Process ensured vendors involved met all criteria
- Fully redundant network
- Client was able to control their routing between the carriers
- QoS Native in both carrier networks, allowing voice, video, etc.

As the contract term on their original MPLS implementation was coming to a close, our client, a large financial services enterprise with over 150 sites worldwide, kicked off a worldwide infrastructure consolidation and centralization project and was interested in replacing their global WAN with a more redundant, modular, QoS-enabled solution.

Blackbriar Technologies' engineers were awarded the task of not only design and oversight of the implementation of a worldwide solution, but also of driving and consulting on the RFP process used to determine which carriers would be selected for the final rollout.

After meeting with our client's staff and assessing their needs from a traffic flow, application, server infrastructure, and disaster recovery/business continuity standpoint, we were able to present them with a proposed solution that involved using 2 MPLS carriers, with separate "clouds" for each geographical region. This would allow not only redundancy and control of the traffic flow, but also allow for each region to have a separate routing table, something our client was very interested in doing, so that a given region's internet traffic could flow through data centers in that region. Quality of Service would also need to be supported to ensure that the company could implement VoIP and IP Video conferences at a later date.

Blackbriar's Systems Architects then crafted the RFP around the requirements set by the overall design and began the process of determining which carriers would be best suited for the job. After a series of meetings and design discussions, the top two were selected by the client and implementation project plans were then created.