



# Juniper Apstra™

Athanasios Douitsis  
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JUNIPER  
NETWORKS®

Driven by  
Experience™





- Introduction
- Data center networking
  - Datacenter Fabric and Switching
  - VXLAN / EVPN / Clos topologies
- The Apstra Intent Based approach
  - The importance of the intent
  - Closed loop network management
- Demo



AT A  
GLANCE



FOUNDED  
1996



HEADQUARTERED  
Sunnyvale, CA



2021 REVENUE  
\$4.74B

GLOBAL REACH

10,400  
EMPLOYEES



120  
LOCATIONS



50  
COUNTRIES



24/7 AVAILABILITY  
TO ADDRESS ALL CUSTOMER NEEDS

OUR MISSION: Power connections. Empower change. | OUR VISION: Driven by Experience

WE  
SUPPORT



10 out of  
Forbes 10  
COMPANIES  
GLOBALLY



30 out of 30  
WORLD'S  
LARGEST CLOUD  
OPERATORS



30 out of 30  
TOP GLOBAL  
SERVICE  
PROVIDERS



18 of the 20  
MOST PROMINENT  
UNIVERSITIES  
GLOBALLY



18 out of 20  
LARGEST  
GLOBAL  
BANKS



8 out of 10  
TOP  
TECHNOLOGY  
COMPANIES



8 of the 10  
TOP  
GLOBAL  
RETAILERS

All stats based on global industry lists, with material (>\$10K) Juniper SA from 2021

OUR  
STRATEGY



Automated WAN Solutions



Cloud-ready Data Center



AI-driven Enterprise



Connected Security



Experience-first Network

REACHING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS

ENCOURAGING FUTURE INNOVATORS



# Why Apstra was created



## Reliability

Most network outages are caused by human errors



## Choice

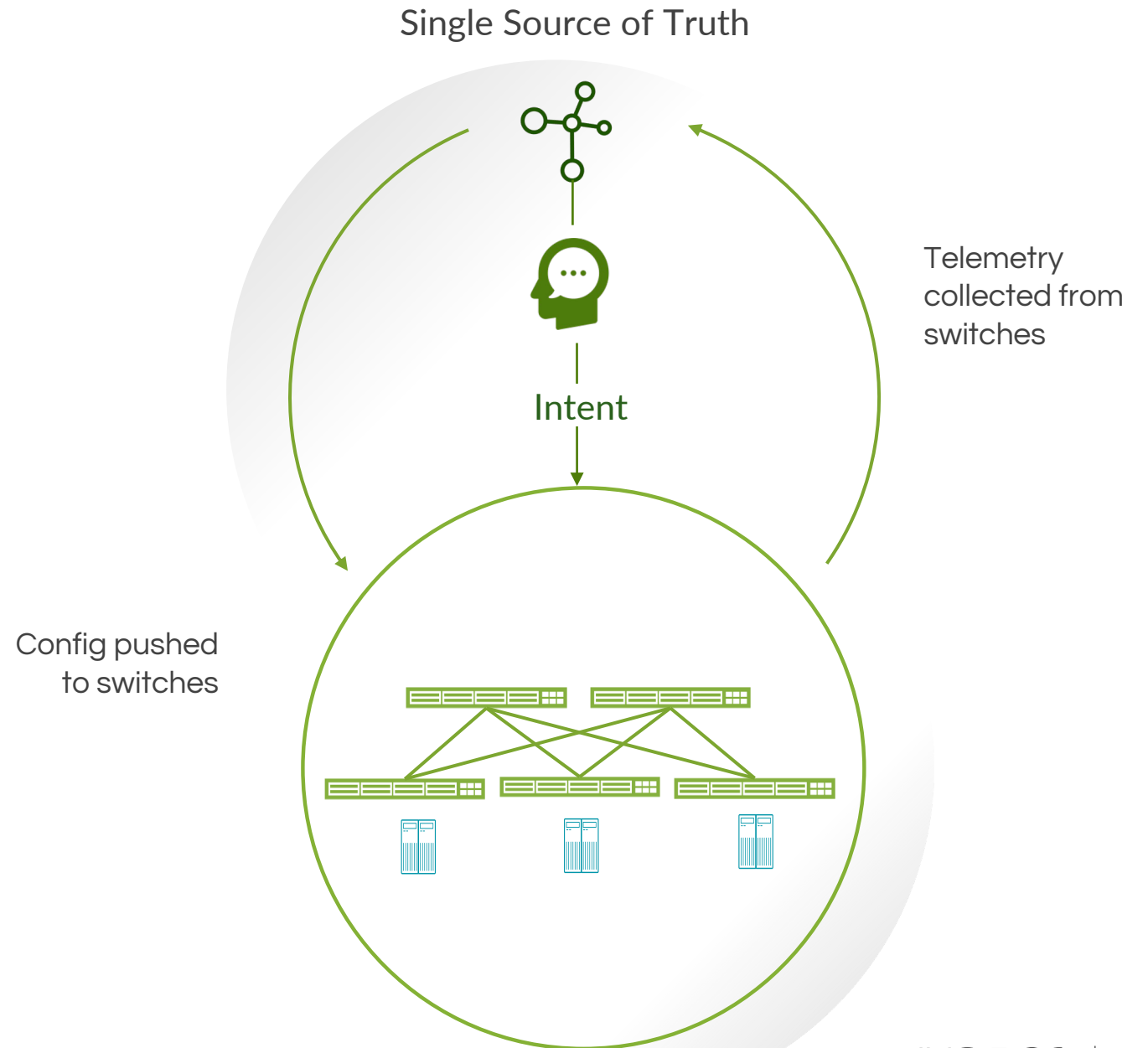
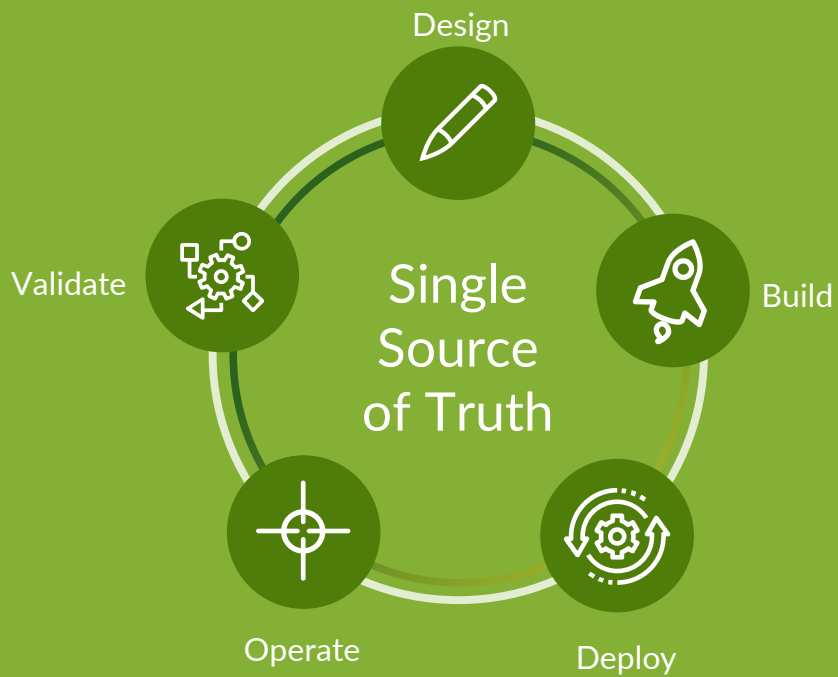
Avoid vendor lock-in



## Scalability

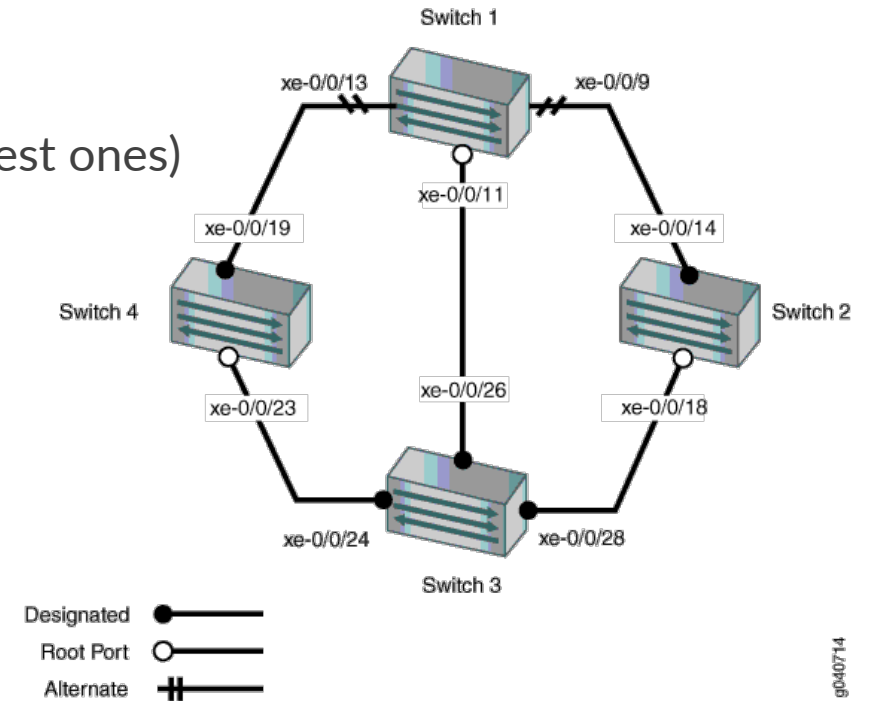
Run your network like the biggest Cloud Service Providers

# Inventors of Intent-Based Networking

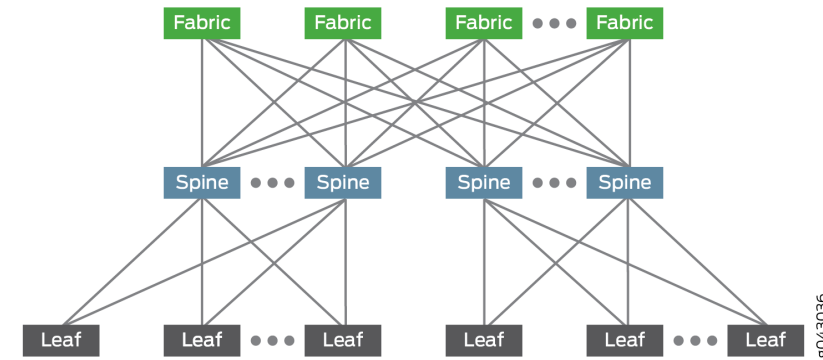
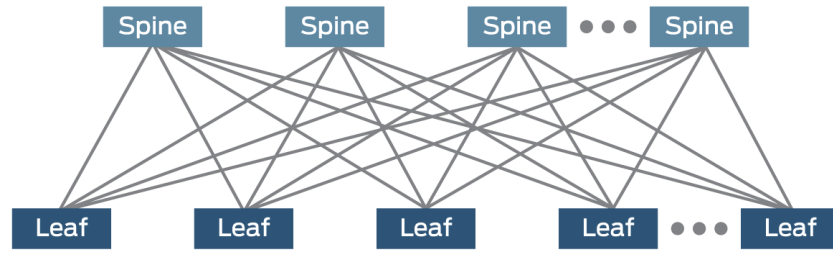


# Problem: Creation of a Datacenter Network

- Need of a switch / router with many hundreds of ports
- Limit to the number of ports of a physical device (even the biggest ones)
  - Physical limitations
  - Geographical limitations (can't cover the entire campus with a single device)
  - Single point of failure limitations
  - Bandwidth limitations
- Usage of many switches connected to each other
  - **Spanning tree** makes active-active balancing hard
  - Changes of topology cause disruptions
  - End host change of port causes short disruptions
- Need for a conceptual fabric emulating a switch, with arbitrarily large bandwidth between any endpoint pair
  - Overlay a fake ethernet fabric over an IP underlay



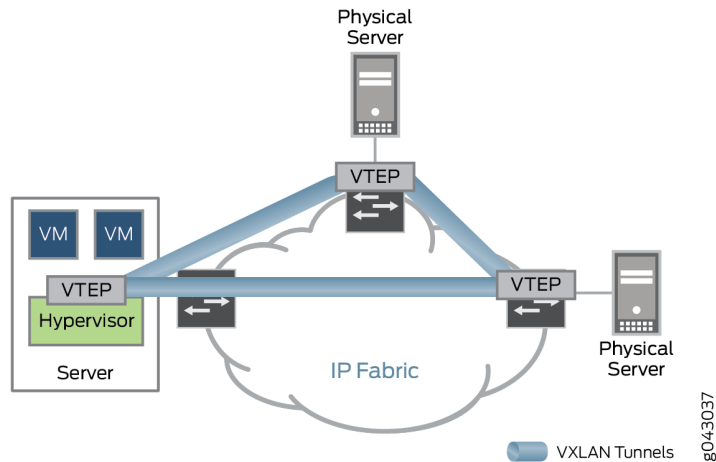
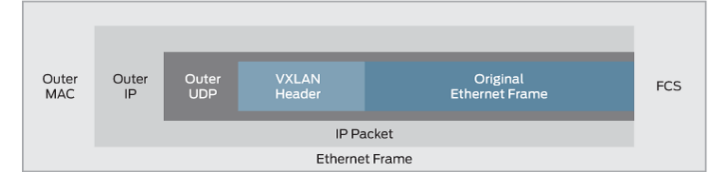
# Underlay: IP-based Clos network (3-stage, 5-stage)





# Overlay: VXLAN for the data plane

- Allows encapsulation of layer-2 (ethernet) packets in UDP
- So it becomes possible to use an already existing IP network as a switch
- Instead of real Ethernet frames between links, now there are UDP packets in the IP links
- Routing and traffic engineering is now possible, load balancing, quick recovery, etc.





# Overlay: BGP EVPN for the fabric control plane

- Switching control plane: 802.1d mac learning, broadcast
- Additionally: ARP / NDP, IPv4 / IPv6 routing
- Use BGP as the protocol to make the control plane communicate
- L2VPN/EVPN BGP address family to emulate the control plane functions (and beyond) of a real switch
- EVPN route types:
  - Type 1: Ethernet segment Identifier
  - Type 2: Mac route or Mac/IP route (includes ARP)
  - Type 3: BUM traffic delivery
  - Type 5: Pure IP routes (to cross between virtual segments)

# Management of a fabric

- A traditional switch is relatively easy to configure and maintain, no serious monitoring necessary (example, a small home)
- A switch topology with VLANs is somewhat tricky to configure, easy to maintain and hard to monitor (example: the NTUA campus)
- An IP based fabric using EVPN / VXLAN is hard to configure, maintain and monitor
- Conclusion: A DC fabric cannot be approached using the same management principles
  - Need for *automation*

# “Traditional” Automation

- Configuration
  - Ansible
  - Chef
  - Puppet
  - SaltStack
  - Perl / Python / Ruby and libraries
- Monitoring and data collection
  - MRTG, Kibana, Grafana,
  - Prometheus
  - InfluxDB

*(apologies for any fine tools and libraries not mentioned here)*

- Problems:
  - Too much focus on how instead of why and what
  - A human is needed as a CPU to parse the provided information – The real state of the network is stored in (one or more) humans
  - Difference between ***syntax*** and ***semantics***
  - The elephant in the room: Need for an operations-centric approach with a single source of truth

# Operations day in the life

## Chapter 1



### New Launch!

Set up of VLANs, VMs, etc. in minutes

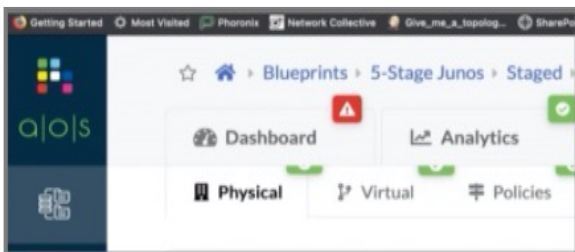
## Chapter 3



### Postponed Launch

All network rollback in less than a minute

## Chapter 2



### Corrupted Config

Quick visibility to root cause in intuitive dashboard

## Chapter 4



### Scale to Meet New Demand

Scale new resources with pre-validated templates

# Challenges of Day 2+ Operations

- **Network teams have too much to do....**

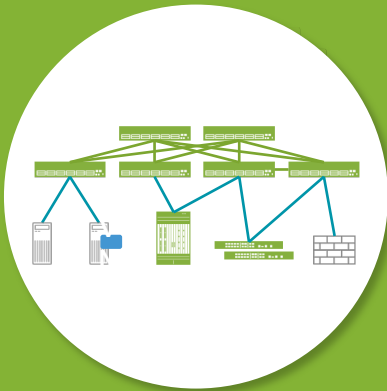
- Monitoring tool proliferation and # of devices/components mean **'needle in a haystack'** challenge to pinpoint issues
- **Cross-functional finger-pointing**—networking teams on the defense and must prove innocence
- Length of time to **roll back** a change when issues arise
- **Change review** is onerous—delays new services and important fixes
- Too many **CLI** touchpoints for just one change
- **Lack of visibility** to grey failures to get ahead of device issues and prevent user impact
- **Security patches** and NOS updates can take long to plan and require (or trigger) outages
- **Lack perspective** of the whole network to understand what's going on
- **Multi-vendor** creates challenges in setup, visibility, and trouble identification
- **Networking skills scarcity** can make hiring challenging



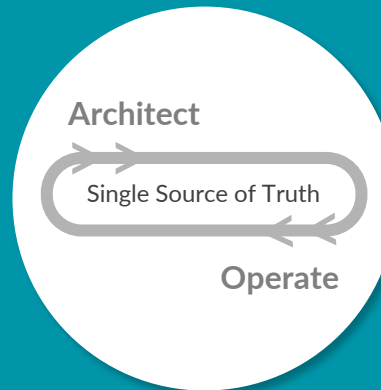


# Juniper Apstra difference

Operate the  
Network as  
One System



A Unified,  
Intent-based  
Approach



Open  
and  
Multi-vendor



# One Unified Solution, Consistent Experience

Describe the **WHAT**

Software delivers the **HOW**

Know **WHEN** and **WHY**



Architect



Operator

Intent

continuous automation and closed-loop validation

Analytics

Day 0

Design

Day 1

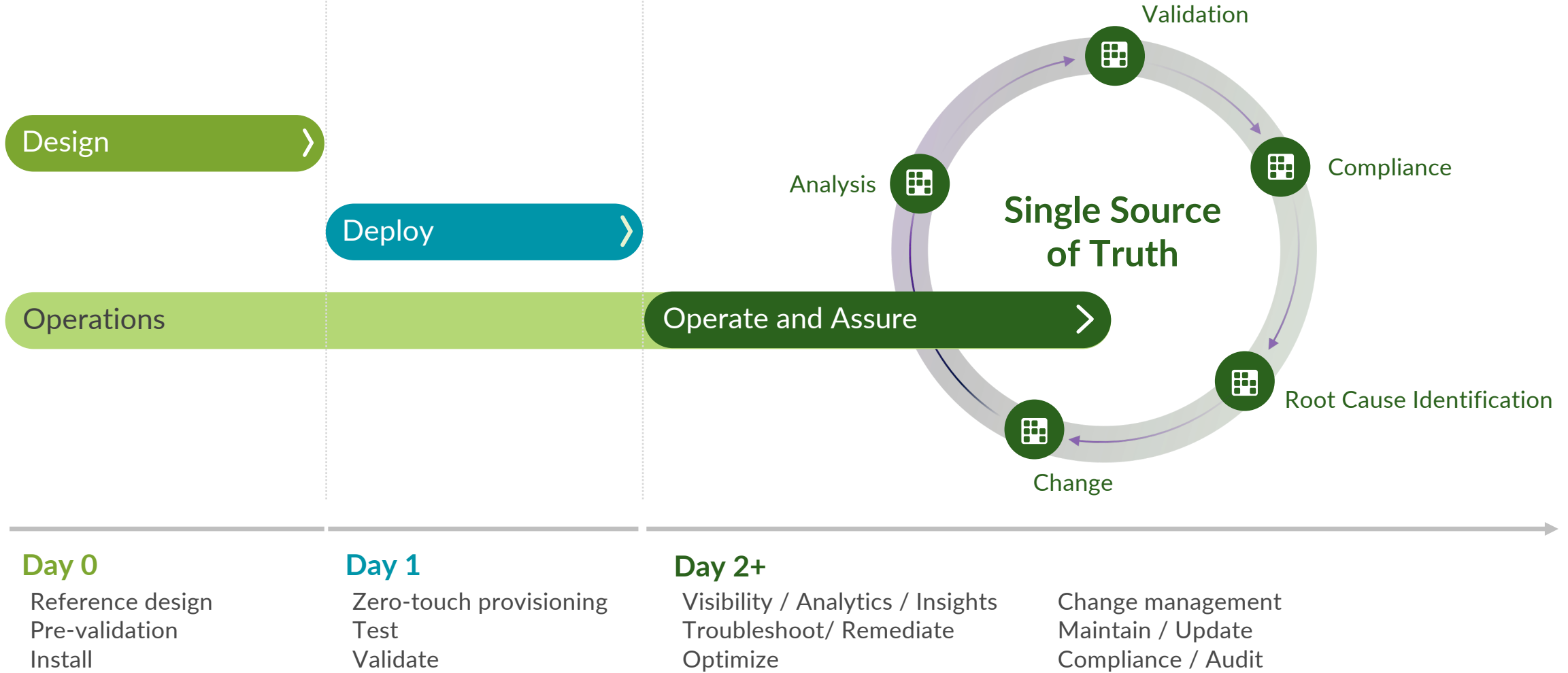
Build  
Deploy

Day 2+

Operate  
Assure

# Automate every day

- Automate and Assure Your Data Center



# Apstra: Intent Based Networking Solution details

- Standardised **Reference Design Solutions**
  - Works across Tier-1 vendors such as Junos (+Junos Evolved), SONiC, NXOS, EOS
- OPEX saving advantage
  - Abstract scalable **Blueprint** for DC networks design (CLOS)
    - Template can be replicated across large DCs
  - Dynamic configuration generation following the **Intent**
    - Graceful handling of day-2 operations
  - Closed loop device management
    - Device *expected* state monitoring by **telemetry** components
    - Verification of **Intent**, detection of **deviations**
- Fast problem resolution
  - Intent-Based Analytics
  - Root Cause Identification

# Apstra Key Technologies

## Intent-Based Networking



**Benefit:** Simplify effort of architects and operators to design, deploy and operate

**Outcome:** Transformed focus on the business results with insights for continuous improvement

## Single Source of Truth



**Benefit:** Speed operations actions with repeatable, vendor-agnostic blueprints and knowledge graphs

**Outcome:** Faster migration/change with more time on value (not the arcane semantics of management)

## Closed-Loop Validation



**Benefit:** Assure with continuous verification, proactive insights and root cause analysis

**Outcome:** Reduce problems, outages and mean time to repair while raising operational efficiency

## Time Voyager Rollback



**Benefit:** Avoid change issues with visibility, fast rollback and system-documented change control

**Outcome:** Reduce business impact of errors and assure compliance, auditing and knowledge retention

## Maintenance/Upgrade Mode



**Benefit:** Separate HW/SW upgrade cycles to reduce maintenance windows and planned downtime

**Outcome:** Increased commitments to SLAs and user satisfaction and lowered risks of outdated software

## Flexible Integrations

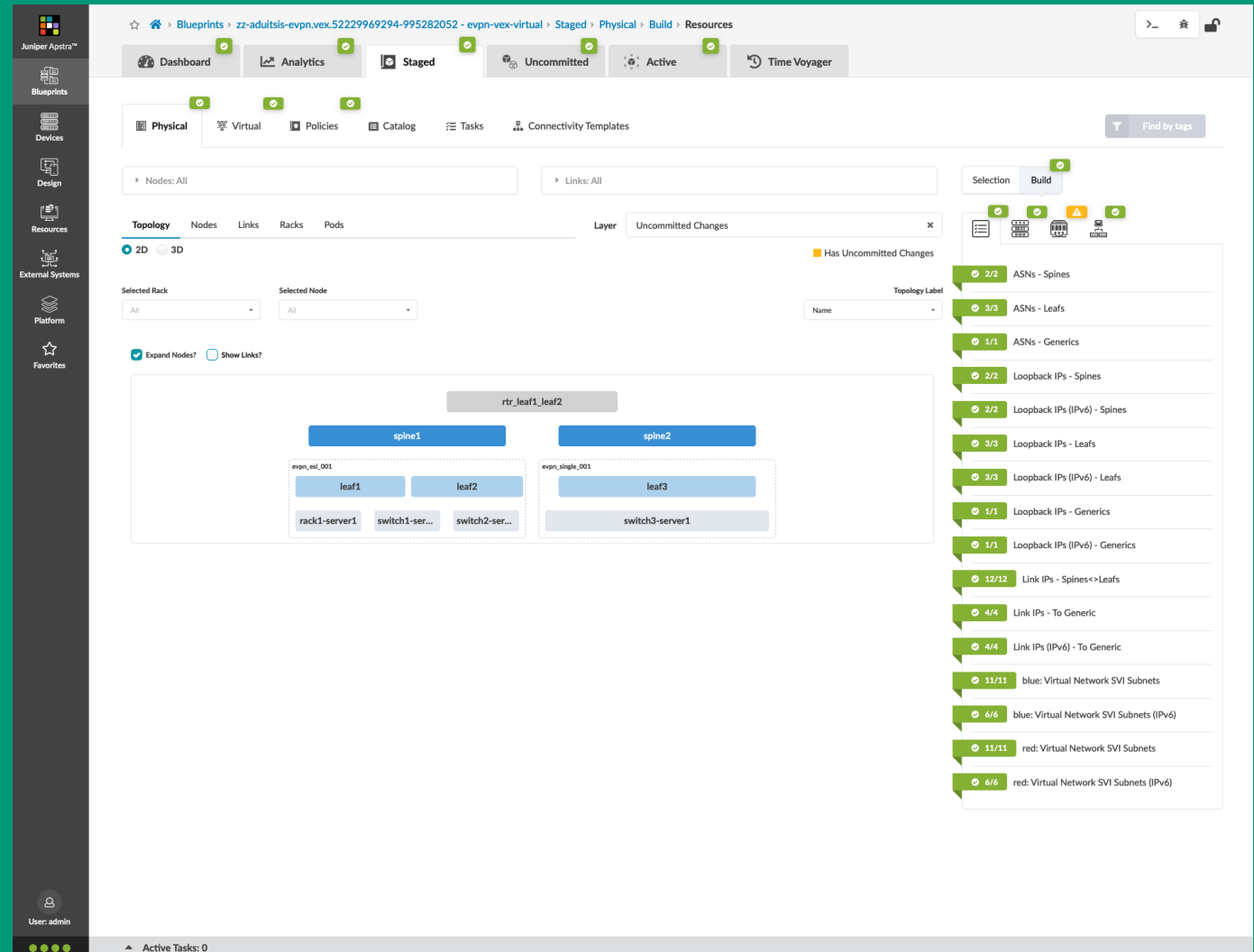


**Benefit:** Support existing and future cross-organizational workflows and new vendors

**Outcome:** Quick compliance to changing business operations and lower cost of technology adoption



# Demonstration



The screenshot displays the Juniper Apstra web interface. The left sidebar contains navigation icons for Blueprints, Devices, Design, Resources, External Systems, Platform, and Favorites. The main content area shows a network topology diagram with nodes like 'rtr\_leaf1\_leaf2', 'spine1', 'spine2', 'leaf1', 'leaf2', 'leaf3', and various server racks. The right panel lists resources with status indicators and counts.

Navigation: Blueprints > zz-adultsis-evpn.vex.52229969294-995282052 - evpn-vex-virtual > Staged > Physical > Build > Resources

Dashboard | Analytics | Staged | Uncommitted | Active | Time Voyager

Physical | Virtual | Policies | Catalog | Tasks | Connectivity Templates

Nodes: All | Links: All

Topology | Nodes | Links | Racks | Pods | Layer | Uncommitted Changes

2D | 3D

Has Uncommitted Changes

Selected Rack: All | Selected Node: All

Expand Nodes? | Show Links?

Topology Label: Name

Resources List:

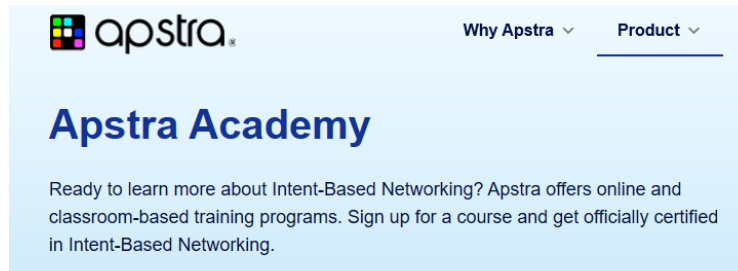
- 2/2 ASNs - Spines
- 3/3 ASNs - Leafs
- 1/1 ASNs - Generics
- 2/2 Loopback IPs - Spines
- 2/2 Loopback IPs (IPv6) - Spines
- 3/3 Loopback IPs - Leafs
- 3/3 Loopback IPs (IPv6) - Leafs
- 1/1 Loopback IPs - Generics
- 1/1 Loopback IPs (IPv6) - Generics
- 12/12 Link IPs - Spines<->Leafs
- 4/4 Link IPs - To Generic
- 4/4 Link IPs (IPv6) - To Generic
- 11/11 blue: Virtual Network SVI Subnets
- 6/6 blue: Virtual Network SVI Subnets (IPv6)
- 11/11 red: Virtual Network SVI Subnets
- 6/6 red: Virtual Network SVI Subnets (IPv6)

User: admin | Active Tasks: 0

# Learn It. Try It. (for free)

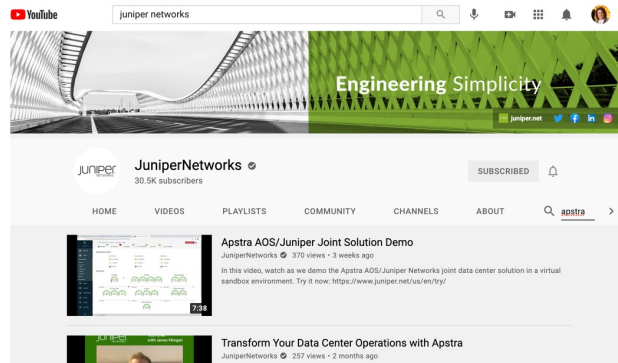
## Apstra Academy

<https://apstra.com/products/apstra-academy>



## YouTube

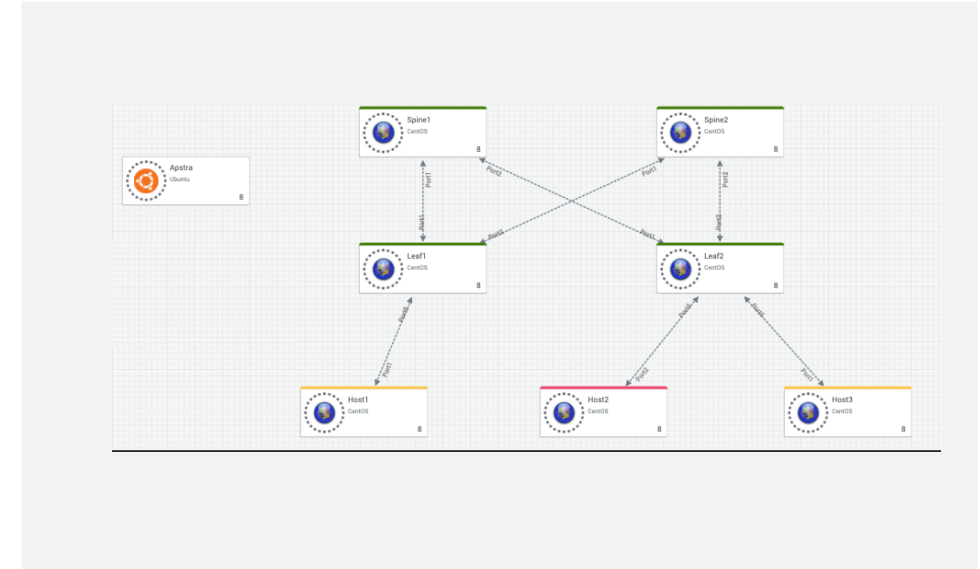
<https://juniper.net/apstra-playlist>



## Juniper vLabs

<https://www.juniper.net/us/en/forms/apstra-free-trial/>

- Cloud-based lab environment
- Virtualized, pre-built network topologies
- Available for free!





# THANK YOU

[adouitsis@juniper.net](mailto:adouitsis@juniper.net)

**JUNIPER**  
NETWORKS

Driven by  
Experience™