



Altibox Automates Network Diagramming with OPNET NetMapper™

Altibox AS is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lyse Energi, a Norwegian energy and telecommunication group. Lyse achieves a strong market position through a well-developed infrastructure and a variety of products and services. Founded in 2002, Altibox provides a wide range of services, including internet access, interactive and high-definition TV, video-on-demand, mobile and fixed telephony, and alarm services.

Altibox operates a dynamic and fast growing network. All services are provided on a multi-service IP network, consisting of a Nordic IP/MPLS core and 36 metro areas, one for each regional partner that distributes Altibox's products and services. Thousands of new customers are added every month, so the network is changed almost daily.

For more information,
please contact OPNET: info@opnet.com

In order to understand how best to grow their network, Altibox depends on accurate network diagrams. Up-to-date network diagrams have also proven to be an invaluable tool for troubleshooting outages and misconfigurations, and quickly understanding their impact on customer service. However, keeping diagrams current proved to be a difficult task. Altibox requires separate diagrams for each partner network, their data center, and their MPLS core. Maintaining these different diagrams manually was too time-consuming, and diagrams were often outdated before they were even completed. Altibox needed to automate the process to improve timeliness and accuracy of the diagrams.

Altibox evaluated different solutions for automated network diagramming, and selected OPNET NetMapper. NetMapper automatically produces detailed, comprehensive, engineering-quality, network diagrams in the popular Microsoft Visio® format. Unlike other network diagramming tools, NetMapper incorporates physical and logical connectivity as well as detailed configuration information into network diagrams.

"NetMapper is the only solution that could address all our requirements", states Kent Sirevåg, Senior Network Engineer at Altibox. "It automatically discovers and collects detailed network configuration data to generate nightly diagrams and inventory reports. In addition, it gives us views we didn't have before, such as combined layer 2 and layer 3 connectivity, as well as detailed routing and VLAN diagrams." Altibox now has accurate and up-to-date network diagrams for all partner networks. Because of automating the process, Altibox gained significant time and cost savings.

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