# Expedient Keeps Customers' Networks Safe and Highly Available with vSRX

## Summary

**Company:**
Expedient Data Centers

**Industry:**
Technology

**Business Challenge:**
Quickly provision managed security services that are tailored to customer needs

**Technology Solution:**
Juniper Networks MetaFabric Architecture, which includes:

- vSRX
- Junos Space Virtual Director
- Junos Space Security Director

**Business Results:**

- Offered highly customized managed security services
- Used automation to deploy security services in minutes, not hours
- Simplified security operations

Expedient Data Centers provides IT infrastructure outsourcing services, including managed services, private and public cloud, colocation, and enterprise access to businesses. Expedient is known for its highly reliable and interconnected facilities, leading-edge services, and technically competent customer service. The privately-held company has data centers in Boston, Baltimore, Cleveland, Columbus, Indianapolis, Memphis, and Pittsburgh.

## Business Challenge

Businesses, schools, and government agencies rely on Expedient's managed network security services to keep their data safe and available and to keep sophisticated threats from interrupting their businesses. Expedient wanted to offer customers greater control over their managed security services so that customers could tailor their protection to their business needs and compliance requirements.

## Technology Solution

To support a more flexible and customizable managed security service, Expedient wanted to migrate from its physical firewalls to a virtual firewall solution. A year ago, Expedient deployed Juniper Networks® vSRX Services Gateway to support its managed security service, allowing each customer to have its own dedicated firewall. With vSRX, customers can leave the traditional, monolithic firewall environment behind for a new solution with granular security control. vSRX provides strong security with the performance and scale needed in today's virtualized world, with advanced security and rich networking and routing delivered in a virtual machine.

## Business Results

Expedient can now offer security services that are tailored to customers' specific needs and accelerate service delivery. More than 50 Expedient customers use vSRX and the company expects significant growth as other customers are migrated from its physical firewall infrastructure.

*"One of the big positives of vSRX is the different services we can offer to customers. Using virtual security services has freed up engineering cycles and support time, which has allowed us to introduce services faster."*

**Bryan Smith,** Regional Vice President, Expedient

To handle the demand, Expedient has customized and automated the deployment of its managed security service, cutting provisioning from hours to minutes. Security automation allows Expedient to get customers connected and protected faster—and significantly reduces the workload of the security operations center. That efficiency is important for the security operations team, which provides around-the-clock service, support, and monitoring of customers' networks.

In addition, customers can manage their own security rules with Expedient's self-service option to meet specific business needs or compliance requirements. Customers have such granular control over their security policies that they can even enforce different policies for different applications.

vSRX has enabled Expedient to introduce new products and services to customers. "One of the big positives of vSRX is the different services we can offer to customers," says Bryan Smith, regional vice president at Expedient. "Using virtual security services has freed up engineering cycles and support time, which has allowed us to introduce services faster."

Expedient uses full automation to fail over a customer's site from one data center to another in a matter of minutes. **No changes to Domain Name System (DNS) or IP addresses are made at the failover site, which vastly simplifies disaster recovery.** This service leverages both vSRX and VMware vCenter Site Recovery Manager. "Customers can push a button and move their environment from one Expedient location to another, and bring it back up immediately," says Smith. "It's important to make disaster recovery easier, because you don't know what your employees will be focused on when the time comes."

Expedient customers can take advantage of comprehensive security services, including intrusion detection and prevention and antivirus and antispam protection, based on the advanced security capabilities of vSRX. Advanced services are critical, as threats are increasingly sophisticated and organizations of all types are under constant attack.

With vSRX, Expedient can better protect each customer from cyberthreats. In a multitenant model with traditional firewalls, if one customer experiences a cyberattack, the attack could impact all customers sharing the same physical firewall. Now with vSRX, an attack or a spike in traffic is isolated to that customer only.

"Not only has vSRX allowed us to speed service delivery to our customers, but it also has reduced operational complexity," says Kevin Meyer, director of product engineering at Expedient. For instance, with vSRX, Expedient's operation staff works with a much smaller firewall rule set, which simplifies operations and mitigates the risk of error.

## Next Steps

Expedient is expanding data center locations and offering new services. Its managed security service is contributing to that growth, as Expedient migrates more customers to the service based on vSRX. Expedient and Juniper Networks also are working closely together to explore the boundaries of scalability and performance of virtual security for cloud services as well as across multiple hypervisors. Expedient is looking to test higher speed throughput in the next-generation vSRX as well as expand the service to include multiple hypervisors. Expedient plans to take advantage of advances in Intel processor technology to accelerate encryption, and Juniper Networks tools to provide its 24x7 operation support team with a single, easy-to-use interface to manage its ever-growing technology infrastructure.

## For More Information

To find out more about Juniper Networks products and solutions, please visit www.juniper.net.

## About Juniper Networks

Juniper Networks is in the business of network innovation. From devices to data centers, from consumers to cloud providers, Juniper Networks delivers the software, silicon and systems that transform the experience and economics of networking. The company serves customers and partners worldwide. Additional information can be found at www.juniper.net.

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3520505-002-EN Feb 2015