

CASE STUDY

THIAN COMPUTER SOLUTIONS AND PSSPF

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CHALLENGES

- Establish a stable and secure wide area network connecting branches
- Overcome intermittent disruptions in internet connectivity
- Resolve poor quality and intermittent disruptions on the voice lines
- Ensure reliable communication to new cloud servers

GOALS

- Fast deployment of wide area network (WAN) with minimal disruption to productivity
- Increase IT efficiency and agility
- Increase uptime by introducing fibre and using the legacy system as a backup
- Introduce multiple security layers
- Move servers to the cloud

RESULTS

- Fast and simple deployment of The PowerCloud EDGE SD WAN firewalls
- Automatic failover and data traffic management incase of disruptions or brown outs in main internet link
- Automated Alerts sent to the IT department in real time resulting in them having the ability to be more agile and proactive
- Data prioritization helped resolve the poor voice quality issue
- Fast, reliable and secure data transfers between branches and the cloud servers

OVERVIEW

PSSPF (Private Security Sector Provident Fund) is one of the largest provident funds on the African Continent with over 335000 members. Joshua Phiri from Thian knew they had to implement a solution that is reliable, secure, intuitive and gives him and his team reports on the network performance as it changes. They had been experiencing ongoing connectivity downtime and voice quality with their legacy system so he approached us at PowerCloud to help resolve their client's networking and security challenges just as we had done for him in the past with our PowerCloud EDGE solution.

He knew that the ease and simplicity of implementing the system would cause his client minimal to no disruption in their day to day operations and would give them the security, quality and stability they needed and the system has done so since 2015.

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CLOUD-BASED NETWORKING

The PowerCloud EDGE solution makes use of a software-defined wide area network (SD-WAN.) This reimagines the way distribution businesses not only rollout but secure and optimize applications and technologies. A cloud-based networking approach reduces the cost and time it takes to deliver new services across multiple locations by a significant amount.

Here are a few examples of what the PowerCloud EDGE made possible for them :

- Enhanced Security from the firewall
- Content filtering
- Blocking malicious sites
- Security threat protection from:
 - Malware
 - Botnets
 - Phishing
- Business continuity
- Automatic failover to the backup internet link if the main link goes offline

In addition the PowerCloud EDGE monitors and analyzes app performance on the main internet connection and the backup connection to optimize traffic on the paths available.

“It has brought a 100% improvement when compared to the legacy solution” — Joshua Phiri
Their legacy solution has now been phased out completely.

REPORTING AND MONITORING

NOC MONITORING

- As part of the PowerCloud EDGE SD-WAN solution our network operations centre monitors the availability to all PSSPF's sites and notifies Thian should links deteriorate.

REAL TIME CONFIGURATION VIEW

- Thian computer solutions has a real time view of most of the configurations that are present on the network

PACKET-FLOW ANALYTICS AND REPORTS

- The key to the success of PowerCloud SD-WAN is our focus on comprehensive and detailed network reporting. With PowerCloud Thian and PSSPF have been able to access the following reporting (including that of each and every device / computer on their network)
 - Sites visited most frequently
 - Amount of data used
 - Threats blocked
 - Detailed network usage reports
 - Breakdown of services used

The above was mentioned to have been an invaluable tool to increase productivity in the company

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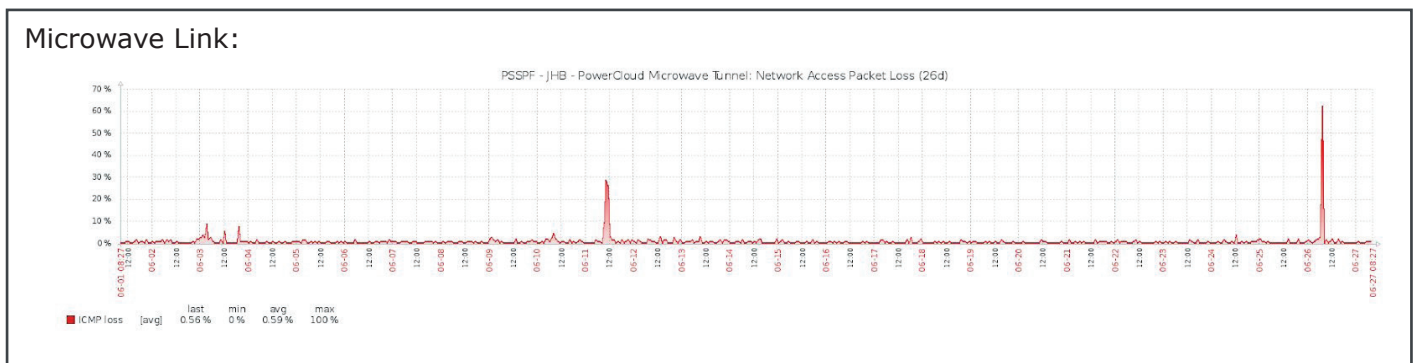
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ACTUAL PACKET LOSS REPORT FOR PSSPF

BEFORE SD-WAN

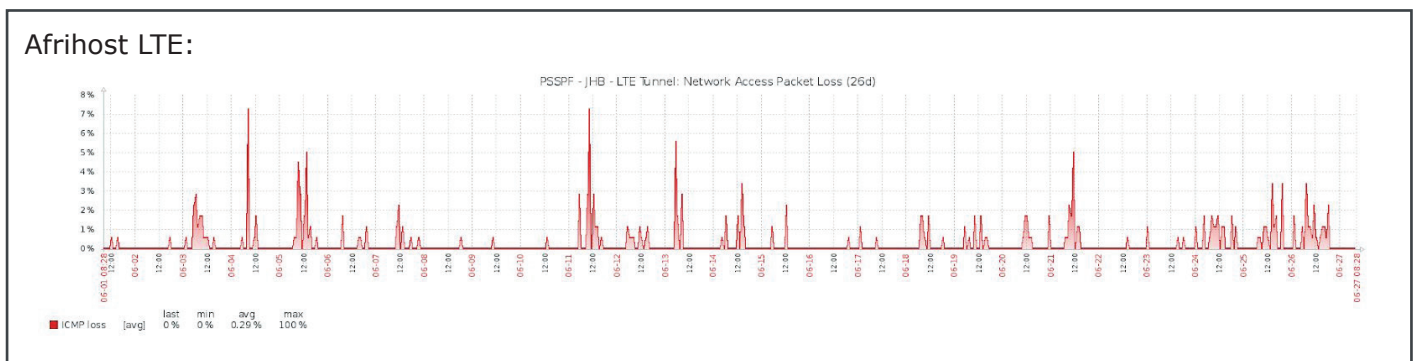
Main Link:

Microwave Link:



LTE Backup:

Afrihost LTE:



AFTER SD-WAN OPTIMISATION

Branch Packet Loss

