



VyOS
Networks



/ VYOS SUCCESS STORY

Modern Networking Without the Lock-In: The VyOS Advantage for Planet Labs

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Customer Overview

Planet Labs PBC, headquartered in San Francisco, operates the world's largest fleet of Earth imaging satellites, capturing daily data to help industries, researchers, and governments monitor change at a global scale. With a mission that depends on high availability, low latency, and complete infrastructure control, Planet Labs needed a networking solution that could meet enterprise demands, without the limitations of proprietary vendors.

The Challenge

As their operations expanded into a new data center and across distributed office environments, Planet Labs encountered key networking limitations:

- Rising costs and rigidity of legacy appliances
- Lack of flexibility with hardware and configuration
- Need for **redundant, high-availability routing and firewalling**
- Requirement to handle **site-to-site VPN, BGP cloud peering, and multi-ISP WAN failover**
- Desire to operate with **familiar Linux tooling**, avoiding black-box systems



Why VyOS

VyOS offered Planet Labs a clean, powerful alternative to traditional platforms like Cisco and Juniper, without sacrificing features or control.

- **Enterprise-grade performance:** Deployed for firewalling, routing, and multi-protocol support (BGP, OSPF, VPN)
- **High availability by design:** Two-node configurations at each site for failover and resilience
- **Flexibility to run on their own hardware:** Enabling platform independence and hardware lifecycle control
- **Open and familiar:** CLI and Linux-native tooling allowed for seamless onboarding and easy day-2 operations
- **Rock-solid uptime:** Running reliably for over six years with minimal intervention



VyOS combines the flexibility of Linux with the reliability of enterprise networking. It feels familiar but performs like the best in class, and that's exactly what we need.

– Jon McCarthy, Network Administrator, Planet Labs

Deployment Highlights

- **Architecture:** Two VyOS firewalls per site (office + data center)
- **Protocols:**
 - OSPF between VLANs and locations
 - BGP for cloud service integration
 - Site-to-site IPSec VPNs
 - WAN load balancing across multiple ISPs
- **Operational Simplicity:** Post-deployment, the setup required minimal intervention, mostly routine firewall rule updates
- **Longevity:** Planet's VyOS deployment has been running reliably for 6+ years

Key Results

- ✓ High availability and fault tolerance across office and data center
- ✓ Full control over networking stack without reliance on vendor hardware
- ✓ Scalable architecture supporting hybrid and multi-cloud operations
- ✓ Trusted performance and uptime, enabling focus on mission-critical space operations
- ✓ Positioned to adopt VyOS 1.5 with VPP for high-performance VPN, NAT, and routing

