



Putting Deployment & Management on Cruise Control For an Auto Manufacturer

For a multinational automotive company, having an agile network is increasingly important to operations. With a global presence consisting of manufacturing facilities, corporate branch locations, and financial services offices, the company relies on availability — of both information and applications. No service model is better suited for this than a cloud-based infrastructure. But moving to the cloud can be a tiresome marathon, so the enterprise chose Nodegrid and put their network on cruise control.

The Challenge

The company needed to adopt a private cloud model that could easily scale to meet business needs. This would involve transforming their data centers and how they manage their applications. They required a powerful solution that could steer them away from:

- Manual, time-consuming provisioning
- Tedious management of disparate end devices
- Limited & unreliable out-of-band access to the data center
- Automation restricted to only part of the device lifecycle

With limited and over-burdened IT staff, a traditional approach would exhaust the entire department. They needed a solution that could seamlessly integrate with their automation-heavy environment and support automation through the entire device life cycle. In addition, NetOps & DevOps collaboration would play a significant role, so their solution would also have to support continuous improvement processes & automation for routine tasks.

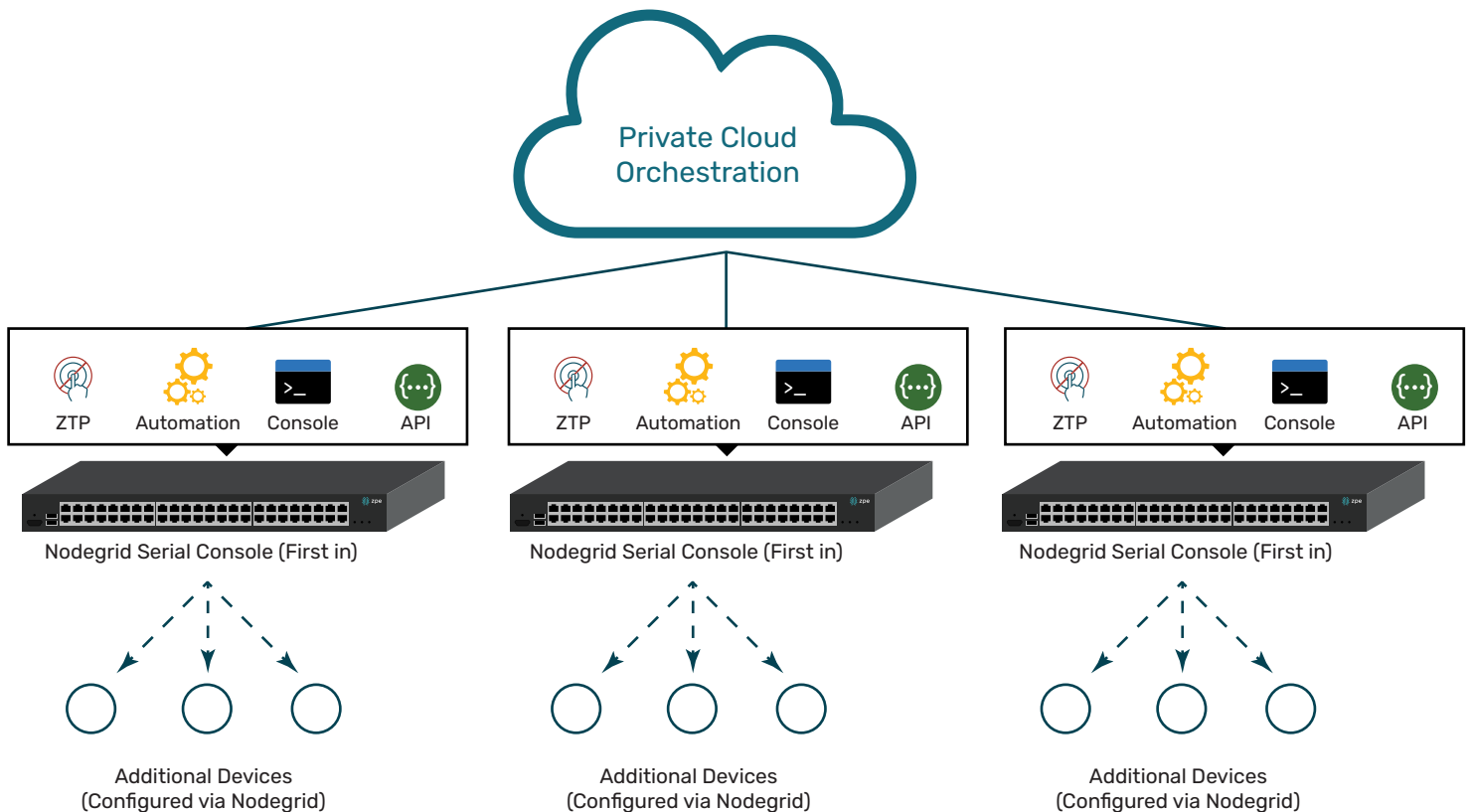
Finally, they required in-depth & reliable out-of-band access through a management plane that would unify control of all their data center devices.

The Solution

The company's data center environment included a mix of legacy and modern devices from a variety of vendors. The only solution capable of unifying this diverse ecosystem was the Nodegrid Serial Console - S Series.

The NSC S Series features 48 auto-sensing ports, which would make it easy to take control of their mixed environment. Instead of having to use special cables or adapters for different solutions, IT staff could simply connect their legacy and modern appliances to the S Series, and the vendor-neutral Nodegrid OS would do the rest. Coupled with support for automation – including for custom, in-house solutions – the S Series would become a minimal solution to their major problem.

Taking up just 1U of space, the S Series was the first appliance parked in the rack. This robust serial console would then provide all services to bootstrap each environment and support the company's shift to the cloud.



The Results

The NSC S Series met all the requirements, resulting in streamlined deployments and management.

Deploying no longer required tedious tasks that pulled IT staff away from critical duties. Like all Nodegrid devices, the NSC supports automation and zero touch provisioning. Instead of spending hours or days manually configuring each environment, the company's IT teams simply installed the NSC and watched the environment build itself.

The enterprise also gained secure out-of-band access. With Nodegrid, they could remotely manage not only their NSC, but also all connected end devices, automation components, and proprietary applications.

The Benefits

Using the compact yet powerful S Series, the company was able to implement their private cloud model in locations across the globe. The S Series delivered smooth data center operations, from deployment to ongoing management, with benefits like:

- Time & cost savings thanks to zero touch provisioning
- Streamlined continuous management with the help of RESTful APIs
- Full visibility & control with OOB access to automation tools & end devices
- Flexible autonomous networking using complete lifecycle automation support

The S Series served as the gateway to unifying their data center environment.

During deployments, the company's IT department was no longer burdened by complex, manual configurations. They needed to put only minimal staff on the job, whose tasks were simplified to installing and booting devices. This meant time and cost savings on everything from staff travel to on-site support & maintenance.

For ongoing management, the S Series provided comprehensive out-of-band access that permeated deep into the network infrastructure. Thanks to Nodegrid's vendor-neutrality and support for RESTful APIs, IT teams could remotely control more tools and devices. This unified management plane would play a critical role in supporting continuous improvement processes for NetOps & DevOps, and help deliver customer satisfaction overall.

Across the globe, the company's private cloud model allowed for easy, on-demand access to critical information and applications. Meeting business needs was no longer a roadblock to success, as the enterprise could effortlessly adjust course with their finely tuned network.

The Nodegrid Serial Console - S Series is a strong, open foundation for cloud-based networking. If you'd like to deploy, scale, & manage with a versatile solution, call or visit our website to schedule your Nodegrid demo.

