

New Idea: Nordunet Moose

Monitoring as a Service from Nordunet



Background

UNINETT has a long standing tradition (since 2006) of offering a suite of campus network monitoring tools to Norwegian universities and university collages. The suite is managed and operated by UNINETT. Our customers are offered a web interface to monitor their campus networks. The key tools, NAV and Appflow, are developed in house and made available as open source software. We recognize a substantial user base around the world.

UNINETT is continuously enhancing our suite of monitoring tools. We are currently piloting a new and very promising service; a scalable log analysis tool built upon third party open source components (Logstash, Elasticsearch, Kibana). This will serve as a low cost alternative to Splunk and equivalent commercial tools.

The UNINETT monitoring suite has contributed significantly to the success in the campus networking area in Norway and has proven to give significant added value to Norwegian campus networks. In Norway NAV and Appflow are more than tools. They have created a community of campus network engineers discussing future enhancements and sharing ideas on how to better manage their networks. This was evident on the two-day network monitoring workshop in June in Trondheim where also Nordunet/Sunet and DeIC participated.

Objectives

UNINETT proposes to take this monitoring suite to the next level – to the Nordic arena. We propose a new **Nordunet service** targeted towards Nordic universities and university campuses. For an annual cost a university can subscribe to this service. On a silver platter they will get a comprehensive set of applications to manage their campus networks.

Nordunet Moose – Monitoring as a service – has a huge potential. By repeating the Norwegian success recipe, this can be win-win story for Nordunet, for the Nordic NRENs and for Nordic universities and university colleges.

Possibilities

Details need to be looked into, i.e. how should the service be operated, and by whom. Further, can we, without compromising security and performance issues, take advantage of the evolving Nordic cloud infrastructures, i.e. the IaaS platform offered by Sunet (or others). These and more questions need to be explored further in the months to come.

Proposal

This new idea can be regarded as a **request for interest** at the Nordunet board. If Nordunet regards the idea as interesting to pursue UNINETT can work on the idea and propose a business case for the September board meeting.