

CASE STUDY



IP Fabric stepping up to the plate transforming network automation at Major League Baseball.

CLIENT

Major League Baseball



Revenue
\$10 Billion



Size
1 000+ Employees



Location
North America

About

Baseball is America's National Pastime. Major League Baseball, founded in 1903, continues to evolve The Game engagement experience to its fans through exceptional technology.

As part of the MLB infrastructure organization, Jeremy Schulman leads the efforts delivering advanced network automation solutions across multi-vendor network infrastructure. When he was looking for force multiplier technologies and products to tackle ongoing transformation initiatives, he found what he was looking for with IP Fabric's Network Assurance platform.

Challenge

The network infrastructure team constantly works to increase reliability deploying and managing complex services across the network. Obtaining network state and health data is a critical precursor to delivering business value and actionable information to multiple technical operations teams. The MLB network automation development efforts need to be laser focused on delivering that business value.

Value

IP Fabric crawls the network, executing the necessary commands, parsing the data into a normalized database, and then presenting the information via a RESTFUL API for automation use-cases.

IP Fabric provides an intuitive web -browser based user-interface, "GUI", that democratizes access to the network information so that other operations teams that previously relied on the network team could be self-sufficient.

Major League Baseball operates a complex large scale, multi-vendor environment and use IP Fabric to democratize access to important network state, visual path and physical topology, obtain device configurations for backup, and account for asset inventory.

IP Fabric worked closely with MLB to support important multicast data collection and analysis. Together IP Fabric and the team at MLB worked to build a solution for their use case, taking advantage of the quick release cycles and customer approach to build the right solution for MLB's unique environment.



Challenge

- Complex environment managed with standardized data
- Awareness and insights for multicast services
- Collection of accurate network data was a challenge due to the effort applied toward gathering data, rather than delivering business value
- Teams were working from different data sources causing potential conflicts between alternative versions of truth



Solution

- Ability to deliver advanced network automation services and solutions across MLB infrastructure teams
- Unique environment required collaborative approach to make the right solution a reality
- Accurate data on network state which can be used confidently
- Operations teams now have a GUI and access to reports so that they do not have to wait on the network team for information



Benefits

- Network engineers empowered with advanced insights into the operational state across the entire network without having to hop around device CLIs
- Automation engineering time better spent using the network data rather than writing device specific parsers and normalizing data into databases
- Adjacent infrastructure teams have direct network information that they need to do their work without having to wait on support from the network team



"If I had budget to buy only one product that would immediately benefit both traditional network engineers and accelerate network automation projects it would be IP Fabric"



Jeremy Schulman

*Principal Software Engineer,
Network Automation*