



# ZyXel uOS Advanced Packet Processing Technology

White Paper

# Why do you need a more powerful level of network performance and efficiency?

In today's data-driven world, the demand for high-performance networking solutions has become paramount. Traditional packet processing methods often struggle to keep pace with the ever-increasing volume and velocity of network traffic, resulting in bottlenecks and reduced efficiency.

Zyxel new uOS operating system rises to the challenge, offering a powerful software solution that optimizes and accelerates network packet processing, unleashing unprecedented levels of performance and efficiency.

By leveraging advanced kernel bypass techniques, Zyxel uOS minimizes the overhead typically associated with traditional packet processing, such as context switching and interrupt handling. This innovative approach allows for direct packet access to user space applications, significantly reducing latency and enhancing throughput.

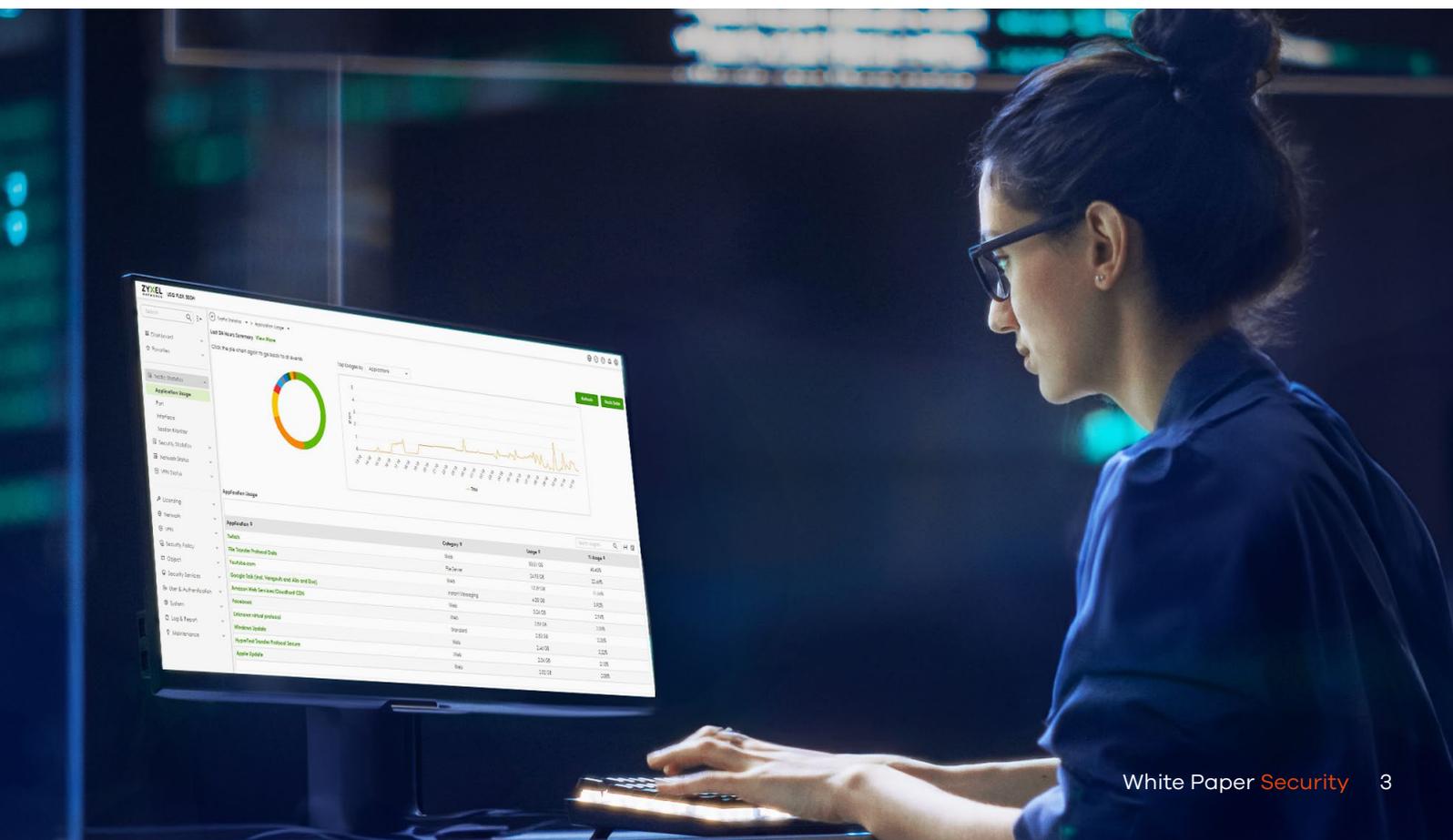


Moreover, Zyxel uOS's advanced packet processing capabilities enable seamless support for bandwidth-intensive applications and the growing Internet of Things (IoT) ecosystem. It ensures that critical data is processed swiftly and reliably, meeting the high-speed demands of modern cloud computing environments and large-scale data centers.

With Zyxel uOS, network operators and IT professionals can achieve a higher degree of network optimization, providing end-users with a superior and uninterrupted experience.

As the landscape of digital communication continues to evolve, Zyxel uOS stands out as a crucial tool in the quest for efficient, high-performance networking infrastructure.

This white paper explores the technical intricacies and practical applications of Zyxel uOS, highlighting how its advanced packet processing technology revolutionizes network efficiency and sets a new standard for performance in the industry.

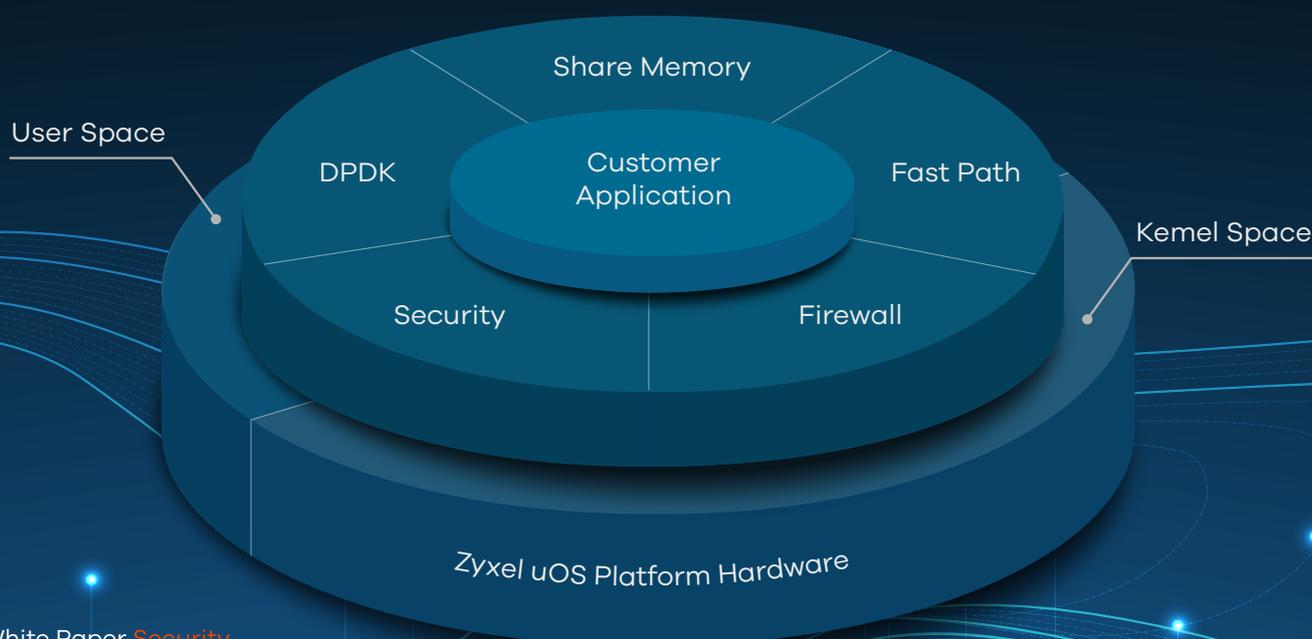


# How speed became an essential part of network performance?

The exponential surge in data traffic, propelled by the proliferation of cloud computing, IoT, and bandwidth-intensive applications, has exerted unprecedented strain on network infrastructure.

Traditional packet processing methods, anchored in the operating system kernel, frequently result in bottlenecks and performance constraints. This white paper delves into Zyxel uOS, an innovative solution harnessing kernel bypass technology to redefine network packet processing.

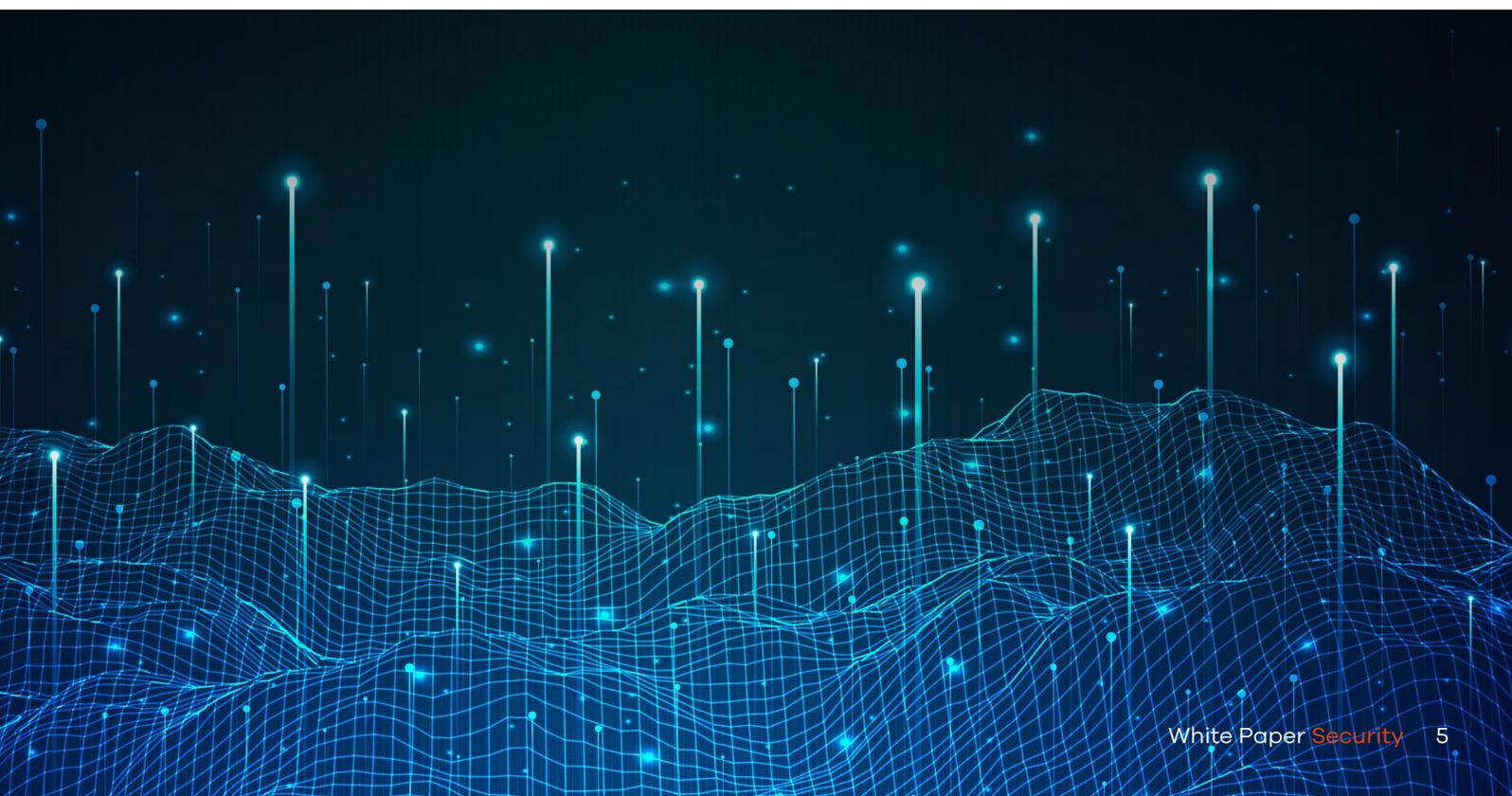
During standard Linux processing, information such as ARP entries, L3 routes, and IPsec security associations learned in the networking stack is automatically and transparently synchronized with the Fast Path using the synchronization module. This ensures that subsequent packets from the same flow can be processed by the Fast Path. This combination of exception handling and continuous synchronization allows the system to manage any packet type, even those not supported or not yet configured in the Fast Path, and transparently update local information in the Fast Path. As a result, nearly all packets are eventually processed by the Fast Path, with only a small minority being handled by the operating system.



In the realm of networking technology, Zyxel uOS operates on the avant-garde principle of kernel bypass, a revolutionary approach that facilitates the circumvention of the operating system kernel, allowing network packets to traverse directly to user space applications.

This groundbreaking method eradicates the cumbersome overhead typically incurred through context switching and interrupt handling, thereby ushering in remarkable performance enhancements and optimizing network throughput to unparalleled levels.

By combining these advanced techniques, Zyxel uOS delivers a highly efficient packet processing framework that maximizes network performance and provides substantial improvements in speed and throughput. This approach not only addresses the demands of modern network applications but also ensures that the infrastructure can handle future growth and increasing data traffic with ease.

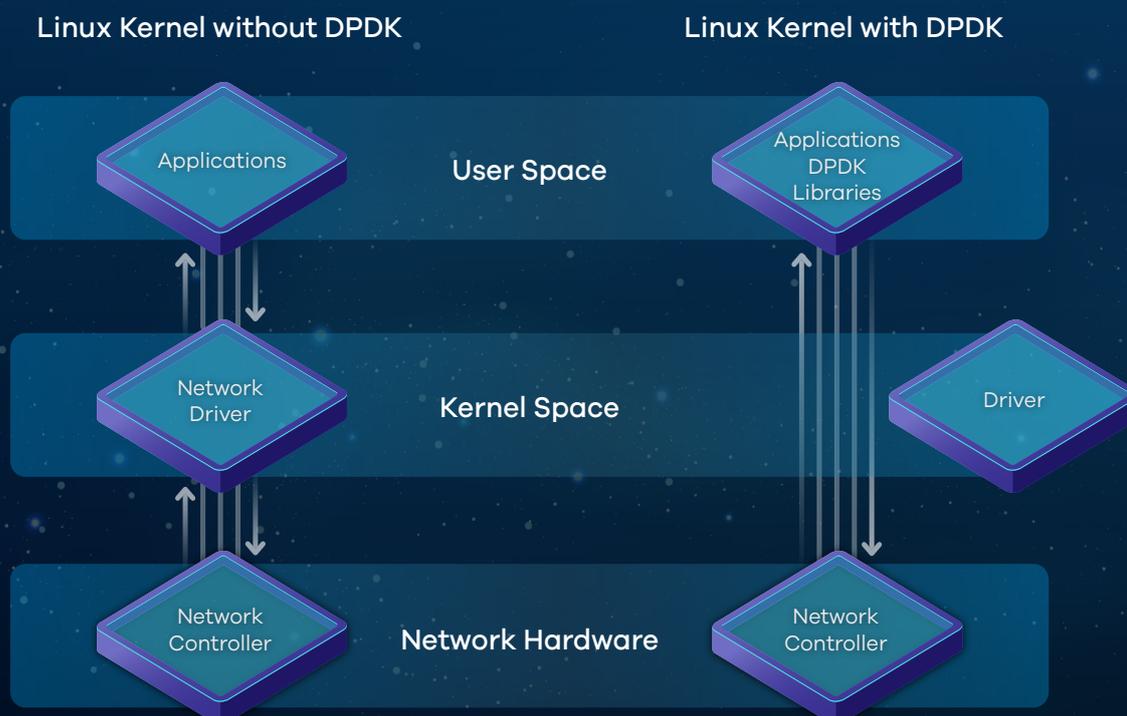


# Dive into key benefits and functionality of advanced packet processing

## DPDK Accelerates Advanced Packet Processing for High Performance

In the conventional data transmission pathway, an increase in network traffic results in the CPU handling the data packets, which can overwhelm it and lead to significant system overhead in managing message processing cores. This inefficiency wastes valuable CPU resources. The challenge of achieving efficient message transmission and processing to satisfy the high demands of data transmission in the cloud era has become a pressing issue for the network communications industry.

In this scenario, DPDK technology has emerged as a solution, offering a substantial boost in data processing performance and throughput in cloud environments. This DPDK technology has been built into the latest network solutions to keep things running smoothly. Many server network cards now support the DPDK function, ensuring stable and fast data transmission. This makes it easy for users to set up on servers, network equipment, and cloud platforms, helping businesses with their digital transformation and speeding up their move to the cloud.



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# Unlocking Performance Upgrades

While DPDK optimizes packet processing by enhancing direct access and reducing latency through software libraries, the Zyxel uOS Fast Path architecture focuses on software programmability and adaptability to deliver ongoing performance improvements and future-proof networking solutions.

Both DPDK and the uOS Fast Path architecture share a common goal of enhancing packet processing performance in networking applications, but they achieve this through different approaches:

## DPDK (Data Plane Development Kit)

- Approach: DPDK focuses on optimizing packet processing by providing a set of libraries and drivers that bypass the operating system's networking stack.
- Benefits: This direct access to network interfaces reduces latency and improves throughput, crucial for high-performance networking applications like NFV, SDN, and network security.

## Zyxel uOS Fast Path Architecture

- Approach: uOS adopts a software-centric approach that emphasizes programmability and flexibility over traditional hardware acceleration methods.
- Benefits: Our uOS architecture seamlessly integrates new features and capabilities, continuously improving performance and adapting to evolving technological needs without extra costs. This ensures your investment in the Zyxel-selected firewall remains protected and future-proof, delivering free performance upgrades with every release.

The USG FLEX H Series Firewalls, when integrated with the uOS platform, can achieve more than double the throughput for UDP (User Datagram Protocol) traffic. This significant performance boost is crucial for applications that rely on fast, efficient data transmission. By optimizing UDP performance, Zyxel's uOS platform ensures a smoother, more reliable experience for users engaging in these latency-sensitive activities.

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## Advanced Packet Processing Offload Mechanism

This innovative solution intelligently shifts the burden of packet processing tasks from the conventional kernel domain to the more efficient user space, a paradigm shift that liberates critical CPU resources

By unburdening the kernel, the system's overall performance is markedly enhanced, ensuring seamless operation even under heavy network loads.

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## Robust and Versatile Functionality Suite

This cutting-edge system boasts an extensive array of functionalities, offering administrators unparalleled control over their network infrastructure. From intricate packet filtering and classification to sophisticated routing and traffic shaping capabilities,

this comprehensive suite empowers users to fine-tune network traffic with unprecedented precision, thereby optimizing performance and resource utilization.

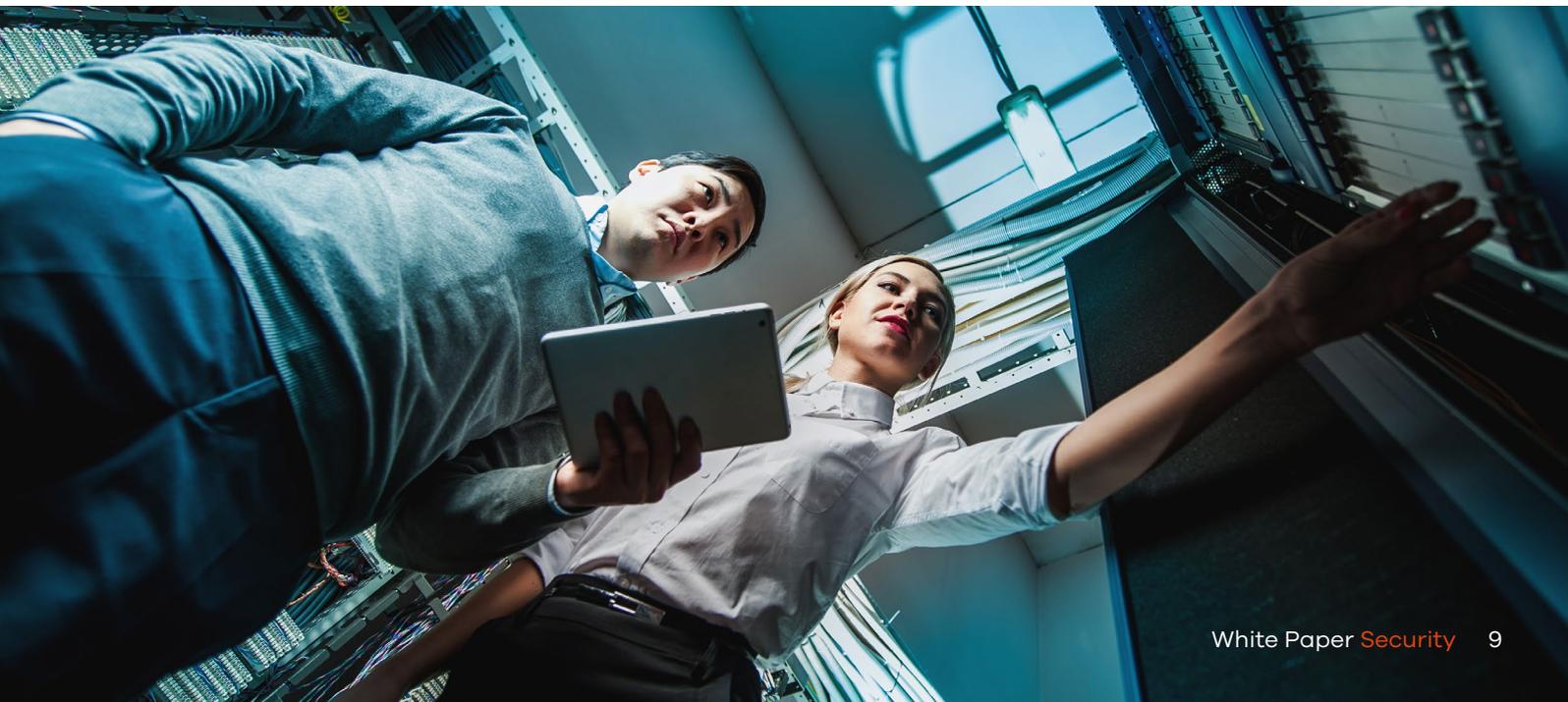


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# Flexible Protocol & Encapsulation Support

With a commitment to interoperability and adaptability, this solution is designed to seamlessly integrate with diverse network environments.

Its broad support for a wide range of network protocols and encapsulation methods, ranging from Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) to Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE), ensures compatibility and smooth operation across various networking scenarios.



# Clarifying myths about Fast Path and system performance

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## Understanding Stability

It's important to understand that when comparing uOS and ZLD, the introduction of Fast Path does not automatically make things less stable. The real issue usually arises from specific features having critical bugs, rather than Fast Path itself being the problem. In fact, Fast Path is designed to enhance performance.

### Here's how it works:

- If a feature in ZLD has a serious bug that causes the entire system to crash, it can lead to a complete shutdown where even troubleshooting via the console becomes impossible.
- On the other hand, if a feature running in Fast Path on uOS encounters a problem that affects traffic flow, it can still be debugged through the console while keeping the system operational.

This explanation aims to clarify that Fast Path isn't to blame for stability issues—it's more about addressing and fixing specific feature-related bugs to ensure smooth operation.

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## Efficient Memory Allocation in Fast Path

In the Fast Path architecture, each incoming packet is directly copied into memory, a fundamental process that enhances system performance. This method involves strategically allocating additional memory to optimize network operations, ensuring swift and efficient data handling. It's important to understand that this allocation isn't about wasting memory but rather intelligently using it to significantly improve overall system performance.

When comparing uOS and ZLD platform, it's important to note that adding Fast Path doesn't automatically reduce stability. Issues with stability typically arise from specific feature bugs rather than the Fast Path itself. In ZLD, serious bugs can cause complete system crashes, making troubleshooting difficult. In contrast, uOS's Fast Path allows for continued system operation and easier debugging if a feature issue arises. Furthermore, the strategic use of memory in Fast Path ensures efficient data handling without wasting resources, improving overall system performance effectively.

# Where will advanced packet processing make a difference on your network?

Experience a network transformation like never before with Zyxel uOS and its advanced packet processing capabilities. Here's how it reshapes your network for the better:



## Performance Revolutionized

Bid farewell to bottlenecks and lag. uOS turbocharges packet throughput, slashes latency, and optimizes CPU utilization. Experience a network that responds in microseconds, effortlessly handling the demands of next-gen applications.



## Scalability Redefined

Scale without limits. uOS dynamically adapts to fluctuating traffic demands and evolving deployment landscapes. From small-scale setups to enterprise networks, uOS flexes to meet your needs with unrivaled agility.



## Fortified Stability and Security

Build a network fortress with uOS. By minimizing kernel involvement, uOS enhances stability, reducing the risk of downtime to virtually zero. Advanced security features fortify your defenses, ensuring your network remains impervious to cyber threats.



## Effortless Management

Command your network with ease. uOS's sleek interfaces and seamless Nebula integration streamline management tasks, freeing up valuable time for strategic initiatives. Say goodbye to complexity and hello to unparalleled control.

# Embrace the future of networking with Zyxel uOS

Designed for an enhanced user experience, our USG FLEX H series features the uOS operating system, which provides a straightforward, modern, and intuitive interface. This improves overall usability and speeds up complex configuration processing. Its graphical dashboard offers a clear view of the network's security status, enabling network admins to make informed decisions for timely threat response.

The new uOS operating system increases security, minimizes response time, and optimizes policy management, making it an ideal choice for managing advanced network security needs. For more details, visit the Zyxel [USG FLEX H Firewall](#) product page.

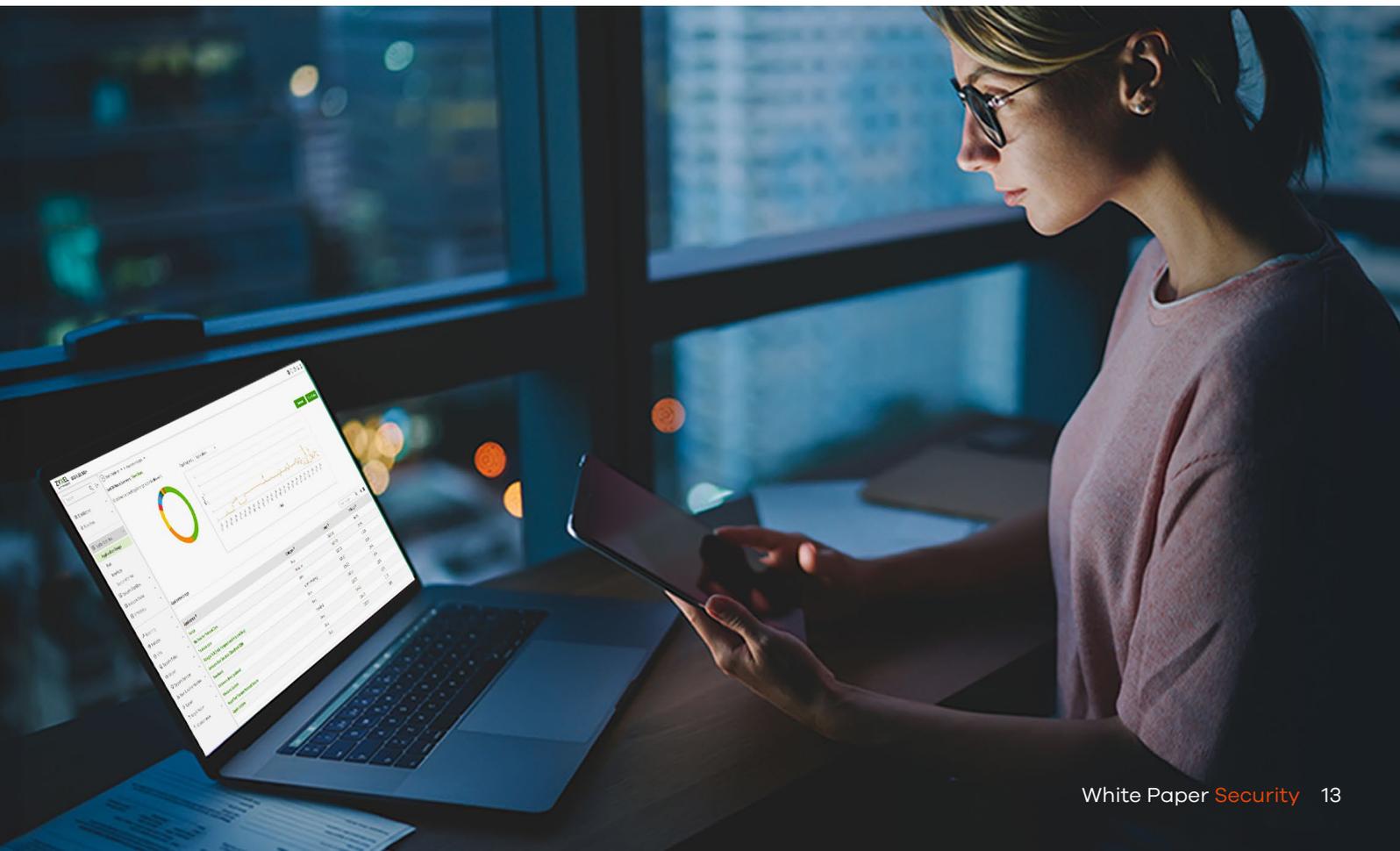


# A new era of network performance unveiled

Zyxel uOS, armed with advanced packet processing capabilities, heralds a transformative era for network infrastructure optimization. Leveraging pioneering kernel bypass and advanced packet processing techniques, uOS sets a new standard in performance, scalability, and efficiency. It empowers organizations to seamlessly tackle the evolving demands of our data-centric world with unmatched agility and responsiveness.

Embark on a journey towards optimized and accelerated networking with Zyxel uOS at your helm.

[Contact us](#) today to discover how uOS can revolutionize your network infrastructure, propelling your organization towards unprecedented heights of success and efficiency.



# Why choose Zyxel as your network security solution?

Zyxel Security offers comprehensive protection for SMBs against cyber threats. By continuously monitoring your network for risks and threats, Zyxel responds swiftly to incidents, ensuring minimal disruption and maximum security. Its wide array of security features safeguards your applications, web traffic, devices, and users.

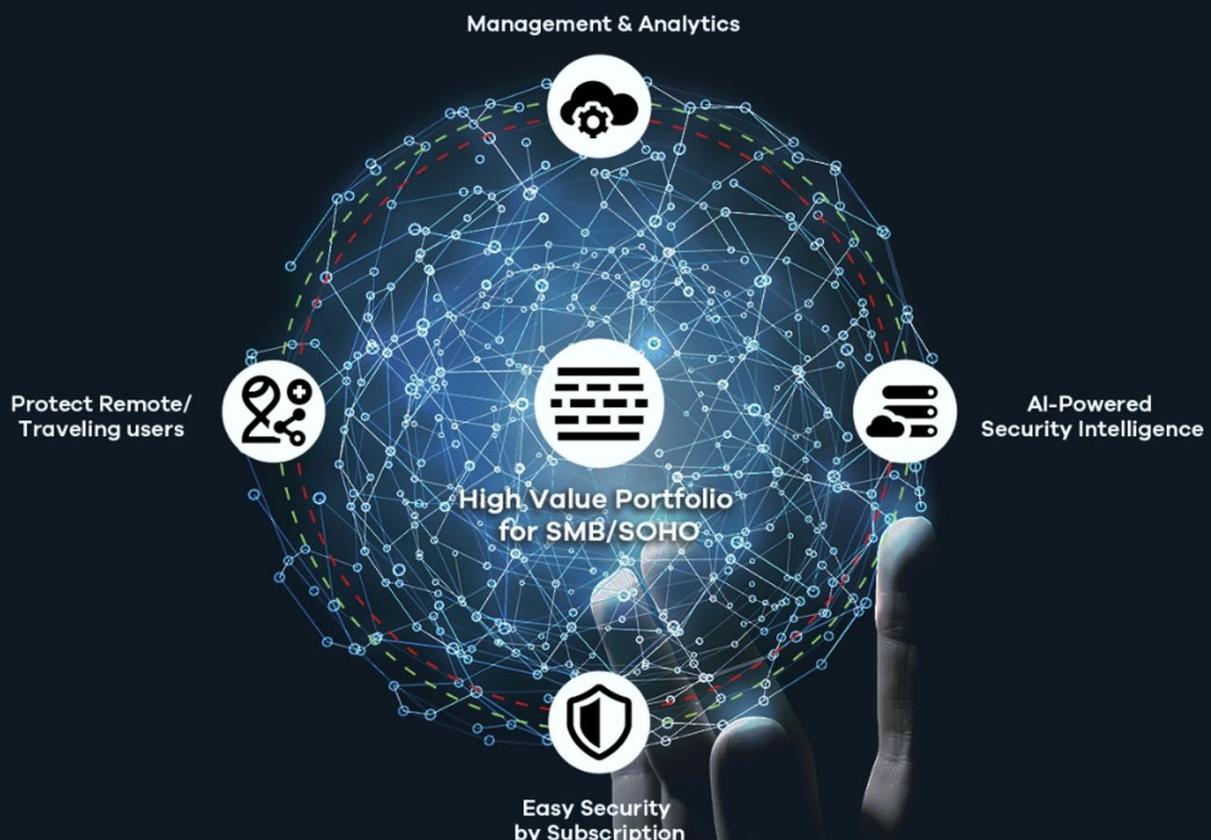
Our next-generation firewalls provide robust security, control, and visibility, empowering you to strengthen your cybersecurity posture. Flexible licensing and an intuitive e-commerce platform make it effortless to access and benefit from our security solutions.

With the Nebula and SecuReporter, you get centralized cloud-based management, delivering full network visibility and control for enhanced operational efficiency.

The Astra endpoint security and SecuExtender VPN Client secure remote access and data transmission, offering peace of mind for your distributed workforce.

Harnessing advanced packet processing capabilities, Zyxel Cloud Intelligence forms a self-evolving security ecosystem that synchronizes all firewalls, adapting proactively to external threats. This cutting-edge technology ensures your network remains resilient and responsive to the ever-changing landscape of cyber threats.

Choose Zyxel for a security solution that combines advanced technology with ease of use, delivering unmatched protection and performance for your network.



# Corporate Headquarters

## Zyxel Networks Corp.

Tel: +886-3-578-3942  
Fax: +886-3-578-2439  
Email: sales@zyxel.com.tw  
www.zyxel.com

## Europe

### Zyxel Belarus

Tel: +375 25 604 3739  
Email: info@zyxel.by  
www.zyxel.by

### Zyxel BeNeLux

Tel: +31 23 555 3689  
Fax: +31 23 557 8492  
Email: sales@zyxel.nl  
www.zyxel.nl  
www.zyxel.be

### Zyxel Bulgaria (Bulgaria, Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo)

Tel: +3592 4443343  
Email: info@cz.zyxel.com  
www.zyxel.bg

### Zyxel Czech Republic

Tel: +420 725 567 244  
Tel: +420 606 795 453  
Email: sales@cz.zyxel.com  
Support: <https://support.zyxel.eu>  
[www.zyxel.cz](http://www.zyxel.cz)

### Zyxel Denmark A/S

Tel: +45 39 55 07 00  
Fax: +45 39 55 07 07  
Email: sales@zyxel.dk  
www.zyxel.dk

### Zyxel Finland

Tel: +358 9 4780 8400  
Email: myynti@zyxel.fi  
www.zyxel.fi

### Zyxel France

Tel: +33 (0)4 72 52 97 97  
Fax: +33 (0)4 72 52 19 20  
Email: info@zyxel.fr  
www.zyxel.fr

### Zyxel Germany GmbH

Tel: +49 (0) 2405-6909 0  
Fax: +49 (0) 2405-6909 99  
Email: sales@zyxel.de  
www.zyxel.de

### Zyxel Hungary & SEE

Tel: +36 1 848 0690  
Email: info@zyxel.hu  
www.zyxel.hu

### Zyxel Iberia

Tel: +34 911 792 100  
Email: ventas@zyxel.es  
www.zyxel.es

### Zyxel Italy

Tel: +39 011 230 8000  
Email: info@zyxel.it  
www.zyxel.it

### Zyxel Norway

Tel: +47 22 80 61 80  
Fax: +47 22 80 61 81  
Email: salg@zyxel.no  
www.zyxel.no

### Zyxel Poland

Tel: +48 223 338 250  
Hotline: +48 226 521 626  
Fax: +48 223 338 251  
Email: info@pl.zyxel.com  
www.zyxel.pl

### Zyxel Romania

Tel: +40 770 065 879  
Email: info@zyxel.ro  
[www.zyxel.ro](http://www.zyxel.ro)

### Zyxel Russia

Tel: +7 499 705 6106  
Email: info@zyxel.ru  
www.zyxel.ru

### Zyxel Slovakia

Tel: +421 919 066 395  
Email: sales@sk.zyxel.com  
Support: <https://support.zyxel.eu>  
[www.zyxel.sk](http://www.zyxel.sk)

### Zyxel Sweden A/S

Tel: +46 8 55 77 60 60  
Fax: +46 8 55 77 60 61  
Email: sales@zyxel.se  
www.zyxel.se

### Zyxel Switzerland

Tel: +41 (0)44 806 51 00  
Fax: +41 (0)44 806 52 00  
Email: info@zyxel.ch  
www.zyxel.ch

### Zyxel Turkey A.S.

Tel: +90 212 314 18 00  
Fax: +90 212 220 25 26  
Email: bilgi@zyxel.com.tr  
www.zyxel.com.tr

### Zyxel UK Ltd.

Tel: +44 (0) 118 9121 700  
Fax: +44 (0) 118 9797 277  
Email: sales@zyxel.co.uk  
www.zyxel.co.uk

### Zyxel Ukraine

Tel: +380 89 323 9959  
Email: info@zyxel.eu  
www.zyxel.ua

## Asia

### Zyxel China (Shanghai) China Headquarters

Tel: +86-021-61199055  
Fax: +86-021-52069033  
Email: sales@zyxel.cn  
www.zyxel.cn

### Zyxel China (Beijing)

Tel: +86-010-62602249  
Email: sales@zyxel.cn  
www.zyxel.cn

### Zyxel China (Tianjin)

Tel: +86-022-87890440  
Fax: +86-022-87892304  
Email: sales@zyxel.cn  
www.zyxel.cn

### Zyxel India

Tel: +91-11-4760-8800  
Fax: +91-11-4052-3393  
Email: info@zyxel.in  
www.zyxel.in

### Zyxel Kazakhstan

Tel: +7 727 350 5683  
Email: info@zyxel.kz  
www.zyxel.kz

### Zyxel Korea Corp.

Tel: +82-2-890-5535  
Fax: +82-2-890-5537  
Email: sales@zyxel.kr  
www.zyxel.kr

### Zyxel Malaysia

Tel: +603 2282 1111  
Fax: +603 2287 2611  
Email: sales@zyxel.com.my  
www.zyxel.com.my

### Zyxel Middle East FZE

Tel: +971 4 372 4483  
Cell: +971 562146416  
Email: sales@zyxel-me.com  
www.zyxel-me.com

### Zyxel Philippine

Email: sales@zyxel.com.ph  
www.zyxel.com.ph

### Zyxel Singapore

Tel: +65 6339 3218  
Hotline: +65 6339 1663  
Fax: +65 6339 3318  
Email: sales@zyxel.com.sg  
www.zyxel.com.sg

### Zyxel Taiwan (Taipei)

Tel: +886-2-2739-9889  
Fax: +886-2-2735-3220  
Email: sales\_tw@zyxel.com.tw  
www.zyxel.com.tw

### Zyxel Thailand

Tel: +66-(0)-2831-5315  
Fax: +66-(0)-2831-5395  
Email: info@zyxel.co.th  
www.zyxel.co.th

### Zyxel Vietnam

Tel: (+848) 35202910  
Fax: (+848) 35202800  
Email: sales\_vn@zyxel.com.tw  
www.zyxel.com/vn/vi/

## The Americas

### Zyxel USA North America Headquarters

Tel: +1-714-632-0882  
Fax: +1-714-632-0858  
Email: sales@zyxel.com  
us.zyxel.com

### Zyxel Brazil

Tel: +55 (11) 3373-7470  
Fax: +55 (11) 3373-7510  
Email: comercial@zyxel.com.br  
www.zyxel.com/br/pt/

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