Why SURFsara is happy with Open Networking switches

Presentation outline / Abstract

The presentation will focus on the following content:

* What is Open networking:
  - Short explanation Open networking / Bare metal switches
  - List of Vendors / ASICs
  - List of available OSes

* How does SURFsara use bare metal switches
  - ToR L2 management switches / aggregation switches
  - Total numbers in use / planned
  - Configuration management using Ansible
  - Future use: Routing / EVPN-BGP / Cloud platform integration

* Why are we happy:
  - Cheaper
  - Freedom of Choice
  - Rich feature set
  - Flexible operation (as linux box, config management, or classic CLI)

* Keep in mind:
  - Engineers need a somewhat different skillset
  - Using configuration management is powerful
  - Make sure support is arranged between HW and SW vendors

Presenter Biography:

Erik Ruiter (BSc) is senior network specialist at SURFsara. He has a clear interest in SDN related topics focusing in the field of network automation and network virtualisation. He has experience with multiple platforms including Cumulus, OpenStack, and configuration management using Ansible. He also is actively involved in designing and implementing improvements for the NMS system at SURFsara.