Solution Brief

NetScaler BLX for Red Hat Enterprise Linux

netscaler™

Red Hat

NetScaler BLX is a lightweight, flexible, and cost-effective application delivery controller that delivers high performance and secure application delivery on Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) platforms. It offers deployment flexibility across on-premises and cloud environments and can be easily managed using Red Hat Ansible for improved operational efficiency and cost savings.

Get Started with BLX on RHEL through this interactive lab.

Seamless and secure application delivery

In today's digital economy, it's critical for enterprises to provide a fast, secure, and uninterrupted application end-user experience. A high-performance application delivery and security platform like NetScaler delivers optimal CPU efficiency, lower latency, and higher throughput so you can ensure peak application performance at scale.

Application delivery with NetScaler BLX on RHEL

NetScaler BLX is a software application delivery controller (ADC) that brings enterprise-grade ADC capabilities to the Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) platform. NetScaler BLX on RHEL runs directly on bare metal or a virtual machine, enabling you to deliver highly performant and secure applications that are portable across on-premises and public cloud environments.

NetScaler BLX offers exceptional performance by running as a native Linux process on bare metal hardware without hypervisor or container overhead, while also providing you with the flexibility to deploy it on Linux virtual machines. And by using Red Hat Ansible, you can more quickly and easily deploy NetScaler BLX on RHEL in private data centers and in public cloud to achieve operational efficiency and reduced operational costs.

Benefits of using NetScaler BLX on RHEL

Achieve high-performance application delivery

NetScaler BLX is powered by the open source Data Plane Development Kit (DPDK) technology to deliver high-performance on RHEL: On a 10 G NIC, the line-rate performance of a NetScaler BLX can handle data at the maximum speed of 10 Gbps without any slowdown or packet loss.

Ensure application portability across hybrid cloud

NetScaler BLX on RHEL for bare-metal deployments is ideal for hybrid cloud environments because it works the same on-premises and in public cloud.

Realize faster time to value and reduce operational costs

Easily deploy NetScaler BLX using Red Hat Ansible, Terraform, or NetScaler's native automation capabilities to achieve faster time to value and reduce operational costs.

Use Cases

Global server load balancing (GSLB)

NetScaler BLX efficiently distributes incoming traffic across geographically dispersed data centers and multiple servers or resources to optimize performance, ensure high availability, enhance application reliability, and provide seamless failover in case of server failures.

Improved security

NetScaler BLX comes with a built-in web application firewall (WAF) that inspects and filters web traffic to protect against cyber threats. NetScaler also performs SSL offloading and TLS termination (end-to-end TLS), which improves security without causing a hit to performance. Additionally, NetScaler BLX offers robust protection against web application attacks such as SQL injection, cross-site scripting (XSS), and other OWASP Top 10 vulnerabilities.

Enterprise-grade ADC for Linux servers

Along with superior line-rate performance, NetScaler BLX provides enterprise-grade security features such as WAF, SSL Offloading, Advanced Load Balancing, GSLB, and AppFlow for Linux environments.

Cloud-ready for easier management

You don't need extensive experience with cloud networking because NetScaler BLX runs as a software application on Linux virtual machines provisioned in the cloud, providing day-zero support. And NetScaler BLX seamlessly integrates with existing cloud orchestration processes. Additionally, you can easily manage and monitor NetScaler BLX instances using standard Linux tools.

Seamless integration with third-party tools and coexistence with other Linux applications on the same host

NetScaler BLX seamlessly integrates with open source tools for monitoring, debugging, and logging — there's no need for separate plug-ins for each integration. And because NetScaler BLX instances run as a software application, other Linux applications can also run on the same host.

Conclusion

NetScaler BLX is a software ADC for both bare metal and virtual machines that brings enterprise-grade application delivery and security capabilities to the RHEL platform. With no hypervisor translation layer or container, NetScaler BLX has more control of the underlying hardware, resulting in better performance. NetScaler BLX on RHEL enables you to meet the extensive demands of application delivery and security for modern application workloads — including workload portability between on-premises and hybrid and multi-cloud environments.

About Red Hat

Red Hat helps customers standardize across environments, develop cloud-native applications, and integrate, automate, secure, and manage complex environments with award-winning support, training, and consulting services.

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