Data Sheet: Aeon-ZTPS

What Is Aeon-ZTPS:

It is a Universal Zero-Touch- Provisioning (ZTP) Server that helps network engineers bootstrap data center network devices.

It was built to address the pain and complexity of dealing with the different equipment vendor bootstrap mechanisms.

Benefits:

- **Reduced time, errors, and complexity** in dealing with different scope and capabilities provided by vendor-specific devices
- **Improved visibility** into the bootstrap process - without coding

Key Attributes:

- **Agnostic to vendors**: One universal ZTP server that works with any major hardware vendor
- **Extensible**: Completely decoupled bootstrap operations from vendor specificity - adding new device vendor support is easy and fast
- **Open visibility**: Explicit insight on each action and stage of the bootstrap process

"Aeon-ZTPS is an easy, low-risk approach to automate the drudgery of bootstrapping different vendor devices. It gives you the confidence in the journey to decouple networking tasks from underlying device specificity."

Jeremy Schulman, Head of Customer Enablement, Apstra, Inc.

Bootstrapping a Multi-Vendor Network Should Be This Easy

Aeon-ZTPS gives network engineers the peace of mind that your device bootstrapping process will be fast, reliable, and universal for any vendor's devices.

It doesn't matter which device brands you use, and what functional roles your devices will perform, you power-on network devices from factory-reset, get an IP address from DHCP, get the right version of network operating system (NOS) installed, and apply the device specific configuration - fast, reliable, and hands-free (nearly).

With this universal ZTP approach, you can quickly move on to provision the functional roles of the devices, rather than dealing with vendor-specific bootstrapping mechanisms. You no longer have to worry about the different requirements and implementations imposed by Cisco POAP, vs. Arista-ZTP, or Cumulus Auto-Provisioning, and other vendors down the road.

How Does It Work?

The vendor required boot-script simply enables device remote management and notifies the Aeon-ZTP server the device is ready to be bootstrapped. Once the Aeon-ZTPS is notified (registered), then the process to perform a NOS upgrade and basic configuration can be performed in a controlled environment that provides step-by-step visibility via log files, a REST API, and a GUI. The overview of the complete process is shown below:

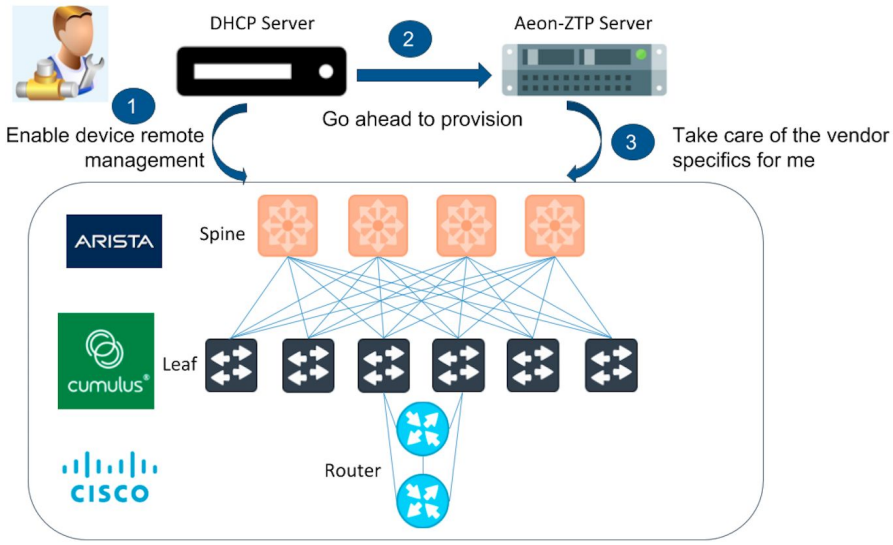

Figure 1: Aeon-ZTP

The Aeon-ZTPS project currently provides these vendor specific scripts for Cisco, Arista, and Cumulus. Additional equipment and NOS support can be easily added.

What Is Apstra Operating System (AOS)

AOS is a distributed operating system for the data center network. You can deploy AOS above your data center network infrastructure, decoupling your network service design and operations from the lower-level, error-prone, manual workflows.

Benefits:

- **Improved service agility** in designing, building, deploying and operating network services
- **Massively reduced risks** otherwise caused by human errors, loss of visibility, configuration drifts, and difficulty in analyzing telemetry dump
- **Reduced CapEx** due to vendor hardware lock-in and OpEx spent on inefficient manual operations

Key Attributes:

- **Intent-driven**: Achieve your desired service outcome w/o prescribing imperative commands box-by-box
- **Closed-loop**: Continuously validated intent, configurations and state
- **Vendor-agnostic**: Completely decoupled services and operational model from vendor specificity

What Is Next?

The Aeon-ZTPS solution also introduces you to intent-based networking - a new approach that helps you massively improve network service agility, reliability, and economics. The following diagram shows how Apstra Operating System (AOS) takes over the lifecycle management of bootstrapped devices, translates your service intent into network-wide configurations, and then generates closed-loop telemetry - it is like having hundreds of engineers continuously validate the state of your network against your service intent.

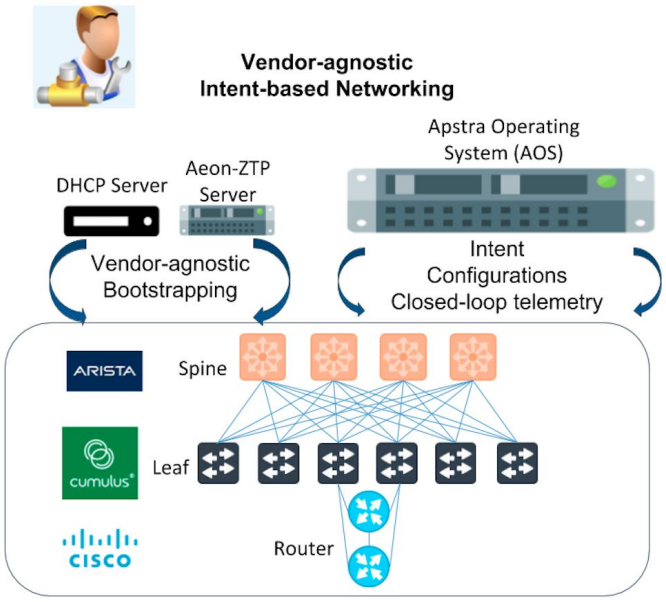

Figure 2: Aeon-ZTPS and Apstra Operating System (AOS)

About Apstra®

Apstra is redefining the way networks are designed, built and operated to deliver operational agility, reliability, and operational efficiency without vendor lock-in. Apstra solves two critical problems today: the management of scalable distributed state,and providing the abstraction required to automatically translate user intent into a continuously validated infrastructure that delivers on this intent. The Apstra Operating System™ (AOS) is a distributed operating system for the data center network that is vendor-agnostic, intent-driven, and closed loop.

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