

# RIVERBED OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM (RiOS)

## — PATH SELECTION TECHNOLOGY

### NEW FEATURES & CAPABILITIES

- Cost-effectively leverages and enhances hybrid networks to meet business demands with new and unique path selection technology
- Accelerate applications/data everywhere
- Maximize business-critical-application performance
- Enhance IT control and visibility
- Increase network reliability while minimizing complexity

### ACCELERATION EVERYWHERE WITH ENHANCED IT CONTROL AND VISIBILITY

Rapid adoption of cloud applications, rich media applications, and distributed business-critical applications has complicated network traffic and application delivery. To meet changing business and end-user demands, the network is evolving rapidly to a hybrid architecture leveraging the ubiquity, price, and speed of the internet to complement the highly reliable MPLS-based WAN network.

With Riverbed® Optimization System (RiOS®) 8.5, Riverbed is delivering the most comprehensive and customer-centric WAN optimization products for organizations with distributed IT and hybrid networks to achieve Acceleration Everywhere. The new RiOS® 8.5 path selection technology for the Riverbed® Steelhead® product family enables organizations with complex hybrid networks across its branch offices to maximize the performance of business-critical and consumer applications while retaining IT control and minimizing complexity.

With the path selection capability, IT organizations can cost effectively deploy and manage complex hybrid networks to deliver greater application reliability and performance. The RiOS 8.5 path selection technology handles all traffic independent of its optimization status and maximizes the performance of applications using deep packet inspection (DPI)-based application awareness to distinguish between business-critical and non-critical, non-priority, or bulk traffic. In the event of performance degradations, the path selection capability reroutes application flows, thus ensuring no impact to users. Unlike other approaches, RiOS 8.5 path selection technology is transparent to the existing network, easy to configure through an intuitive graphical interface, and tightly integrated with a rich DPI-engine for flexible and granular policy definition.

With integrated quality of service (QoS) and now path selection, Riverbed WAN optimization solutions provides IT organizations with the ability to control network consumption, prioritizing mission-critical and latency-sensitive applications, while minimizing utilization by non-business-critical applications.

## HOW PATH SELECTION WORKS

RiOS 8.5 path selection technology provides the ability to deterministically re-direct select traffic and application flows through alternate WAN routes based on service metrics, such as path availability and priority. This path selection technology empowers IT organizations with greater controls to maximize multiple WAN services based on business needs, service quality, and costs. It also utilizes the ability to redirect specific traffic or applications through one of three alternate gateway paths determined by destination availability in cascading order. Traffic flows can be classified by IP header information or through the deep packet inspection engine. Each traffic rule can have up to three gateway paths in priority order based on availability. Availability is determined by whether the host at the remote end of a path can be reached via end-to-end Internet Control Messaging Protocol

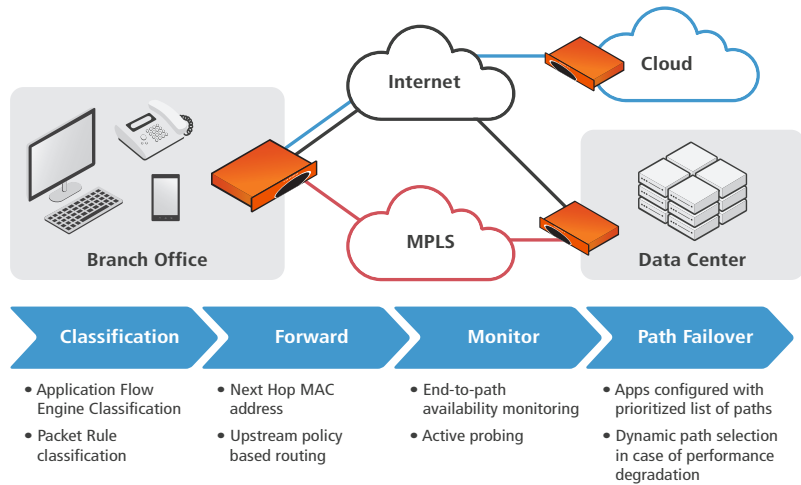


FIGURE 1. RIOS 8.5 PATH SELECTION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE STEELHEAD PRODUCT FAMILY

(ICMP). To validate availability, each path can have a different remote host. If availability is lost, the next available path will be used for subsequent packets. Once availability on a higher priority path is verified, that path will be used immediately. To influence the return

path of traffic and override the original traffic path, our path selection technology must be configured at the other end. Path selection configuration is independent of any QoS settings, thus allowing you to apply path selection rules whether QoS is enabled or not.

## PATH SELECTION BENEFITS

### » RELIABILITY:

Deliver network reliability with multiple WAN paths for traffic forwarding and the ability to navigate around unavailable network segments.

### » PERFORMANCE:

Improve application performance and lower WAN costs by combining existing proven WAN circuits with potentially lower cost, higher-performance alternative WAN options, such as the Internet. Balancing traffic loads helps maximize performance and minimizes costs.

### » OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND COST-SAVINGS:

Leverage operational economies and savings by easily implementing the transparent path selection with no reengineering of the existing routed and switched network.

## AVAILABILITY

RiOS 8.5 with path selection technology is generally available in Q3 2013.

## ABOUT RIVERBED

Riverbed delivers performance for the globally connected enterprise. With Riverbed, enterprises can successfully and intelligently implement strategic initiatives such as virtualization, consolidation, cloud computing, and disaster recovery without fear of compromising performance. By giving enterprises the platform they need to understand, optimize and consolidate their IT, Riverbed helps enterprises to build a fast, fluid and dynamic IT architecture that aligns with the business needs of the organization. Additional information about Riverbed (NASDAQ: RVBD) is available at [www.riverbed.com](http://www.riverbed.com).