DRDL Technology

The core component in PacketLogic is Procera's own identification engine DRDL – Datastream Recognition Definition Language. DRDL facilitates a broad range of criteria to properly identify the application of each individual datastream, a.k.a. flow, session or connection. The identification relies on bidirectional information like the packet sequence in a handshake, header information, protocol, actual payload, and other distinguishing characteristics of an application. This way DRDL can properly identify even encrypted applications.

The standard-syntax language of DRDL enables rapid development of new signatures. The DRDL database currently consists of more than 800 signatures (Mar-08). Some applications create multiple flows. DRDL interconnects control and data sessions of protocols like FTP. During the identification process DRDL aggregates detailed traffic properties like MIME-type, filename, chat channel and SIP caller ID. This granularity enables you not only to see the Xbox Live traffic, but rather the Xbox Live users who are playing *Halo 3*.

Another unique capability of DRDL is classification. Connection flags classify the traffic based on its behavior. Typical classifications are "interactive", "streaming", "random-looking" and "bulky." This way you can set preferences on traffic that can not be identified or when you are required to be application agnostic.