

Workshop Course Learning:

I attended the *Practical Virtualization with Hybrid Strategies* workshop, which was conducted over three days. Despite its short duration, the training covered a broad range of essential topics, including containers, storage, deployment tools, CI/CD, monitoring, and distributed storage. The workshop provided in-depth insights into underlying hardware virtualization technologies, as well as on-premise and public cloud setups and solutions.

I work for a hosting provider in Mongolia, where we utilize a Proxmox Cluster to manage our entire system. Proxmox virtualization offers the resiliency and scalability critical to our services. One of my primary motivations for attending this workshop was to explore cloud-ready OS installations that allow for one-click deployment, a feature that could greatly enhance our operational efficiency.

Another particularly valuable topic covered in the workshop was cost management in the cloud. I gained valuable insights that will help us optimize our infrastructure expenses while maintaining high performance.

Moving forward, I plan to extend our use of these solutions within our service network to further improve efficiency, scalability, and cost-effectiveness.

Conference Week Highlights:

During the conference week, I participated in various sessions to share my insights on policy and technology. These sessions provided excellent opportunities to network with industry experts and exchange ideas and best practices.

One of the key highlights was my participation in the NOG Report session, where I delivered a speech on our NOG report. This was a valuable platform to showcase our work and contribute to the broader discussion within the community.

Overall, the conference was an incredible opportunity to connect with new people, expand my professional network, and gain fresh perspectives on industry developments.

Fellows Skill Workshop:

The Soft Skills session was highly engaging and practical, especially for many of us who are non-native English speakers. The English-speaking segment was particularly useful, helping us improve our communication skills in a professional setting.

The sessions led by Terry and Aftab were equally impactful, each offering unique insights. We thoroughly enjoyed working in groups, collaborating, and learning from one another. The immediate feedback from the instructors was incredibly valuable, allowing us to reflect on and reinforce what we learned in each session.

One of the most enjoyable aspects was the role-playing exercises, where we tackled real-world scenarios such as dealing with IPv6-related issues and persuading a manager to invest in new equipment. These activities made the learning experience both interactive and fun.

Conclusion:

APRICOT 2025 was an amazing experience, packed with valuable insights, hands-on learning, and great networking opportunities. From deep dives into virtualization strategies to practical discussions on cost management in the cloud and one-click OS deployments, every session had something useful to take away. Presenting our NOG Report was a great chance to share our work and connect with the community.

The conference wasn't just about tech—the Soft Skills session was a real highlight. The role-playing exercises, like convincing a boss to buy new gear or tackling IPv6 issues, made learning fun and practical. Plus, getting instant feedback from instructors helped us improve on the spot.

Beyond the sessions, the best part was meeting new people, exchanging ideas, and building connections. Overall, APRICOT 2025 was an awesome event, and I'm excited to apply what I've learned and stay involved in the community!