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**Network Instruments® Announces FIPS-Compliant Performance Monitoring**

*Observer® Provides Secure Handling of Decryption Certificates for the Federal Sector*

**Minneapolis, MN – December 14, 2010** – Network Instruments, a worldwide leader in network and application management, today announced its Observer performance monitoring console now ensures the safe handling of decryption certificates in compliance with the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 140-2L2.

Through Observer's integration with SafeNet's Hardware Security Modules (HSM) network teams can securely manage decryption certificates for post-capture investigations of encrypted network traffic. SafeNet HSMs are available in a variety of form factors including PCMCIA card, PCI card, and server-based solutions, and have been certified to ensure FIPS-compliant handling of decryption keys.

"Many federal organisations ranging from the U.S. Armed Forces to the U.S. Department of Energy rely on the Observer platform to validate and optimise network and application performance," said Steve Bowen, federal territory manager for Network Instruments. "Adhering to FIPS protocols means that we can meet our customers' high-level security expectations, while also safeguarding the performance of critical government infrastructure."

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**About Network Instruments**

Network Instruments, a leading provider of performance management and troubleshooting for 16 years, helps organisations ensure the delivery of business-critical applications. The company's platform of management and reporting products provides comprehensive visibility into networks and applications to optimise performance, speed troubleshooting, and assist long-term capacity planning. Network Instruments achieved profitability in its first quarter and posted revenue growth every year since its founding — without any external funding. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company has sales offices worldwide and distributors in over 50 countries. For more information, please visit [www.networkinstruments.co.uk](http://www.networkinstruments.co.uk).