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Network Instruments® Delivers Immediate Assessment of Application and Cloud Service Performance

Quickly Navigate from Performance Dashboard to Resolution with New Version of Observer Platform

Minneapolis, MN – April 12, 2010 – Network Instruments, a worldwide leader in network and application performance management, today announced that its Observer® performance monitoring platform now provides new reporting and performance tracking features to address service delivery and visibility challenges caused by cloud-based and multi-tiered applications. Further, features have been added to improve baseline accuracy, provide flexibility in storing sensitive data long term, and address financial sector needs.

Performance Dashboards

Observer Reporting Server's new performance dashboards provide quick and concise displays of mission-critical application and service health. These modules can be configured to present up-to-the-minute updates on VoIP systems, cloud services, application response time, server health, MS Exchange performance, and even URL-based performance reports from service providers. Network, application, and infrastructure metrics can be displayed in context of one another for quick performance assessments.

"When managing cloud performance, determining the source of delay and having proof of the cause are critical," said Douglas Smith, co-founder and president of Network Instruments. "With our new performance dashboards, network teams can quickly navigate to expert analysis to pinpoint the cause as internal, their internet provider, or the cloud service provider. Additionally, when working with third-parties, Observer decreases resolution time by providing evidence to rule out variables and pinpoint the actual error."

New Observer Platform Features

In addition to performance dashboards, Observer offers several new features that expand its position as a leading performance management solution.

Selective GigaStor™ Storage: Ensure compliance when storing packet-level data long term

Baseline Drift Elimination: Lock baselines to purge issues of drift from analysis

Enhanced Financial Application Support: Track trade-level errors and performance statistics whether trade-by-trade or over multiple days

Selective GigaStor Storage

With the newest release, GigaStor retrospective network analysis solutions now provide selective storage capabilities for data compliance and security, which can be set to prevent the storage of sensitive payload content such as VoIP calls or PCI data. Network managers can use this functionality to exclude data by application or IP address, and leave performance metrics for the traffic intact.

"Traditionally, our customers have demanded the ability to store everything traversing the wire, but for some keeping sensitive data can be a policy violation," said Smith. "GigaStor now provides options for customers to store only what is necessary or required by the organisation or government regulations."

Baseline Drift Elimination

While baselines are the starting point for establishing performance thresholds and measuring deviation, baseline drift can skew measurements and provide erroneous results. With Observer Reporting Server, users can lock baselines to stop issues from being hidden by baseline drift. In addition, alarms can be set to immediately notify network teams when performance metrics have reached a marginal or critical level.

Targeting the Financial Sector

The latest release includes components designed to specifically benefit financial organisations, which have particular monitoring requirements that differ greatly from other markets. With multi-million dollar trades occurring every second, financial organisations need extremely detailed analysis. Network Instruments has enhanced the details provided in FIX analysis within GigaStor, allowing network teams to analyse successful and canceled trades, verify the execution price, and more.

Product Pricing

The Observer Reporting Server appliance begins at £21,250. The GigaStor with expanded FIX support and selective storage begins at £14,450 for the 2 TB two-port configuration. Additional product information and more details on the Observer performance management platform release are available at www.networkinstruments.co.uk.

About Network Instruments

Network Instruments, a leading provider of performance management and troubleshooting for fifteen 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.

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