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Network Instruments® Announces Time-Based, Historical Analysis for Wide Area Networks and New Write-to-SAN Options for the GigaStor™

GigaStor Technology Extended to Support WAN Links and Now Includes Greater Storage Capacity Utilising Storage Area Networks

Minneapolis, MN – 12 July 2006 – Network Instruments, a leading provider of innovative analysis solutions for in-depth network intelligence and continuous availability, announced today the release of the GigaStor-WAN probe appliance. The new addition to the GigaStor family offers high-performance data collection, high-capacity storage, and time-based analysis for wide area networks (WAN). In addition to the 2 TB, 4 TB, and 8 TB capacity options, the entire GigaStor product family can now write to a storage area network (SAN) to store and collect almost unlimited amounts of data.

Network Instruments historical analysis technology has brought forth a streamlined approach to network troubleshooting. A unique time-based display and massive storage capacity allows a network administrator to bypass the traditional, time-consuming task of having to recreate problems. Instead, with the GigaStor, the administrator selects the time the problem occurred and begins troubleshooting.

“Our customers were searching for a tool that could monitor WAN links in both real time and historically,” said Douglas Smith, president and co-founder of Network Instruments. “The GigaStor-WAN allows administrators to do both. Data can be reviewed in real time, without stopping the continuous capture capability. And unlike competitive analysis offerings, the data is collected and analysed on the GigaStor itself. For example, if you have a problem at a remote site, you don’t have to compound that problem further by dragging unnecessary data across your WAN.”

Roland Stigwood, manager director of Kedron UK Limited, a premier partner of Network Instruments, promotes the GigaStor technology to enterprise networking organisations.

“The GigaStor’s ability to carry out historical analysis has transformed the way network administrators are able to respond to problems, saving them huge amounts of time,” said Roland Stigwood, managing director of Kedron UK Limited. “We have seen massive demand for the GigaStor since it was launched last year and anticipate this will increase further now it is possible to use the GigaStor across native WAN links as well as Ethernet, Gigabit and Fibre Channel.”

Writing directly to a SAN provides administrators with greater storage flexibility. This option is available for the entire line of GigaStor appliances, including Ethernet, full-duplex gigabit, and Fibre Channel platforms.

“We’ve effectively removed any storage limitations,” said Smith. “Although the GigaStor offered up to 8 TBs of storage, the highest in the industry, we still had clients who desired more capacity. Now for our clients with immense storage needs, the GigaStor can continuously capture and store data from even the most bandwidth-laden networks.”

Available immediately, the GigaStor-WAN is the only historical analysis tool to provide complete capture and decode of all native WAN error and line conditions. This includes congestion errors (i.e. FECN, BECN), Committed Information Rates (CIR) and Data Link Connection Identifiers (DLCI). It supports capture rates of up to 320 MBps (2560 Mbps), can retain up to 2 TB, 4 TB, or 8 TB of network data and can monitor one to 12 links. The new appliance works seamlessly with the Observer® product family and reports to any Expert Observer and Observer Suite console located on the network. The GigaStor is also available for monitoring Ethernet, gigabit and Fibre Channel links. Pricing for the GigaStor-WAN begins at £15,295 for a 2 TB configuration.

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About Kedron UK Limited

Kedron UK is an independent supplier of affordable, market-leading network management and monitoring solutions to some of the largest and best known companies in the UK. Kedron recognises the role of IT within a business has changed and now requires broader, more in-depth solutions that can be centrally managed and relied upon. Through relationships with Key Technology Partners, Kedron is able to respond to these demands and build unique, effective solutions that solve business critical demands. For more information please visit www.kedronuk.com.

About Network Instruments

Network Instruments provides in-depth network intelligence and continuous network availability through innovative analysis solutions. Enterprise network professionals depend on Network Instruments' Observer product line for unparalleled network visibility to efficiently solve network problems and manage deployments. By combining a powerful management console with high-performance analysis appliances, Observer simplifies problem resolution and optimises network and application performance. The company continues to lead the industry in ROI with its advanced Distributed Network Analysis (NI-DNA™) architecture, which successfully integrates comprehensive analysis functionality across heterogeneous networks through a single monitoring interface. Network Instruments is headquartered in Minneapolis with sales offices worldwide and distributors in over 50 countries. For more information about the company, products, technology, NI-DNA, becoming a partner and NI University please visit www.networkinstruments.com.