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Network Instruments Now Assures Cloud Application Delivery

New Observer Infrastructure Expands Visibility into Complex Cloud and Application Environments

MINNEAPOLIS, MN — August 30, 2011 — Network Instruments, a worldwide leader in network and application performance monitoring, today announced its infrastructure monitoring solution Observer Infrastructure (OI) now provides visibility into public and private cloud components and in-depth tracking of cloud provider performance.

The newest version of OI provides insight into Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) performance for major providers, including Amazon Web Services (AWS), Google App Engine, Rackspace, GoGrid, and Hosting.com, by utilising cloud vendor APIs and CloudKick. Critical cloud service performance metrics including CPU, disk activity, user experience, and memory can be viewed within the context of overall IT operations to validate performance of cloud investments. Using the Observer platform, teams can seamlessly view cloud health alongside internal network, application, and infrastructure performance to quickly isolate and resolve the source of performance problems.

“As operations teams outsource services to the cloud, they often sacrifice visibility to successfully manage performance,” said Jim Frey, managing research director of Enterprise Management Associates (EMA). “Solutions like Network Instruments OI play a critical role in ensuring IT teams have an end-to-end view of service delivery and can proactively identify performance problems before they impact users.”

“The enhancements to the GigaStor appliance address the main concerns of performance management in the data center—quick and accurate analysis in a small footprint,” said Brad Reinboldt, senior product manager for Network Instruments. “Customers rely on us to continually leverage the latest technology to ensure that their monitoring investments solve performance problems in less time, even as network traffic is increased.”

Tracking Private Cloud

While many organisations are implementing public cloud services, larger companies driven by business and security needs are rolling out private cloud initiatives. Pre-packaged, standardised units, such as VCE Vblock and NetApp FlexPod, offer organisations the power of a data center consolidated into a single appliance.

“To make sense of the many Vblock or FlexPod devices and constructs, OI provides the ability to auto-discover, group, and manage all virtual and physical components in a single dashboard view,” said Brad Reinboldt, senior product manager of Network Instruments. “Based upon the alarm or potential issue, IT managers can then quickly navigate to the problem component.”

Managing Multi-Tiered Environments

OI now provides the ability to monitor many essential components associated with multi-tiered application environments. For example, network teams can now proactively monitor database response times and behavior through SQL scripts on Microsoft SQL, Oracle, MySQL, Sybase, and DB2 databases. In addition, monitors have been added for critical servers, including GlassFish, Java Runtime Environment, Lotus Domino Server, Microsoft .NET and Sharepoint, and IBM WebSphere Application Server. Teams can also regularly track performance of SAN environments such as: Dell EqualLogic; EMC CLARiiON, Celerra, and Symmetrix; InforTrend EonStor Series; NetApp and IBM N Series; and SAN fabric switches. Additional support has been added for communication systems, including Cisco UC Manager, Microsoft Lync Server, and Blackberry servers.

Additional Polling Sources

OI leverages Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) to obtain infrastructure configuration metrics, even when connected devices are powered off.

About Network Instruments

Since 1994, Network Instruments, a leading provider of performance management and troubleshooting solutions, has helped organisations ensure the delivery of business-critical applications. The company’s platform of management and reporting products provides comprehensive visibility into networks, infrastructure, and applications to optimise performance, speed troubleshooting, and assist long-term capacity planning. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company does business in more than 50 countries.

For more information, please visit www.networkinstruments.co.uk.