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Network Instruments® Launches Aggregator nTAP™ to Manage Higher Utilisation Spikes on Full-Duplex Networks

New nTAPs' industry-leading 512 MB buffer compatible with all leading security and management tools

- *Network Instruments launches Aggregator nTAPs for the management of larger network utilisation spikes on a full duplex link*
- *New Aggregator nTAPs provide largest buffer available on the market at 512 MB*
- *nTAPs can be integrated with all leading security and network management tools for complete visibility into full duplex network links*

Minneapolis, MN – 18 December 2006 – Network Instruments, a leading provider of innovative analysis solutions for in-depth network intelligence and continuous availability, today announced the release of its new line of Aggregator nTAPs. The new Aggregator nTAPs provide the largest buffer available on the market, reducing the likelihood of dropped packets on a gigabit link. Aggregator nTAPs provide visibility to both sides of a full-duplex data stream and aggregates them into a single flow giving administrators greater flexibility when connecting to analysis and security devices.

“We didn’t just design an Aggregator TAP, we designed it so that it offers two distinct technical improvements over competitive offerings,” said Douglas Smith, president and co-founder of Network Instruments. “First, our TAP offers the largest buffer—up to 512 MB—to enable it to handle higher utilisation spikes on a full-duplex link. Second, our Aggregator TAP has a unique pooled buffer design. Competitive Aggregator TAPs, if they include a buffer, have separate buffers for send and receive—once the send or receive buffer is filled, packets will be dropped for traffic in that direction. Our Aggregator TAP pools the buffer so that it can easily handle both sides of the network conversation, decreasing the chance of dropping packets. With the Aggregator nTAP we have greatly decreased the risk of dropping critical network data.”

In addition to managing larger network traffic spikes than existing aggregation TAPs, the Aggregator nTAP is aggressively priced at £1,345 for the 256 megabyte buffer and £1,795 for the 512 megabyte buffer. Each Aggregator nTAP supports 10 Mb, 100 Mb and 1000 Mb network traffic and connections, and has two separate simplex ports to stream data to analysis and security devices with single-receive capture interfaces.

“Not only have we introduced a technologically leading TAP into the market, but our prices are up to 40 per cent less than the competition,” said Pete Hage, nTAP sales director. “We don’t have to depend on a third party to develop and manufacture our nTAPs, so we never have to compromise on quality or price.”

The new Aggregator nTAP is the latest addition to the nTAP product line. nTAPs provide complete visibility into full-duplex network links and work with all leading security and network management tools, including the award-winning Network Instruments Observer® product family. nTAPs are also transparent, preventing them from being the target of a hack or virus attack and allowing network administrators to monitor critical links without data stream interference.

To learn more, call 0 1959 569 880 or visit www.networkinstruments.co.uk.

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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.co.uk.