

PRESS CONTACTS:

Strategic Alliance International

Amy Redhead
amy@strategicpr.net
01494 434 434

Network Instruments

Caroline Dunn
carolined@networkinstruments.com
01959 569880

Network Instruments® GigaStor™ Provides Comprehensive Security Forensics

Retrospective Analysis Identifies Thousands of Network Attacks and Anomalies

Minneapolis, MN – 12 March 2007 – Network Instruments, a leading provider of innovative analysis solutions for in-depth network intelligence and continuous availability, today announced the release of its GigaStor appliance with integrated security forensics. The comprehensive forensic analysis solution identifies and resolves network, application, and security issues, allowing network and security teams to work together on quick problem resolution.

When troubleshooting enterprise-level networks, engineers from security and network teams often do not have the visibility required to quickly isolate and resolve issues. This can result in time wasted by attempting to replicate the network issue or fighting with other network teams over the cause of the issue.

To facilitate fast problem resolution, Network Instruments has expanded the retrospective network analysis capabilities of GigaStor to identify security breaches. GigaStor operates like a security camera, recording everything traversing the network for future analysis. With Security Forensics, GigaStor determines whether a security breach occurred by comparing the historical traffic against a list of thousands of known attacks and anomalies. If a breach is identified, GigaStor provides drill-down analysis to determine the source and time of the occurrence.

“GigaStor dramatically changes the way an enterprise can troubleshoot application and network issues,” said Douglas Smith, president of Network Instruments. “It gives the network team the benefit of 20/20 hindsight in identifying and resolving problems. Having the event recorded, the team is able to see everything unfold as well as run extensive Expert analysis on the historical data, which improves their accuracy and speed in diagnosing the underlying network problem. The addition of over 8,000 security experts to GigaStor will now change the way security teams investigate and resolve breaches on their networks.”

The unique and comprehensive forensic capabilities of GigaStor offer several advantages over conventional analyzers including:

- Viewing security breaches in the context of what else happened on the network
- Validating and providing evidence for compliance and security issues
- Going back in time to diagnose and locate the source of zero-day attacks
- Breaking down the silos of IT departments (network and security teams) through quick problem identification

Data Stream Reconstruction

Complementing GigaStor's forensics is its ability to reconstruct captured packet-level information into complete data streams. This capability allows GigaStor to reconstruct network communications, including web pages (including images), instant messaging texts, e-mails, and VoIP calls. With the latest release of Observer®, GigaStor can now reconstruct any file sent over an HTTP stream, such as confidential spreadsheets sent by a web-mail account. Data stream reconstruction can be important for investigating a security breach or gathering detailed evidence of a network policy violation.

Product Pricing

Network Instruments has added many significant enhancements to GigaStor and the Observer product family, and pricing remains the same. The GigaStor begins at £17,995 for a two-port configuration. Observer Expert, with over 70 VoIP-specific metrics, MultiHop Analysis, MPLS Analysis, IPv6 support, Application Analysis, and Stream Reconstruction, is £2,895. Observer Suite, with an SNMP console and Web Reporting, is £3,995. Additional product information is available at 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.