IBM Tivoli NetView

IBM® Tivoli® NetView® is a scalable, comprehensive, distributed network solution that helps provide you with the flexibility to manage mission-critical networks. It helps enable availability of critical business systems and rapid problem resolution. It can also let you discover TCP/IP networks, display network topologies, correlate and manage events and simple network management protocol (SNMP) traps, monitor network health and gather performance data.

Restrictive firewall support
Your corporate policies might require restrictive firewall deployment, creating “demilitarized zones” (DMZs). Tivoli NetView helps you manage these DMZs in restrictive environments.

Compartmentalization
By controlling access to and views of the network, Tivoli NetView makes it possible for more than one network to be managed by a single server.

Switch and MPLS diagnostics
Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) and switch diagnostic tools provide visibility of switch port statuses. This provides spanning-tree information, which helps operators identify network problems that might arise because of ports that have inadvertently been blocked.

Policy-based management
IBM Tivoli NetView SmartSets allows you to group network resources that require similar management and apply policies to these groups. As a result, you can manage a set of resources as though it were a single device. With SmartSets you can group resources by type, location, vendor, services offered or other characteristics.

For example, you can create a SmartSet containing Cisco routers and then develop a policy requiring these routers to have CPU utilization collected every 15 minutes. As new
devices are discovered and added to the SmartSet, policies can automatically extend to include them. As a result, CPU utilization can be automatically collected against these new devices.

Cisco integration
To help manage your expanding network, Tivoli NetView integrates with CiscoWorks2000 and provides the device configuration to help efficiently manage Cisco devices. The IBM Tivoli NetView Java™ Web console and CiscoWorks2000 work together to help simplify the management, configuration and availability of Cisco equipment in a distributed heterogeneous environment.

Automated event response
Tivoli NetView uses a rules-based event correlation engine that graphically constructs guidelines to implement business policies, and it can help diagnose root problems without reporting all symptomatic events. It can manage events locally or centrally or by propagating them to other Tivoli applications, such as Tivoli Enterprise Console®, for advanced event correlation. Additionally, Tivoli NetView can handle a variety of actions when responding to events and exceeded thresholds, including paging, e-mail and programmable responses to specific failures.

Router fault isolation
Router fault isolation is a root-cause analysis feature built in to Tivoli NetView. In the event of a serious network problem, router fault isolation can immediately focus on the failing device and mark affected network regions as unreachable. In response, Tivoli NetView can reduce networking polling of the affected networks, potentially reducing overall event traffic. Without a router fault isolation feature, customizing this function could be expensive and time-consuming. This feature can help simplify root-cause analysis of network failures.

Widely available management
With its scalable design, the Tivoli NetView Web console lets you observe network activity from many locations. Using the Web console you can view events, node status and SmartSets—and perform network diagnostics such as ping, traceroute, demand poll, nongraphical generated management information base (MIB) applications and MIB browser.

Network topology management
TCP/IP networks are more complex than ever. Technologies such as MPLS, Hot Standby Router Protocol by Cisco and unnumbered serial interfaces allow for greater network flexibility while also presenting greater network management challenges. In supporting these technologies Tivoli NetView can help you manage and represent complex topologies and provide accurate status information.

Additionally, networks often comprise a wide variety of devices, such as hubs, routers, bridges, switches, workstations, PCs, laptops and printers. With Tivoli NetView you can choose which of these devices to manage. Many network management platforms let you exclude a node from being managed, but Tivoli NetView further enables you to specify which nodes, device types or address ranges to include or exclude. It can help you focus on your most important devices—and the most important information about those devices.
Distributed network management
Tivoli NetView offers flexibility in a distributed environment. With IBM Tivoli NetView Mid-Level Manager you can distribute management functions to remote locations that cannot support full-scale management. It can perform status polling, threshold setting, event automation and automatic detection of new or deleted devices. Tivoli NetView Mid-Level Manager also can help minimize administrative overhead and can avoid the need for dedicated management systems throughout the network.

The Tivoli NetView Web browser interface lets users view network information from any supported Web browser.

Tivoli NetView also can be configured to operate in a regional mode. When set up this way, Tivoli NetView can manage a local region—such as a campus or building—and forward selected information to a central Tivoli NetView server. This allows local management to handle most problems while staff members in the network operations center monitor critical systems. It also can enable management in regions where SNMP and ICMP (Internet control message protocol) traffic cannot flow (such as the DMZ).

Integration with Tivoli Enterprise
Tivoli NetView can be used by itself to provide network management capabilities, or it can be integrated with other Tivoli Enterprise™ products for extended capabilities. For example, integration with Tivoli Enterprise Console lets you consolidate and perform correlation against enterprise events, including network events. With Tivoli Inventory, network device information can be added to the Tivoli Inventory database.

Integration with Tivoli Decision Support Network Guides
Tivoli Decision Support Network Guides provide insight into your network, as well as information for data analysis. You can proactively manage your network by presenting trend data and answering questions. The information can be presented in various graphical formats and can be viewed interactively or posted as a snapshot on a URL. Tivoli Decision Support Network Guides also can automatically set up Tivoli NetView to collect critical data from your network devices.

Tivoli Decision Support Network Guides for Tivoli NetView

Network Element Status—Can enable a detailed view of the overall health and behavior of your network’s individual elements, such as routers, servers, end systems, SNMP data and MIB expressions collected from MIB II agents.

Network Event Analysis—Helps provide an overall view of network and Tivoli NetView event flow and event traffic. It can analyze events over time, helping you distinguish device class and event severity.

Network Segment Performance—Can provide a view of network segment behavior primarily determined by using Remote Network Monitoring characteristics on the network. This network analysis focuses on the health of specific sections of the network rather than individual network elements.
System requirements

Tivoli NetView Client/Server

IBM AIX® 4.3.3 and higher

Sun™ Solaris™ 2.7 and higher

Microsoft® Windows NT® 4.0 Service Pack 5 or higher (Intel® and Alpha)

Windows® 2000 Service Pack 1 or higher

RedHat Linux® 7.0 (Intel)

SuSE Linux 7.1 (Intel)

Tivoli NetView Web Console

Netscape Navigator or Communicator 4.5 and higher

Internet Explorer 4.0 and higher

Tivoli NetView Mid-Level Manager

AIX 4.1.5 or higher

Solaris 2.5.1, 2.6 or 2.7

HP-UX A09.07 and higher

B10.01 and higher

Windows NT 4.0 Service Pack 4 or higher (Intel and Alpha)

To learn more

For more information about IBM Tivoli NetView and integrated solutions from IBM, contact your IBM sales representative or visit info.tivoli.com/availability