



# Network Monitoring Best Practices

- ✓ **BEING PROACTIVE TO MINIMIZE NETWORK OUTAGES**
- ✓ **DEFINING AN EFFECTIVE NETWORK MONITORING SOLUTION**
- ✓ **IDENTIFYING THE NETWORK ELEMENTS YOU NEED TO MONITOR**

## **UPFRONT WORK MINIMIZES THE ISSUES THAT COST YOU TIME AND MONEY**

Being proactive helps avoid future potential problems

## **THE KEYS TO EFFECTIVE NETWORK MONITORING**

A thorough solution includes multiple attributes to monitor

## **THE TIME TO START IS NOW**

Your business depends on your network being up and available.

### **IT'S TIME TO BE PROACTIVE**

Many organizations react to problems and issues on their network rather than proactively monitoring their network to avoid problems before they occur. This means that every small hiccup or outage is unplanned, and very costly to the business and its employees in many ways.

The following tips for monitoring the critical aspects of your network will help put you on the path to being proactive. This allows you to minimize the issues that can cost you productivity and money.

### **EFFECTIVE NETWORK MONITORING**

Network monitoring is something that many organizations feel they can live without. While this might be true in the short-term, it is rather unlikely that the network will remain trouble-free forever. When the problems do arise, a properly configured network monitoring solution will be the difference between scheduled maintenance done at your convenience and unplanned network outages when you can least afford the downtime.

An effective network monitoring solution should:

- **Be located onsite.** This ensures that you do not have a single point of failure, and are notified in the event of a failed Internet connection or other disruption of service on your local network.
- **Monitor both performance and availability of resources.** Many businesses implement low-cost monitoring solutions that only watch a server's network connectivity. Whether or not your system is turned on and accessible is a relatively narrow view of the health of that system and your network as a whole.
- **Provide several different notification options:** email, text message, and paging. This is important for those occasions when your email system is down, or otherwise unavailable.
- **Provide application specific alerts and reporting,** which is especially important with Line of Business (LOB) applications. Your monitoring system should have the intelligence to watch for application-specific event log messages.
- **Provide hardware specific alerts** for all major hardware vendors. Many businesses keep their servers hidden away, and only look at them when necessary. This can often result in hardware problems and localized alerts going unnoticed.
- **Have robust reporting capabilities** to help you better understand the trends that are occurring on your network. Being able to review the system's data over any period of time can show you how your systems are being used.



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## WHAT SEPARATES LANLOGIC FROM THE REST:

### OUR TEAM

The breadth and depth of expertise of the Lanlogic staff allows us to deliver IT services enjoyed by top-tier, global companies – solutions designed to meet your needs now and in the future.

### OUR UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR BUSINESS

Whether you are just starting out or you are already a large organization, we pride ourselves in delivering IT solutions, individually-tailored by senior-level Microsoft-Certified network consultants.

### OUR PASSION FOR SERVICE

We are available when you need us. We keep your office running and employees productive at all times.

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## GETTING STARTED

What you need to monitor on your network will vary greatly between businesses, but the following should be considered an appropriate starting point.

### Servers

- CPU usage
- Memory usage
- Available hard disk space
- Application Event Log errors
- System Event Log errors
- Status of critical services
- Network connectivity
- Backup status
- Hardware status

### Firewall

- Network connectivity
- Available firmware upgrades

### Line-Of-Business Applications

- Service status
- Event log specific warnings, errors
- Website availability, if the application is web-based

The bottom line is that businesses are more dependent on their networks than ever before. Properly monitoring your network will result in fewer unplanned outages, and an overall improvement in the health of your network.

## The Value of Proactive Network Monitoring

While some businesses may view network monitoring as excessive or something that they will need to do “down the road,” it only takes one unplanned outage to understand the importance and value of network monitoring. If your business depends on its network to function, it is imperative that a well thought out monitoring system be in place to ensure uptime and availability when you need it.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

- ✓ IT Services & Support
- ✓ Cloud Computing/SaaS/Hosting
- ✓ IT Consulting & Project Management
- ✓ IT Assessments & Planning

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