Business Benefits

- Detect and automate network changes, and see who changed what, where, when and assess the impact of changes on the health and stability of the network
- Reduce guesswork with complete discovery, dynamic inventory and a view of all network devices, network constructs, their dependencies and topology
- Identify suboptimal configurations with intelligent analysis of device configurations before problems arise
- Ensure consistency and minimize time to prove compliance with built-in regulatory standards and customizable compliance reports
- Improve capacity management and rogue device detection

Reduce Risk and Improve IT Efficiency by Automating Network Configuration and Change Management

Today, up to 80% of network problems are caused by change—mistakes made when manually changing devices, setting poor configurations that cause problems later and using inconsistent standards. New initiatives, such as virtualization, cloud computing and IPv6, are only adding to the challenge. While new virtual servers can be spun up and down in a matter of minutes, the network infrastructure supporting these dynamic environments typically requires days and weeks to change—properly.

NetMRI is the world’s leading multi-vendor network automation solution. It includes the functionality of Infoblox Switch Port Manager and Automation Change Manager and adds functionality for change and configuration management and compliance enforcement. With hundreds of built-in rules and industry best practices, it automates network change and configuration management, intelligently manages device configurations and reduces the risk of human error.

NetMRI is a key solution for managing dynamic and complex environments, such as virtualized and cloud networks, and provides management support for IPv6 deployments. With automation for both physical and virtual devices, NetMRI gives your network the power to keep with pace with rapidly changing network components. With tight integration with the Infoblox Trinzic DDI solution, users can leverage the auto-sync with the IPAM database and implement changes faster with the Automation Task Board.

Complete Network Change and Impact Analysis

NetMRI detects and tracks all network changes—including who changed what, where and when, and the impact of changes—and saves every historical device configuration with easy side-by-side comparisons. This automated network solution also includes embedded jobs, scripts and customizable templates to help you move away from manual CLI-based changes.

NetMRI leverages hundreds of standards and industry best practices to understand and correlate the impact of change on both network health and compliance. Instead of assuming a change works, NetMRI detects the change and completes an automated analysis to identify variances from correct configuration and vulnerabilities to the stability of the network. Auto-generated issues, graphical summaries and the unique Network Scorecard highlight whether changes have a positive or negative impact on the network.
Key Features

- Includes Switch Port Manager’s comprehensive multi-vendor network discovery, switch port capacity views and end-host management
- Includes Automation Change Manager’s robust and dynamic network change automation capabilities
- Automatic network discovery for multi-vendor network devices with multi-perspective topology views
- Built-in expert analysis of configuration and health assessments
- Standard and custom rule and reporting for faster compliance analysis
- Change monitoring and tracking for who changed what, where, when and the impact of the change on the health of the network
- Collection and archiving of current and historical of network devices’ configuration files with easy side-by-side comparison
- Automatic network problem identification with auto-remediation options
- Built-in packaged scripts, such as OS upgrades, password changes and many others
- Job scheduling, approval and peer-review enforcement
- Executive-level dashboards that show correlation of change with network health and compliance, overall network score and other high-level views
- In-bound and out-bound API support for third-party solutions
- Integrated with Trinzic DDI for auto-sync to IPAM database and enhanced automation for common network tasks

Total View of the Network

Today, many organizations rely on manual spreadsheets and generic ping sweeps for network discovery and inventory, but the results produced by these has-been techniques are often out of date and can waste valuable staff time in inefficient network management and prolonged troubleshooting efforts.

NetMRI offers complete network discovery and dynamic inventory for multi-vendor, Layer 2 and Layer 3 physical and virtual network elements. User-friendly analysis and graphical views provide rich information on network elements, including devices, VLANS, routes, routing tables, HSRP/VRRP peers, subnets, OS and models.

NetMRI automatically collects information and continuously keeps it up to date, making it always available for key tasks such as inventory, troubleshooting and maintenance reconciliation. Find planned and rogue devices automatically, report on variances as they happen, and highlight the network connections across the entire infrastructure. Also, automatically sync the rich network data with Infoblox’s IP address management solution.

Proactive Network Configuration Management

NetMRI identifies and exposes lurking and intermittent problems often caused by poor configurations, which are typically very difficult and sometimes impossible to troubleshoot. Using built-in expertise and analytic techniques to identify network issues and poor configurations, NetMRI detects symptoms before they evolve into faults.

Focusing on a holistic network view and analysis instead of just individual devices, NetMRI helps you discover hidden problems and remediate them faster than any manual processes can. By uncovering potential issues early, NetMRI empowers you to take preventive action proactively well before the end user experiences poor performance or application degradation.
Network Change Automation

Even though networks are becoming ever more dynamic through technologies such as virtualization and cloud computing, many IT teams still use manual processes or write custom scripts to make changes. These processes require extensive internal expertise, have large time commitments and increase the risk of human error. As a result, many IT teams have limited control and change documentation. Moreover, manual processes simply cannot keep pace with the changes that virtual devices bring to the network.

NetMRI, which includes Automation Change Manager, employs embedded expertise and customizable templates to execute basic and complex changes, helping IT teams reduce manual processes and create fewer unique scripts. Instead of handling just basic tasks, NetMRI focuses on customizable, dynamic concepts – enabling powerful automation with the Automation Task Board.

Automated Network Compliance and Standardization

When confronted with new standards requirements and compliance regulations, many organizations simply file the specifications documents in a large binder when they arrive and don't think about them again until there is a problem or an audit is scheduled. Then members of the IT staff go through the network from one device to the next, rule by rule, and attempt to find the issues, ascertain the state of the requirements, institute the newly mandated regulations and scramble to prove that the processes have been followed. The result is that chaos ensues.

NetMRI solves the problem of network compliance and standardization by automating the process with built-in rules and templates for common standards, including PCI, NSA, SANS, DISA and others, and also allowing you to create your own custom policies and reports. NetMRI passes each rule across every single network device 24/7, and highlights all violations immediately as detected.

Employing customizable attributes/policies and continuous proactive monitoring, NetMRI alerts you to any rule violation, shows you who caused the problem and offers remediation options in real time.

For both internal best practices and external compliance mandates, NetMRI's continuous monitoring and single-click reporting ensures ongoing standardization.

Instead of spending weeks chaotically compiling the information for audits, you are able to generate reports for both internal standards and external mandates (such as SOX, HIPAA, FERC and NERC) automatically with a single click.
Switch Port Management Visibility

Often organizations add unnecessary switch port capacity to be safe, which both increases security risks because of limited visibility and also compounds expenses. With NetMRI, you can automatically track connected end devices and monitor what was connected, by whom, when and where.

NetMRI lets you easily identify and locate rogue devices or use device forensics for troubleshooting. Since NetMRI monitors all end devices, determining used, free and available ports is easy and simple and allows IT teams to plan capacity throughout the organization with more assurance and insight.

Automating and Simplifying Common Network Tasks

Common networking tasks that appear “simple and fast” still require extensive manual effort and multiple handoffs that all too often lead to human error and excessive delays. Turning a port up or down, reconfiguring a VLAN or creating a new subnet is not extremely complex, but still takes hours or days for most organizations.

By integrating Trinzic DDI and NetMRI, the Automation Task Board provides a single, intuitive user interface to complete a common task quickly, effectively and securely. Initiating tasks through a single interface, authorized staff can make common changes immediately, thereby eliminating the need for elaborate, custom scripts and manual processes. This rich automation capability crosses organizations boundaries allowing more experienced staff to focus on critical business initiatives, instead of dealing with manual, repetitive tasks.

Network Automation for Efficiency, Security, Analysis, and Compliance

In short, NetMRI empowers your network with automation that ensures up-to-date compliance, offers full visibility in real time at all times, controls change and configuration management, gives you the insight you need for fast troubleshooting and provides the tools for managing today’s dynamic and complex environments, including the challenges of virtualization and cloud computing.

Infoblox Product Warranty and Services

The standard hardware warranty is for a period of one year. The system software has a 90-day warranty that will meet published specifications. Optional service products are also available that extend the hardware and software warranty. These products are recommended to ensure the appliance is kept updated with the latest software enhancements and to ensure the security and availability of the system. Professional services and training courses are also available from Infoblox. Information in this document is subject to change without notice. Infoblox Inc. assumes no responsibility for errors that appear in this document.

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