Control your network for continuous availability.

10 compelling reasons for taking another look at the way you manage DNS, DHCP, and IP addresses
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The Domain Name System (DNS), the Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP), and IP address management (IPAM) tools are the nuts and bolts of network software—small parts of a well-designed system that has worked efficiently for years. But as trends like the mobile device explosion, cloud and virtualization, consolidation, software-defined networking, IPv6, and the rapidly changing cyber-threat landscape increase the complexity of managing your network—and multiply the negative consequences of not managing it well—those nuts and bolts are starting to look awfully important.

Today more devices connect to the network every minute, and the demand for DNS queries is climbing radically. Scalability and performance issues associated with legacy DHCP servers crop up with increasing frequency—and cost the business more every day.

Because networks are increasingly critical parts of more and more business functions, it becomes ever more important to keep the network available. But at the same time, managing those nuts and bolts becomes harder to do. Tools and processes that used to work well are no longer up to the task, and to protect your network from downtime without pushing your resources to the breaking point, you need industrial-grade DNS/DHCP/IPAM (DDI).

Your network’s unique cost drivers

Every aspect of modern commerce depends to one degree or another on computing networks, and network downtime is costly in many significant ways. But not all of them apply to every enterprise.

The list below can generate a rough scale of one to ten for assessing the potential cost of network downtime to your business and for determining the priority of network availability among your many responsibilities. Just answer the questions to see where you fall on the scale.

Cost efficiency

The big drivers of cost efficiency today—data-center consolidation, central IT management, out-sourcing and off-shoring, streamlined staffing, and more—depend on reliable computing networks.

Does your business or your IT organization have significant cost-efficiency initiatives in place that depend on network availability?

YES  NO
Global reach

A big factor in business success is the ability to reach out to new markets and new suppliers. Without a robust and reliable network, your company’s geographical reach—and therefore your business potential—is limited.

*Are critical parts of your global business connected primarily or exclusively via networks?*

YES ☐  NO ☐

Control and communications

Dispersed facilities and workforces are the norm today, and management and communication depend on constant connectivity between headquarters and the field, managers and employees.

*Would a network outage interfere with teamwork and management within your company?*

YES ☐  NO ☐

Operational efficiency

Businesses depend on integrated operations today, from the back office to the front office, from accounting to payroll, from manufacturing to inventory to distribution. When the network is broken, critical business processes are broken.

*Can your critical business operations continue to function efficiently during a network outage?*

YES ☐  NO ☐

Productivity and return on wages and salaries

Workforce compensation is a huge part of the cost of doing business, and without productivity tools that rely on the network, companies don’t get adequate return on their investments in talent.

*Do a significant number of your company’s employees depend on networked computing tools to make their contributions to the business?*

YES ☐  NO ☐
Partner relationships

Agreements with resellers, systems integrators, suppliers, distributors, and more are key parts of any large enterprise, and without reliable networks, orders, deliveries, support, co-marketing, and myriad other crucial ingredients of successful partnerships can't be handled rapidly enough.

Is your network critical to fulfilling partner obligations, meeting service-level agreements, and cooperating effectively?

YES ☐  NO ☐

Disaster recovery

Recent events make it painfully clear that disasters can strike at any time and cause massive disruption. For businesses with network-connected dispersed operations, a local event can have global effects—unless the network has the ability to recover quickly and completely.

Does your business have operations in regions where power outages, floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes are likely to occur?

YES ☐  NO ☐

Customer satisfaction

Today’s networks extend outside of companies into their customers’ homes, cars, pockets, and purses. Fully mobilized, customers expect to access information, products, services, and support at any time, from anywhere. Businesses who can’t meet this expectation are at a competitive disadvantage.

Are networks the conduit of marketing information, services, support, or products to your customers?

YES ☐  NO ☐

Revenue

For many businesses, the money actually flows in over networks, and a network outage shuts down the pipeline—with disastrous effect.

Does a significant percentage of your company’s revenue actually come into the business via your networks?

YES ☐  NO ☐
Reputation

Xbox Live, CTB/McGraw-Hill Testing, Skype, AOL, Blackberry, PlayStation—these are just a few of the well-known brands that have appeared recently in headlines about network outages. And network downtime is frequently cited as a cause on Yahoo Finance's list of the 15 most disliked companies.

If your business experienced a widespread or long-lasting network outage, would it make the news?

YES ☐ NO ☐

The impact on your network operations

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then network availability should be high on your team's list of priorities. If you answered "yes" to several of them, it should be near the top, and you should consider building an always-on network.

The question, though, is, how do you deliver continuous availability to the business within the practical constraints of day-to-day network management? Your network management team is probably already scrambling to respond to business growth, rising customer demand, acquisitions and mergers, evolving technology, and so forth—all the while juggling a mixed bag of management tools and practices that might include:

- Microsoft DNS and DHCP utilities
- Microsoft Clustering
- Separate DHCP servers
- DNS tools on virtual machines
- Excel spreadsheets used to manage IP addresses
- Perl script or command-line interfaces used for automation
- Multiple vendor relationships to manage

Many of the management tools commonly used come bundled with server operating systems, and part of the appeal of using them is cost savings. But these “free” solutions have hidden costs that can run up your total cost of ownership, requiring too many steps, many management tools, and too much complexity. This can tie your highly paid expert staff up with administrative tasks like maintaining disparate systems, updating all the required software, getting the visibility you need to report on performance, and securing the network and the traffic that flows on it.

So given that you and your team are already trying to perform time-consuming and stressful tasks within tight budgets, is an always-on network that protects the business from the impacts listed above really possible to achieve?

The answer is, not if raising network availability to the top of the IT agenda is just one more task piled on top of many others. To address the urgency of avoiding network downtime, you need to simplify network management and increase network control.
Changing the outcome by changing the game

If you want to deliver always-on network services, you have to change the context—by replacing your overly complex collection of management tools with an integrated, centralized DDI. A DDI solution can give you excellent network availability that meets a range of business requirements—and at the same time can reduce the cost and complexity of managing your network.

Infoblox Trinzic® DDI

Based on these combined requirements for network availability and management efficiency, Infoblox has developed Infoblox Trinzic DDI, the world’s leading appliance-based, DNS, DHCP, and IPAM solution. Trinzic DDI seamlessly integrates state-of-the-art IPAM and automated error-checking with DNS and DHCP services to improve enterprise-wide DNS and DHCP availability and simplify infrastructure maintenance.

And if your network team is trained on and accustomed to utilities such as Microsoft DNS and DHCP servers and Microsoft Clustering, Trinzic DDI will allow you to preserve your investment in legacy solutions while adding capabilities that greatly reduce administration burdens.

Infoblox Trinzic DDI gives you centralized, holistic management of DNS, DHCP, and IPAM—cutting costs and reducing your workload.

Trinzic DDI gives you a low-impact overlay solution for IPAM that reduces your total cost of ownership for Microsoft DNS and DHCP servers. It supports all the essential protocols of network management, it can be virtualized on platforms from a range of vendors, and it gives your administrators a user-friendly control interface through a single pane of glass.
Trinzic DDI enables you to control your network—more easily, more efficiently, and more effectively.

The Infoblox Grid™ architecture

All these network-management advantages contribute to availability, but Trinzic DDI goes beyond them with the patented Infoblox Grid, which gives you the most advanced, highly available, fault-tolerant, and scalable solution available today.

Grid technology is the foundation of Trinzic DDI. It links a unified, centrally managed system of physical and virtual appliances that share a common, real-time distributed database. It synchronizes data across these systems in real time as devices are added and deleted and as data changes. This enables you to manage it as a single distributed system, regardless of the size of the system and the location of its components.

Infoblox Grid gives you resiliency with high-availability (HA) pairs so that you can implement a HA control plan. It also provides software, hardware, and an operating system optimized for performance and collects real-time network data in one place to make it easier to identify potential problems and prevent them.
Always-on network services—and more

In addition to an always-on network, Infoblox Trinzic DDI and Infoblox Grid give you:

- Time-, work-, and money-saving automation through the integration of advanced DNS, DHCP, and IPAM in a single appliance
- Security via support for DNS security extensions, secure connections among Infoblox appliances, and a hardened operating system without root access
- IPAM for virtualization that discovers virtual machines (VMs), collects detailed VM information, and groups them automatically using Smart Folders
- Next-generation IP networking with full support for IPv6 and related protocols such as DNSv6, DHCPv6, DNS64, and one-click DNS security extensions (SEC).
- IPAM for Microsoft that includes centralized administration of both Infoblox and Microsoft DNS and DHCP servers

Are you ready to give your business an always-on network and simplify everything at the same time?

Your network is the circulatory system that carries the lifeblood of your business. Without network services, nothing else matters. This is why thousands of global organizations rely on patented, state-of-the-art Infoblox technology to deliver nonstop networking.

If you’re ready to go to bed each night knowing that the network you’re responsible for won’t let your business down, contact an Infoblox representative today, or visit http://www.infoblox.com for more information.

About Infoblox

Infoblox (NYSE:BLOX) helps customers control their networks. Infoblox solutions help businesses automate complex network control functions to reduce costs and increase security and uptime. Our technology enables automatic discovery, real-time configuration and change management and compliance for network infrastructure, as well as critical network control functions such as DNS, DHCP, and IP Address Management (IPAM) for applications and endpoint devices. Infoblox solutions help over 6,500 enterprises and service providers in 25 countries control their networks.