

Five Things to Look for in a Network Assurance Tool

Assuring required service levels for complex networks means having the right analytics capabilities at your disposal. Here are five things to look for when considering a network analytics and assurance product as part of a broader wired and wireless network offering:

1. Unified, all-in-one product.

Too many vendors ask you to buy multiple products to get the network intelligence you need. An all-in-one analytics product is ideal because it provides comprehensive, unified network intelligence.

2. Incident classification by severity.

All network service issues are not created equal. Seek out network analytics tools that rank service incidents by severity, including which service issues are the highest priority. That way you can address what matters most, first.

3. Granular troubleshooting.

Summary views are great, but in-depth client troubleshooting requires maximum granularity so that you can pinpoint the problem. Seek out technologies that give you a detailed view of the connectivity experience from the perspective of individual clients.

4. Flexible access to your network data warehouse.

Some analytics products don't let you drill down into your network data. Rigidity is not your ally. Make sure you choose a product that delivers drag-and-drop simplicity with flexible options for visualizing your data.

5. Simple deployment.

The antidote to network complexity is not more complexity. Look for a product that doesn't sacrifice simplicity for power—that's a false trade-off. Look for cloud services that don't require a separate on-site data collector or appliance.

The right tool can dramatically improve your efficiency in assuring required network service levels. Advanced network analytics frees up resources so your team can focus on higher value-added activities. You accelerate troubleshooting for a lower mean time to resolution, and users get the service levels they expect.

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