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PC Power Mgmt. Programs Reduce Energy Costs by 40%

P C power management programs that enable management of PC power settings over a network provide the ability to drastically reduce organizations' power consumption, energy costs, and carbon dioxide emissions.

Numerous studies, including those from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and several private-sector organizations, indicate that up to $70 per PC can be saved each year by implementing PC power management programs.

For an enterprise with 1,000 client computers, this can result in annual energy savings of $70,000.

Despite the significant savings opportunity, the vast majority of organizations are not utilizing power management capabilities and are wasting large amounts of electricity and contributing to greenhouse gas emissions.

According to a recent survey conducted by Forrester Research Inc., only 13 percent of organizations have implemented extensive power management programs while an additional 18 percent have set up programs for only some of their PCs.

Simtrol's Device Manager software optimizes the management and maintenance of connected devices such as digital displays, projectors, and PCs.

Device Manager may be deployed as a standalone solution or as an extension to an existing Systems Management suite to reduce operating costs and extend the life of assets across the enterprise.

Contact: http://www.simtrol.com

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Solution For IT Risk Discovery and Remediation Unveiled

N etWitness Corporation announced the availability of InSight, an innovative solution for automated risk discovery and remediation for workstations and servers.

InSight improves upon current risk assessment methodologies by both discovering sensitive data on host systems across the enterprise and concurrently evaluating the security condition of each system.

InSight's combined data discovery and risk exposure analysis provide automated, reproducible and scalable metrics to security, audit and compliance staffs con-

taining the clarity they need to prioritize and mitigate risk in a cost-effective and sensible way. The software provides three critically important functions for government and private sector IT professionals:

– Fast, accurate identification of the location of sensitive, proprietary and regulated data on host systems;

– Assessment of the likelihood of exploitation of the systems on which their most important data resides;

– Tools that help these organizations prioritize and execute risk remediation efforts on the most critical systems.

The launch of InSight broadens NetWitness' capabilities from network-based advanced network monitoring and threat intelligence to include an end-to-end focus on enterprise-wide risk discovery, prioritization and reduction.

The NextGen offerings provide a deep level of knowledge and visibility into advanced threats across their networks, and they have been asking for a complementary solution that can address their broader IT risk requirements.

InSight provides users with the deepest view into exactly where their sensitive data resides, helping them to quickly identify which systems are most vulnerable and what fixes need to be prioritized.

InSight is a single technology, based on a fully-customizable framework that simplifies the process of performing enterprise risk management. InSight scours through servers and workstations looking for sensitive, proprietary, and regulated data.

Simultaneously, the software leverages the industry standard Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP) to evaluate compliance with security policies, configuration standards, and to find vulnerabilities and other security flaws that represent exposure to that data.

By combining the impact of data loss and the likelihood of exploitation, InSight's unique approach provides a logical and defensible risk metric system that shows organizations where to prioritize their remediation efforts and how to focus on the data protection problems that matter most.

This capability permits IT, security, audit, and compliance teams to automate the isolation and removal of sensitive or regulated information from systems where it should not reside.

NetWitness has proven itself as a clear innovator in the network security space with its NextGen solution, providing threat intelligence and visibility that could not be found in other products.

At the host-security level, security staffs still struggle to create a sensible and measurable data protection strategy that prioritizes security program activity according to the highest risk to the enterprise.

The NetWitness InSight model provides an opportunity for organizations to discover where their sensitive data reside, and which assets are most likely to be compromised.

Contact: http://www.netwitness.com

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Dell Further Integrates Sys Mgmt. Products With MS Suite

Dell said it offers the industry's first comprehensive solution for managing Microsoft applications, multi-vendor hypervisors including Microsoft Hyper-V and VMware ESX, and a span of Dell hardware with the Microsoft System Center product portfolio.

Dell and Microsoft have co-developed solutions designed to simplify management and maximize utilization of IT resources in small, mid-sized and enterprise environments.

The Microsoft System Center Essentials Management Suite combines Microsoft System Center Essentials 2007 and Microsoft System Center Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM) 2008 in a packaged solution designed specifically for midsized infrastructures.

When used with Dell PRO-Pack (Performance and Resource Optimization Pack) and Management Packs, customers have cost-efficient manageability across both physical and virtual IT resources.

PRO-Pack provides extensive insight into Dell PowerEdge servers to monitor the health status of physical hosts which enables optimal management of virtual resources.

PRO-Pack, when used with Microsoft System Center Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM) 2008, System Center Operations Manager 2007 and the Dell Management Packs, provides enterprise customers centralized, proactive management for physical and virtual environments.

Dell provides Hyper-V Technology Introduction and FastTrack Design Services with Advanced Management options to accelerate the deployment and configuration of Microsoft Hyper-V, System Center and Dell PRO-Pack technologies.

Dell and Microsoft Reference Configurations can speed the implementation of Windows Server 2008, Hyper-V and System Center solutions.

Dell's Infrastructure Consulting team offers expert design and implementation assistance in all aspects of Microsoft server and management infrastructure to help accelerate technology adoption.

The integration of extensive hardware management capabilities from Dell with Microsoft System Center solutions can increase productivity by reducing manual IT tasks and management tools.

Management Packs provide integration with Microsoft System Center Operations Manager (SCOM) 2007 and System Center Essentials (SCE) 2007, allowing businesses to monitor and manage Dell servers, business clients, storage, and printers in multi-vendor hardware and software environments.

Dell Server and Business Client Hardware Update Catalog tools seamlessly integrate with System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM) 2007, System Center Essentials (SCE) 2007 and Windows Server Update Service (WSUS) to ensure the latest drivers, BIOS and firmware are automatically loaded for the lifecycle of the platform.

Dell and Microsoft Management Packs deliver complementary management functionality which is designed to improve power and cooling monitoring/control for optimal hardware and software energy efficiency.

Server Deployment Pack integrates with Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM) to configure and deploy Dell PowerEdge servers and blades as an automated task through an easy-to-use graphical user interface, maximizing IT efficiency and productivity.

Contact: http://www.dell.com

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Enterprise-Wide Encryption Mgmt. Platform Unveiled

The ever-expanding use of, and dependence on, encryption in response to external mandates such as government and industry regulations and the adoption of internal best practices has created widespread encryption silos, which, left unmanaged, often cause system downtime.

Traditional, largely manual approaches to encryption management have proven error prone and unscalable, exposing organizations to unnecessary risk such as unanticipated system outages and security gaps.

To meet that challenge, Venafi Inc., a provider of systems management for encryption, released Encryption Director V.1, a comprehensive, enterprise-wide encryption management platform that centralizes and automates the management of encryption assets (keys, certificates and application configurations) throughout the IT infrastructure, across diverse encryption systems, operating environments and applications.

Built on an extensible architecture that leverages the core policy engine and audit instrumentation delivered in the V.0 release, Director helps organizations improve critical system uptime, operational efficiency, data security and regulatory compliance.

Venafi products have been in production, managing encryption for more than five years in some of the world's largest organizations.

This provided Venafi the unique perspectives that drove the design and development of a system that allows organizations to streamline rigorous operational procedures, processes and security best practices.

The majority of encryption and key management products currently available to organizations have been designed to manage a single vendor's own encryption technologies, with little or no out-of-the-box integration with other encryption technologies.

Users require an enterprise-wide encryption management platform that manages all existing and new encryption keys and certificates across a broad set of platforms, applications and key and certificate types today.

That's what drove the features and design of Venafi Encryption Director.

Director is available in three product editions: Monitoring Edition, Enrollment Edition and Provisioning Edition. Each includes a scalable, enterprise discovery service module. Product highlights include:

– Enterprise Discovery. High-performance, network-based discovery of encryption technologies to inventory all keys and certificates deployed and in use.

– Continuous Monitoring. Director actively monitors and validates the state of encryption assets, for improved inventory, asset and risk management.

– Configurable Notifications and Alerts. Director automatically determines asset owners and escalation paths through enterprise directory connectors, and sends customizable messages with dynamically generated content.

– Policy Enforcement and Compliance Reporting. The policy framework in Director governs every aspect of an organization's encryption environment. This ensures encryption systems operate as required by enforcing everything from key strengths to system configuration parameters and administrative access, and enables administrators and auditors to measure compliance.

– Workflow Management. Workflow management enables administrators to define required reviews and approval steps through one or more built-in lifecycle stages with customizable approval steps.

– One-Click Key/Certificate Swap. Using its patented technology, Director allows organizations to rapidly replace keys and certificates either at expiration or on click. This makes it easy to eradicate weak keys, compromised algorithms or undesirable vendors.

– Lights-Out Encryption Management. Full, end-to-end provisioning and lifecycle management of encryption keys and certificates–including all steps from key generation to installation and validation across multiple systems, rotation, backup/recovery and other critical functions.

Key benefits include: reduced system downtime, improved data security, increased operational efficiency, regulatory compliance and audit readiness, CA spend management and strategic sourcing, disaster recovery and business continuity
Contact: http://www.venafi.com/Director

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