

Management tools offer a closer, often customizable look at network components

Company	Product	Platform	Purpose	Auto-discovery	SNMP support	Automated management features	Price
Concord Communications Inc. Marlborough, Mass. 508-460-4646 www.concord.com	eHealth	Win 2000 and NT, Solaris, HP-UX	Provides end-to-end fault, performance and availability management through analysis and presentation of polled data	Searches IP address range for SNMP agents, identifies devices through management information base (MIB) attributes; also can detect changes to previously discovered elements	Yes	Allows creation of customized automated features through drop-down menus in GUI	\$100,000 to \$150,000 for typical installation
Fidelia Inc. Princeton, N.J. 609-452-2225 www.fidelia.com	Fidelia NetVigil	Win 2000 and XP, Linux, Solaris	Performs fault monitoring and performance management, tracking network, system and application components	Performs auto-discovery and tests of networked devices; includes tools that can be used to discover devices on the local network using ICMP ping and other nonintrusive mechanisms	Monitors SNMP-enabled devices through its multi-threaded polling engine using either MIBs or any custom enterprise MIBs and third-party SNMP agents	Plug-in framework lets administrators script their own actions, such as restarting a failed service automatically, or performing troubleshooting tasks	\$10,000 up for small networks; \$30,000 up for enterprise version
GFI Software USA Inc. Cary, N.C. 888-243-4329 www.gfi.com	GFI LANguard Network Security Scanner	Win9x, Me, NT, 2000, XP	Checks network for potential methods a hacker might use to attack and identifies potential security holes	Yes, through operating system fingerprinting	Inspects network devices such as routers and printers; can conduct an SNMP community string audit	Can upgrade remotely on all or selected machines on the network; issues alerts about exploits and security holes and advises when patches are needed	\$249 for up to 50 IPs; \$349 for up to 100; \$450 for up to 250; \$695 for unlimited
NetReality Inc. Santa Clara, Calif. 408-988-8100 www.net-reality.com	WiseWan	Win 2000 and NT, Solaris	Monitors real-time network conditions and shapes traffic accordingly to enforce priorities and restrictions on bandwidth when necessary	Detects and identifies traffic between remote offices routed through the central router; traffic originating in a router such as voice over IP, and congestion on specific permanent virtual circuits	Uses SNMP to communicate between network appliances and the management server and poll line statistics; uses SNMP community strings to allow unencrypted password authentication between an agent and the server	Automated features include alerts via pager, cell phone or e-mail about a specified occurrence; user can run selected reports at selected times of the day or week; features can be customized from the GUI	Government price \$8,885 up for a T1 line
NetScout Systems Inc. Westford, Mass. 800-357-7666 www.netscout.com	nGenius Performance Management System	Win 2000 and NT, Solaris, HP-UX, IBM AIX	Performs real-time monitoring, troubleshooting, protocol analysis, historical reporting, capacity planning and service level management of traditional and converged networks	Supports bulk-device imports from platforms such as HP OpenView and Cisco Works; can auto-discover VLANs, data link connection identifiers and permanent virtual circuits; supports importing of manual devices	Supports SNMPv2; has toolkit to protect against SNMP attacks	Automated features include poor-performance alarm, traffic analysis, baselining, forecasts; self-management features include automatic notification of performance	\$50,000 up for software; \$100,000 up for typical initial configuration
Visual Networks Inc. Rockville, Md. 800-240-4010 www.visualnetworks.com	Visual UpTime	Server: Win 2000, NT; client: Win9x, NT, 2000, XP	Provides end-to-end visibility of the performance of mission-critical WANs to help identify connectivity problems, track network utilization and plan for future capacity needs	No	Gathers data directly from MIBs; includes SNMP trap export feature	Customizable automated features include performance-monitoring templates, ASE configuration templates, bulk report generation and posting to Web site, SLA measurements, data collection from ASEs, and SNMP trap forwarding	Hardware: \$1,195 up for a 56/64-Kbps device, or \$3,395 to \$4,395 for a T1 device; \$15,995 for server hardware for entry-level system; \$19,995 for Visual UpTime ATM ASE