

The Inventors of sFlow®

Traffic Sentinel

Visibility and control of converged networks





Traffic Sentinel

Overview

Convergence and virtualization of IT infrastructure promise increased flexibility and lower costs. However, convergence also poses management challenges that must be addressed if the benefits are to be fully realized.

The flexibility and efficiency of a converged IT infrastructure derives from the use of a shared network fabric. The challenge in managing in a convergenced environment is that a shared network fabric allows performance problems to propagate. For example, server virtualization offers the flexibility to easily relocate virtual machines. However, virtual machine migration operations made by the server group can significantly alter network traffic patterns and impact performance. Similarly, moving storage traffic to the network dramatically increases the need for bandwidth, making the network vulnerable to changes made by the storage team. If a shared resource becomes congested, all the services that depend on it will be impacted. It is critical that management tools are in place to provide visibility into all the elements of the converged infrastucture.

Traffic Sentinel[™] is the first of a new class of performance management tools specifically designed to meet the challenge of convergence. Traffic Sentinel makes use of the multi-vendor sFlow® standard to provide scalable, real-time visibility across the entire networked infrastructure, delivering the integrated picture of network, storage, server and communications performance needed to ensure optimal service delivery in a converged infrastructure.

Benefits

- Manage network, server, storage and communications performance from a single "pane of glass"
- Identify network, computing and storage hot spots
- Monitor performance of scale-out storage, compute and switch clusters
- Track network, server and application dependencies
- · Eliminate congestion and ensure quality of service
- Identify underutilized resources and improve efficiency
- Account for usage



Intuitive visualization of top flows across the entire network



Customized dashboard for every user









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At the Data Center

Convergence simplifies the data center by connecting flexible pools of storage and computation using a high-speed switched Ethernet fabric. The shared Ethernet fabric is the key to monitoring performance, providing real time visibility into all the activity across the fabric. Traffic Sentinel uses the sFlow standard, implemented by most data center switch vendors, to monitor activity across all the switches in fabric, building a real-time and historical picture of data center performance.

The sFlow standard was recently extended to include physical and virtual server performance metrics. Using sFlow it is now possible to monitor the performance of all the components of the data center, including physical and virtual switches and servers, using a single multi-vendor standard. Traffic Sentinel fully supports the sFlow host monitoring extensions, providing real-time visibility into computer, storage and network activity throughout the data center.

In the Campus Environment

Convergence extends beyond the data center to corporate campuses, where VoIP (Voice over IP), real-time streaming media and virtualized desktops share the network with traditional IT traffic. Again, Traffic Sentinel uses the sFlow capability, built into campus switches, to provide visibility into end-to-end network performance, ensuring that mission critical services are not disrupted.

Features

Traffic Sentinel's intuitive, drill-down interface makes navigation through its detailed data simple. Real-time, overall status can be seen at a glance, clicking on alerts brings up additional detail and guides you to the cause of the problem.

- Network-wide thresholds and alarms
- Real-time top down visualization
- Host location
- Automated L2 and L3 topology discovery and mapping
- Application dependency mapping
- Fully detailed historical data retention
- Customizable interactive and scheduled reporting
- Continuous monitoring of tens of thousands of switch ports and servers
- Access to performance data from any web browser or web-aware application
- Easy integration with other applications through open interface and web-based queries

For further information on Technical Specifications and System Requirements

For further information on Traffic Sentinel, please see <u>http://www.inmon.com/products/trafficsentinel.php</u>, or request an evaluation from <u>www.myinmon.com</u>.

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