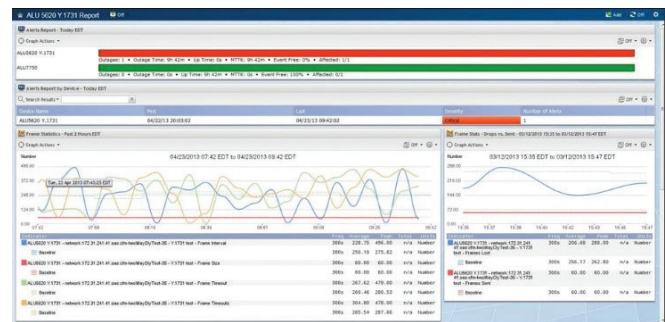


The Challenge

Network teams need comprehensive visibility and proactive monitoring to maintain optimal operations. Over time, they have acquired a variety of tools to help them achieve this goal. Today's network monitoring solutions have moved the industry a step forward in proactive monitoring but the process of investigating a problem after an alert is raised is still slow and manual. When it comes to network issues, 24x7 monitors identify symptoms but not the underlying causes. These solutions let you know there's a problem via dashboards, but even the best dashboards fail to deliver the right level of detail needed for troubleshooting, resulting in time wasted gathering data from many disparate tools.

The Strengths of Network Monitoring Solutions

Traditional 24x7 monitoring solutions such as Solarwinds, Paessler PRTG, or ExtraHop, to name a few; monitor the network for many symptoms and proactively raise alerts when conditions deviate from baselined network traffic. One of their strengths is the ability to identify issues and alert on a wide range of metrics that transcend network performance. However, once an alert is raised, it is typically up to an engineer to further investigate the root cause of the problem, identify the solution and apply the fix. The 24x7 monitoring tool has done its job, however it is not enough information to guide the engineer to the exact cause.



Example of network monitoring dashboard: 24x7 monitors provide users with predictive alerts when conditions deviate from baselined network traffic.

The Benefits of Integrating NetBrain with a Network Monitoring Solution

Automate Mapping

Once an alert is raised by the monitoring solution, NetBrain can deliver enhanced documentation of the problem area, quickly and accurately.

Dynamic Map – RESTful APIs make diagnostic data available to layer right onto the map. This provides enhanced documentation of traditional, virtualized, hybrid and SDN environments.

Runbook Automation – Users can run automated applications that gather relevant data and drill into what could be causing the problem. Any repetitive data collection and analysis task can be automated in an Executable Runbook and displayed on the map.

'Just-in-Time' Automation

NetBrain can be integrated via **RESTful API** to trigger a diagnosis at the instant an alert is received.

This **'just-in-time' automation** provides real-time visibility and diagnostics from the moment the incident occurred.

NetBrain provides engineers instant access to a **Dynamic Map** of the problem area along with data collected through a **Runbook**. These elements give engineers actionable insights which are particularly valuable for intermittent issues.

Monitor For Problems

Once a problem has been resolved, network teams can prevent its recurrence by monitoring the network for similar issues.

Qapp Scheduler – Users can program NetBrain to run Qapps to continuously monitor for the underlying causes of a problem. This is different from the proactive monitoring done by a monitoring solution. The Qapp scheduler helps with monitoring for network problems not just symptoms.

The Value of Documentation

Following an alert from a monitoring solution, a network engineer performs manual data collection and analysis, usually through the command line interface (CLI). Finding the source of the problem is the hardest but most crucial part. With NetBrain, once the alert is received, it can visually document the results of its own diagnostics as well as data from the 24x7 monitoring solution and other tools, right onto a Dynamic Map for a contextualized picture of the problem at hand.

This representation of data along with a unified view of traditional, virtualized, hybrid and SDN environments onto a single map provides unprecedented documentation which helps to reduce troubleshooting time and easily execute many network tasks, without losing context.

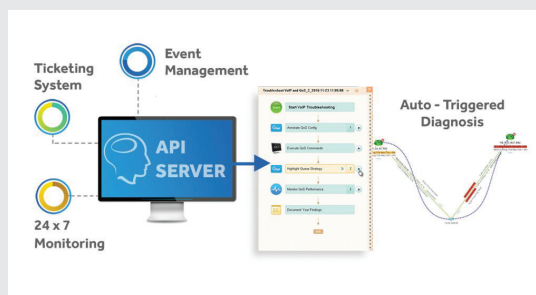


A Dynamic Map is the modern User Interface that offers a true single pane of glass experience.

Integrating NetBrain with a Monitoring Solution to Achieve “Just-In-Time” Automation

By integrating a 24x7 monitoring solution with NetBrain, the monitoring solution can be set up to trigger a NetBrain diagnosis as soon as an alert is received. NetBrain automatically maps around the problematic device and collects diagnostic data. This type of event-triggered automation is called “just in time” automation because it kicks off as the event is happening.

This level of automation provides real-time visibility and diagnostics from the moment the incident occurred. The data visualization of the Dynamic Map informs network teams how to respond quickly, saving critical time that would otherwise be spent collecting and analyzing data. This is the most effective way to troubleshoot intermittent problems that sometimes disappear even before they’re found.



Organizations typically see the most value by integrating NetBrain with their existing network monitoring solutions.

Monitor for Underlying Problems, Not Just Symptoms

NetBrain can augment 24x7 monitoring solutions -which raises alerts based on symptoms- by alerting on specific and pre-defined problems that could potentially cause network degradation or downtime.

The monitoring solution alerts when it detects that something is wrong in the network. NetBrain can help in identifying and pinpointing the cause of the problem and NetBrain's Qapp Scheduler can be programmed to continuously monitor for this problem to ensure that the issue doesn't disrupt network operations again.

A screenshot of the 'Edit Schedule' window in NetBrain. The window has a blue header and a white body. It contains a progress bar with four steps: '1. Basic Info', '2. Target Devices', '3. Select Qapp', and '4. Time Settings'. The '4. Time Settings' step is currently active. Below the progress bar, there are several input fields and radio buttons. The 'Frequency' section has radio buttons for 'Once', 'Continually', 'Daily' (selected), and 'Weekly'. The 'Start' field is set to '2018-12-19'. The 'Execute at' field is set to '11:51 AM'. The 'Frequency' section has a radio button for 'Once a day' and a radio button for 'Repeat every' (selected). The 'Repeat every' field is set to '2' minutes for a duration of '1' hours. The 'End' field is set to '2019-12-20'. The 'Time zone' is set to '(UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)'. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: '< Back' and 'Finish'.

NetBrain monitors the network for underlying problems. The user can schedule a Qapp to run at a pre-determined schedule and alert on defined parameters.

