

CTV Gives SolarWinds Orion High Ratings for Managing its Mission-Critical Networks

Orion's extensive features, ease of use and flexibility make the product a trusted part of the broadcaster's suite of assets management strategy

For the past eight years, CTV Inc., Canada's largest private broadcaster, has used SolarWinds' Orion suite of IT management solutions to manage its IT, Engineering and Video networks which serve more than 5,000 employees across 30+ locations. Initially, CTV selected Orion NPM for its ease of deployment and daily use. Ultimately, the company came to rely on the product's intuitive interface and flexibility.

"Our network leverages a SONET backbone supplied by our network provider. The provisioning and support of that network posed some significant challenges due to factors like unique configurations and equipment that provide maximum up-time through multiple layers of redundancy. Orion NPM has been a valuable asset in helping us to easily monitor and troubleshoot this network across teams and locations," explained Mike Kozlakowski, Senior manager, CTV Media Technology Systems.

"For example, we used the Universal Device Poller to plot the temperature trends of a unique video device at a problematic third party site where we do not have environmental control. Based on the reported trends, we alert our support group whenever the temperature exceeds acceptable norms. This allows us to be pro-active about preventing equipment damage and managing expectations of our end users."

CLIENT STATISTICS

30+ locations

5,000 employees

SolarWinds customer since 2001

Orion NPM supports the Consortium's unprecedented 10-day 2010 Winter Games coverage

"SolarWinds' Orion is an extensive yet easy-to-use management solution that gives us incredible flexibility to monitor and manage our multi-hub network from a single point,"

— Mike Kozlakowski, Senior Manager, CTV Media Technology Systems

Orion: Trusted for Mission-Critical Management Needs

Faced with the challenge of managing its unprecedented coverage of this year's Winter Games, CTV and the Broadcast Media Consortium — the official Canadian rights-holder of the 2010 Winter Games — selected SolarWinds Orion® Network Performance Monitor (NPM) as a key element of its network management strategy. Deployed in the temporary Network Operations Center (NOC) in Vancouver Orion NPM provided critical visibility that allowed the team to quickly detect, diagnose and resolve network performance problems and outages. The product's built-in NOC views offer instant, visual updates of real-time status, response time and critical system details, ensuring that the Consortium's suite of assets were available to help deliver coverage across multiple media channels and the Internet, in multiple languages. The Consortium also relied on Orion Network Configuration Manager (NCM) to restore configurations in the event of network equipment failure.

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single point," said Kozlakowski. "The 2010 Winter Games broadcast presents new challenges and increased responsibility for our technical teams. Based on our experience with Orion over the years, we are confident this product will provide the network management support that we need to ensure success."

SolarWinds' flagship Orion family of management solutions offers network managers a comprehensive and easy to understand view of their network's health — from fault and performance, to configuration, application performance and IP address management. Users can view the real-time statistics and availability of their network from any Web browser, providing a convenient way for administrators to stay in tune with their networks at any time, from any place.

Network Management Simplified

Designed by
network engineers
for network engineers

SolarWinds provides powerful, simple and affordable IT management software to more than 90,000 customers worldwide — from Fortune 500 enterprises to small businesses. Focused on the real-world needs of network professionals, SolarWinds products are downloadable, easy to use and maintain, and provide the power, scale, and flexibility needed to manage today's complex network environments. SolarWinds' growing online community, thwack, is a gathering-place for problem-solving, technology-sharing, and participating in product development for all of SolarWinds' products.

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