

CIO

PERSPECTIVES FORUM

2010

Event supported by:



THE NEW NETWORK IMPERATIVE

Collaboration is now an imperative both inside and outside the enterprise. Corporations are increasingly demanding secure, open and accessible networks that work well across organisational barriers. Networks must be adaptive in function and design in order to overcome the barriers to such collaboration.

CPI recently organised an exclusive CIO Perspectives 2010 forum in association with Emitac and HP ProCurve Networking. Network World Middle East was there to understand how participants should explore the business value of adaptive networks, and walk away with a clear understanding of what the enterprise has to gain in improved efficiency and increased agility.

The event kicked off with a presentation on network infrastructure strategy by Naimish Shah. Sharing Dubai Bank's technology architecture revamp and infrastructure upgrade experience with the audience, Shah said the mandate for Dubai bank was to achieve optimal network performance and deliver acceptable performance for business applications and manager user expectations.

"Network teams, sometimes, are overtly driven by technologies, not in tune with business processes, and fail to understand the bigger picture. Network managers should develop know-how of the business functions and understand application architecture before designing networks. It is also important to have knowledge and right tools to get insights into traffic patterns, as visibility into the pipe helps because bandwidth upgrade is the not the right solution," he added.

Speaking about resource maximization, Sajid Naqvi, AVP Information Technology, Deyaar, pointed out that networks are becoming increasingly complex and difficult to manage. "With network traffic growing faster, and increasing Web based applications, the pressure is on IT managers to reduce OPEX and increase ROI. More open and collaborative networks also require stringent security measures."

Sina Khoory, Group IT Manager, Emirates National Oil Company, shared tips for capacity planning to ensure the infrastructure scales up to meet business needs. ENOC has recently upgraded its communications infrastructure, resulting in massive cost savings. "We faced major infrastructure challenges in terms of capacity limitations and most remote business sites were without backup lines resulting in reliability issues. Post-redesign, ENOC now has one redundant internet uplink and we replaced leased lined with MPLS. Most remote offices and retail stores are connected through 3G, which can be easily deployed."

Miguel Villalonga, CEO, Emitac Enterprise Solutions, and one of the sponsors of the event, noted that the network infrastructure has to be right sized and there is no room for excess capacity as budgets become tight. "Networks have to become resilient because errors are not acceptable anymore, and companies will have to find the right solutions for the right need. There is no more room for brand of choice," he added. Bosco Moraes, Channel Manager of HP ProCurve, the co-sponsor, in his presentation noted that it is an imperative to transform networks into a business enabler, and claimed that his company is driving network simplicity.

TOPICS AT A GLANCE

NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGY: Adapt to changing business needs
There's a sweet spot where good ethics meet good business. And IT can—and should—be sitting at the nexus. With converged communications taking hold, CIOs need to map out an infrastructure strategy that will give their customers choice and flexibility.

Speaker: Naimish N Shah, Head of IT - Operations & Services, Dubai Bank

TECHNOLOGY: Flexibility to support growth
Revolutionise your infrastructure with expandable, open solutions to support converged communications.

Speaker: Bosco Moraes, Channel Manager, HP ProCurve Networking

NETWORK EFFICIENCY: The benefits of consolidation and virtualization

Speaker: Miguel Villalonga, CEO Emitac Enterprise Solutions

RESOURCE MAXIMISATION: An infrastructure for the future

Investing in secure networking solutions reduce complexity, increase flexibility and expand your effectiveness to support current and future applications.

Speaker: Sajid Naqvi, AVP, Information Technology, Deyaar

PLANNING FOR CAPACITY: Ensuring that your Infrastructure scales as fast as your business

Speaker: Sina Khoory, Group IT Manager, Emirates National Oil Company Limited (ENOC)