



SEPTEMBER 2009
ISSUE 3



IN THIS ISSUE:

- [Tips & Tricks](#)
- [Video Spotlight](#)
- [The Latest:](#)
 - [PathView 2.0](#)
 - [PathView Report Server](#)
 - [Win a Wii](#)
 - [VoIP Survey Result](#)
 - [Announcing PathView Resellers](#)
- [What's Next](#)

Welcome to Network Hero News!

Welcome to the *Network Hero News*, Apparent Networks' monthly newsletter. This month's edition is all about virtual service delivery.

What is virtual service delivery? It's the delivery of any application or service through virtualized infrastructure (which may be part of public or private clouds). It also means a new level of complexity when managing performance.

Read more about how PathView can provide you with the visibility you need to confidently deliver virtual services.

[Back to top](#)

IN EVERY ISSUE:

Try PathView for Free!

Find out why thousands are already using PathView network performance management. Download your fully-functional free trial today at www.ApparentTools.com



Win a Wii!

We want to hear from you! Please take 5 minutes to share your thoughts on virtualization in this month's [survey](#). You'll automatically be entered to win.

Live Webinar:

September 22, 2PM EDT NEW PathView Product Updates

Introducing PathView 2.0 and PathView Report Server. Join us to hear more about new product features and capabilities to help you test, monitor and report on your

Tips & Tricks - Virtualization and NICs

Network performance on paths that include a virtual machine may depend strongly on the subtleties of the hypervisor and virtual machine implementation. After all, they are responsible for the operation of the virtual switch and virtual network driver respectively. Virtualization vendors have gone to a lot of trouble to ensure that network performance is by default well-optimized. However, it pays for you to investigate what that may mean for your applications. For example, most virtual

environments use 1 GigE or even 10 GigE network interfaces that have been optimized for TCP. They often employ various acceleration methods such as TCP Segmentation Offload and Interrupt Coalescence to increase performance or efficiency. However your application may use UDP and not benefit from these optimizations, or worse, UDP may be poorly handled.

In setting up a virtualization environment that requires high network capacities, how do you choose between multiple 1 GigE connections and moving to 10 GigE? There are no simple answers but here are some considerations, either for and against each choice:



network performance.

➔ [Register Now](#)

**Live Webinar:
September 29, 2PM EDT
Troubleshooting
Networks in Virtual
Environments**

Virtualization can create problematic blind spots for traditional management tools. It is critical to be able to see the end-to-end application path into VMs in order to understand whether applications are getting the resources they need. Join us to learn more about maintaining this visibility in virtualized environments.

➔ [Register Now](#)

**Got a Tough Network
Problem?**

Let our systems engineers help you find and fix your toughest networking issues 70% faster. Our free "Fix It Now" program connects you to a PathView expert who will work with you until your problem is resolved. Everyone is eligible to take advantage of this great offer.

➔ [Sign up here!](#)



**New to PathView and
Want to Learn More?**

Check out our introductory [video](#) and the rest of our video library at our website.



Or call **800-508-5233** to schedule a [demo](#).

1 GigE

- 1 GigE interfaces are more mature, plentiful, and relatively low cost
- Teaming or NIC bonding of multiple 1 GigE interfaces can actually result in degraded network performance under some circumstances
- New approaches like Cisco's Network Interface Virtualization (NIV) can simplify the use of multiple network interfaces on a single virtual host
- Multiple 1 GigE NICs require typically more power and space than a single 10 GigE

10 GigE

- Multiple GigE interfaces may require somewhat more complex networking if you are going to utilize your network capacity efficiently
- It is unlikely that your physical host can completely fill a 10 GigE pipe; so you will only be getting a fraction of its spec'd capacity
- 10 GigE drivers typically rely on TCP-specific optimizations like TCP Segmentation Offload or Interrupt Coalescence (some 1 GigE interfaces support these features as well) to increase their performance
- UDP-based applications will not see as much benefit from TCP-optimized 10 GigE as TCP
- 10 GigE necessitates the use of switches that support 10 GigE - which may or may not fit your current budget or architecture
- A single 10 GigE represents a single point of failure
- Theoretically, 10 GigE offers reduced per-packet latency over 1 GigE
- Not all hypervisors support 10 GigE properly
- Most 10 GigE NICs only offer 10 GigE support and do not detect or operate at lower capacities such as 1 GigE

➔ [Learn more about virtualization and PathView by reading Loki's blog on "Piercing the Virtual Veil"](#)

[Back to top](#)

Video Spotlight - Jim Metzler on Virtual Service Delivery

When performance problems crop up in virtualized environments, it's very difficult for network teams to find and address them. With their existing tools, IT managers can't see into the virtual infrastructure, nor can they get a good handle on the dynamic movement of applications and data that goes on in virtual realms.



In this short video, Jim Metzler, industry analyst, discusses the advantages of virtual service delivery along with the problems it poses. Additionally, you'll hear how PathView is being used to reduce the risks of virtualization deployments with proper pre-deployment assessments and ongoing monitoring.

➔ [Watch the "Jim Metzler on Virtual Service Delivery" video](#)

The Latest

PathView 2.0 Now Available

PathView 2.0 is now available. This release contains great new features to support:

- Virtualized environments
- Enhanced reporting
- VoIP improvements
- Synthetic Traffic Analysis
- Performance improvements

For more information, please visit the products section of www.apparentools.com or try PathView 2.0 for free!

➔ [Try PathView 2.0](#) for free!

➔ **Already have PathView? [Upgrade to PathView 2.0!](#)**

Introducing PathView Report Server

PathView Report Server is an optional module for PathView which provides report generation, customization and scheduling and customization capabilities, as well as



dashboard analysis and customization. The advanced reporting capability of the Report Server increases the accessibility and relevance of the built-in reporting in

PathView. The user interface for the Report Server is 100% web based and its drag-and-drop editing capability for reports and dashboard editing make it extremely easy to use. All reports within the Report Server can be scheduled and emailed to unlimited addresses, and reports and dashboards can easily be branded with your own logos.

PathView Report Server is available for \$500 on most PathView models and is included in every 30-day trial of PathView 2.0.

➔ [Download the Report Server datasheet](#)

Virtualization Survey - Win a Wii!

This month's short survey is all about virtualization. Enter for your chance to win a Wii!

Congratulations to Paul McCabe who won a \$250 Amazon gift card for participating in last month's VoIP survey!



➔ [Enter to Win a Wii!](#)

VoIP Survey Results Are In!

Our recent VoIP survey revealed the importance of performing a network assessment prior to deploying VoIP. Some of the key findings were:

- 25% of respondents who did not performance a pre-deployment network assessment came in over budget by 11-25% versus 4% for those who did.
- Nearly 4x the number of people reported that their VoIP deployment impacts other applications on their network when no pre-deployment network assessment was performed versus when one was performed.
- More than 40% of respondents face issue with stuttering audio yet most are not notified automatically when audio issues arise.



To learn more about how a pre-deployment VoIP assessment can help your VoIP project come in on budget and with fewer problems, check out our VoIP survey report.

➔ [Read the full report](#)

PathView Now Available via Resellers

The PathView Reseller program allows you to purchase PathView tools from IT solution providers worldwide. These experts in the field of network management provide their customers with the best possible tools and services for the management of IT infrastructure.

We are please to announce our first European reseller partners. Welcome [Kenson Network Engineering](#) and [FullControl Networks](#)!

[Back to top](#)

What's Next

- Tips & Tricks: Producing Reports for any Audience
- Video: SLA Reporting
- New Free Tool - PathView Cloud
- Virtualization Survey Preview
- Network Hero Profile #2

[Back to top](#)

