



Sirtawn Systems

Start Fighting Cyber Crime with Knowledge and Action.

Our Newsletter for Issue #174 is dedicated to Network Health.

Network Health
The Backbone of your Business.

Why is your network the BACKBONE of your business?

1. Keeps your operations running smoothly by connecting employees across departments and locations, fostering collaboration.
2. Makes file sharing easy, streamlining operations for efficient teamwork.
3. Secures and stores important information for easy access, ensuring smooth operations and peace of mind.
4. Allows instant data access and real-time collaboration among your teams, boosting productivity.
5. Provides quick access to databases and essential applications, making tasks more efficient.

Common signs of an UNHEALTHY NETWORK?

*Latency (slow performance)
*Downtime (periods of inactivity)

*Packet Loss (data not reaching its destination)
*Increased vulnerabilities

*DNS issues (difficulty accessing websites).
*Configuration errors

*Wireless interference
*Hardware failures
*Scalability challengers

*Latency: congestion or outdated hardware can frustrate your team.
*Downtime: Periods of inactivity from hardware failures or power outages can disrupt your operations and cause potential financial or reputational setbacks.

*Packet loss: Data not reaching its destination due to network congestion or faulty network hardware can affect communication quality.
*Increased vulnerabilities: Weak passwords, malware or phishing attacks that pop out of vulnerabilities can risk sensitive data.

*Domain Name System (DNS) issues: Trouble accessing websites or network resources due to DNS server failure or misconfigured DNS settings might hinder workflows.
*Configuration errors: spiraling out of human errors can limit device communication, affecting efficiency.

*Wireless interference: Signal issues due to overlapping channels/devices can disrupt connectivity and device performance.
*Hardware failures: can disrupt operations and risk data integrity.
*Scalability challenges: Difficulty scaling network infrastructure can limit growth and efficiency.

Common symptoms of an UNHEALTHY NETWORK:

Decreased productivity: Slow network performance hampers workflow and frustrates your team, affecting productivity.

Frustrated customers: Unreliable services can damage your brand reputation and loyalty.

Disrupted critical business processes: Network issues cause delays, impacting critical processes of your business.

Reduced competitiveness: Technology deficiencies may lead to losing ground in your industry.

Increased cyberthreats: Increased risks from attacks jeopardize data security and integrity.

Employee dissatisfaction: Persistent network issues impact employee morale and work output.

Decline in profitability: Network problems directly affect revenue and overall profitability.

Increased operational costs: Relying heavily on IT support escalates costs, affecting your bottom line.

Observing any of these symptoms is an indication of an unhealthy network.

Identify Signs + Symptoms, then Diagnose

Now that we've identified the signs and symptoms, let's learn how to effectively diagnose these issues for proactive resolution



Ongoing monitoring

Consistent monitoring of network performance detects potential problems before they escalate.



Security monitoring

Prioritizing security monitoring helps identify threats swiftly, ensuring data safety.



Regular testing

Testing network components addresses weaknesses and bottlenecks preemptively.



Security testing

Rigorous security testing simulates threats, which helps in fortifying cybersecurity and patching

Benefits of a healthy network include:

Proactive issue resolution: Early identification ensures seamless workflows.

Informed decision-making: Real-time data insights aid adaptability and strategic planning.

Optimized resource allocation: Distribution of resources to where it matters most enhances performance and cost-effectiveness.

Improved productivity: Enhanced working conditions help boost employee morale.

Strategic planning: Aligning capacity needs with business goals fosters scalability.

Early threat detection: Vigilant monitoring minimizes risks of cyberthreats.

Bandwidth management: Smooth data transmission prevents latency.

Predictive analysis: Proactively analyzing and tackling issues minimizes downtime.

Cost reduction: Reduction of issues avoids unnecessary expenses.

Regulatory compliance: Adhering to standards mitigates legal risks.

These benefits underline the immense value a healthy network brings to your business operations.

Key Health Indicators:

Availability (uptime/downtime): High availability with minimized downtime ensures continuous accessibility to services, which is vital for sustained productivity and efficient operations.

Bandwidth usage: Efficient utilization of bandwidth guarantees smooth operations without interruptions, facilitating seamless task execution.

Latency: Low latency promotes faster data transmission, leading to quick response times and an enhanced user experience while utilizing network services.

Jitter: Reducing jitter, the variation in the time delay in signal transmission & reception, fosters consistent & reliable data flow, which is crucial for network stability & reliability.

Packet Loss: Maintaining minimal packet loss ensures data reliability and integrity, facilitating accurate information exchange.

Throughput: Network throughput, reflecting successful data transfer in a specific timeframe, indicates efficient data delivery and network performance.

Facing some challenges in maintaining network health is common.

Achieving optimal network health requires an Expert.

Challenges in monitoring and testing networks include:

- Data overload:** Managing excessive data may hinder actionable insights.
- Complexity:** Modern networks require sophisticated tools and expertise.
- Legacy system integration:** Legacy systems may pose compatibility issues.
- Costs:** Implementing monitoring tools can impact budgets and resources.
- Scalability:** Ensuring tools adapt with network expansions is crucial for scalability.
- Privacy concerns:** Capturing sensitive data raises compliance issues.
- Skill gaps:** Proficient professionals are needed for effective monitoring.
- Dynamic environments:** Constant updates are necessary for evolving networks.

Given these challenges, seeking expert help becomes crucial.

Partnering with experts enhances network health in these ways:

- Effective monitoring:** Specialized tools that experts have access to can track performance in real-time, ensuring peak network performance.
- Tailored testing:** Customized tests and upgrades provided by experts can enhance network functionality.
- Swift resolution:** Expertise ensures quick problem-solving, minimizing disruptions.
- Continuous vigilance:** The best experts provide continuous security monitoring that can help in ongoing protection against evolving threats.
- Expert analysis:** Fine-tuning network infrastructure by experts ensures efficiency aligned with your business needs.

Our Assessment Offer



This monthly publication provided courtesy of Barry Brown, President of Sirtawn Systems.

FIGHTING CYBERCRIMINALS ON YOUR OWN CAN BE TIRING WHEN YOU HAVE A BUSINESS TO RUN.

CONTACT US TODAY

FIND OUT WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE OUR CYBERSECURITY EXPERTS IN YOUR CORNER.

We are offering a FREE Network Security Audit with no obligation. You will receive a "Cyber Security Audit" outlining our findings following the audit. Again ... **NO Obligation....**

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