



Enhancing Your Company's ManageWise System

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Novell's ManageWise enables you to manage mixed networks, including NetWare servers, Windows NT servers, and Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) compliant devices. For example, you can monitor your company's Novell Directory Services (NDS) tree, monitor server processes, and analyze network traffic. In addition, several third-party companies provide products that add even more features to ManageWise, enabling you to extend its network management capabilities. This article features just a few of the many third-party products that work with ManageWise. You can view a complete list of products at <http://www.novell.com/products/managewise/partners/#mwapps>.

PAGEMANAGER PRO

PageManager Pro from Atlantis Software Inc. offers advanced alarm monitoring and notification features. You can configure PageManager Pro to monitor network alarms and to forward critical alarm messages to any alphanumeric pager, mobile phone, or e-mail address. In addition, you can configure PageManager Pro to filter duplicate alarms that occur within a specific time frame and to send a notification when an alarm has been filtered a specific number of times.

With PageManager Pro, you can assign a particular alarm or a group of alarms to notify specific support technicians. You can also configure PageManager Pro to forward critical alarm messages from a particular server or a group of servers to one or more support technicians.

PageManager Pro includes a calendar that provides 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week scheduling. You can use this calendar to specify which support technician should receive a particular alarm based on the day or time. You can also specify when support technicians are unavailable to receive critical alarm messages due to vacations, days off, and so on.

You can integrate PageManager Pro with ManageWise by installing Atlantis Software's ManageWise Adapter, which is

available separately as a snap-in NetWare Loadable Module (NLM) for the ManageWise console. ManageWise Adapter forwards all ManageWise alarms to PageManager Pro. To ensure that PageManager Pro continually monitors ManageWise alarms, you can configure PageManager Pro to automatically load each time you launch ManageWise.

PageManager Pro supports Windows NT, 98, and 95. You can purchase PageManager Pro through retail channels beginning at the suggested retail price of U.S. \$375, and you can purchase ManageWise Adapter at the suggested retail price of U.S. \$75 per ManageWise console. You can download a file that contains evaluation copies of several Atlantis Software products, including PageManager Pro and ManageWise Adapter, from <http://www.atlantissoftware.com/demos.html>.

For more information about PageManager Pro, visit Atlantis Software's web site (<http://www.atlantissoftware.com>). You can also call 1-510-796-2180.

NETINVENTORY 6.1

NETInventory 6.1 from BindView Development Corp. allows you to track and manage your company's network assets. With NETInventory 6.1, you can conduct an automated hardware and

software inventory, eliminating the need for you to physically visit each workstation and manually record information about installed hardware and software.

You can use this information in a number of ways. For example, because NETInventory 6.1 alerts you when either hardware or software is installed or removed from any workstation, you can audit your company's assets. You can also ensure that your company complies with its software license agreements.

With NETInventory 6.1, you can also assess your company's year-2000 readiness. NETInventory 6.1 performs eight BIOS and real-time clock tests to determine whether or not each workstation is ready for the year 2000. NETInventory 6.1 also stores year 2000-readiness information and compares this information to the software installed on your company's network. You can modify this year 2000-readiness information as you gather updated information from vendors.

You can even take much of the guesswork out of help-desk support with NETInventory 6.1. When users call the help desk with a problem, help-desk personnel can view a report that shows recent changes to hardware and software configurations. Help-desk personnel can then use NETrc (which is available separately) to fix workstation configuration problems from a central location.

NETInventory 6.1 is a snap-in module for BindView's Enterprise Management System (EMS). To use NETInventory 6.1, you must have at least one BindView EMS console. You can then use ManageWise to access the information that NETInventory 6.1 gathers about your company's network.

NETInventory 6.1 includes an NLM to support NetWare 5, NetWare 4, and NetWare 3. NETInventory 6.1 also supports DOS, Windows NT, 98, 95, and 3.x. You can purchase NETInventory 6.1 through retail channels at the suggested retail price of U.S. \$24.95 per audited node, and you can purchase BindView EMS beginning at the suggested retail price of U.S. \$1,199.

For more information about NETInventory 6.1 and Bindview EMS, visit



Bindview Development's web site (<http://www.bindview.com>). You can also call 1-800-749-8439 or 1-713-561-4000.

NCONSOLE

NConsole from Avanti Technology Inc. provides real-time performance and in-depth configuration information for your company's NetWare servers. NConsole collects, averages, and logs hundreds of performance statistics that you can view in real time or in historical perspective. NConsole displays these statistics graphically, generating both 2-D and 3-D graphs. These graphs allow you to track performance trends over a specific period of time.

With NConsole, you can also see how resources are allocated on each server, and you can view a list of the NLMs loaded on each server. In addition, you can view detailed configuration information, including reports showing NLM and SET parameter discrepancies between servers. You can even edit documented and undocumented SET parameters, as well as AUTOEXEC.NCF and STARTUP.NCF files.

NConsole offers two optional agents, which are available separately. These agents allow you to integrate NConsole with ManageWise:

- **NCAgent.** NCAgent is a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) management information base (MIB) agent that makes NConsole's performance and configuration information available to ManageWise. NCAgent also works with other SNMP management consoles, such as Hewlett-Packard's OpenView.
- **NCAAlert.** NCAAlert is an alerting agent that monitors server statistics and the availability of IP devices, IPX devices, and third-party applications. NCAAlert then sends alerts based on events and thresholds that you specify. You can configure NCAAlert to send these alerts via NetWare SEND messages, or you can configure NCAAlert to send these alerts to fax machines, e-mail addresses, or alphanumeric and digital pagers.

NConsole supports NetWare 4 and NetWare 3. You can purchase NConsole through retail channels at the suggested retail price of U.S. \$395, and you can purchase NCAAlert and NCAgent at the suggested retail price of U.S. \$200 and U.S. \$100, respectively. You can download

a demo version of each of these products from <http://www.avanti-tech.com/products.html#evals>.

For more information about NConsole, visit Avanti Technology's web site (<http://www.avanti-tech.com>). You can also call 1-800-638-1168 or 1-719-481-8101.

ALEXANDER SPK 3.0

Alexander Server Protection Kit (SPK) 3.0 from Alexander LAN Inc. is an NLM that automates crash prevention for NetWare 5, NetWare 4, and NetWare 3 servers. With Alexander SPK 3.0, you can reduce the number of server crashes, thus improving server reliability. Alexander SPK 3.0 detects an impending crash and, in many cases, prevents the crash from occurring by putting the unstable software to "sleep." You can then unload and reload this software without restarting the server.

If an impending crash cannot be prevented, Alexander SPK 3.0 automatically dismounts volumes to protect the data stored in these volumes. In addition, Alexander SPK 3.0 recovers the server, restarts NetWare, and reports the crash to any industry-leading network management console, such as Novell's ManageWise.

Alexander SPK 3.0 also gathers diagnostic information about the crash and uses this information to create a comprehensive crash file. The crash file identifies the software that caused the crash and reports the state the server was in immediately before the crash occurred.

Alexander SPK supports all shipping versions of NetWare. You can download a 30-day trial version of Alexander SPK 3.0 from <http://www.alexander.com/forms/30day/30day.html>. You can purchase Alexander SPK 3.0 through retail channels beginning at the suggested retail price of U.S. \$298. For more information about Alexander SPK 3.0, visit Alexander LAN's web site (<http://www.alexander.com>). You can also call 1-603-880-8800.

CONCLUSION

ManageWise alone is an excellent network management tool with many useful capabilities. To extend these capabilities, however, you may want to try one or more of the third-party products that work with ManageWise. By integrating these third-party products with your company's ManageWise system, you have an unbeatable combination.

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