ODS Networks offers new network investigative tool unprecedented in the network management industry.

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FTI Global, Inc.

Mike Grayson, the President of FTI Global announces the development of the network investigative tool, ProtoCop, which provides a unique proactive model for analyzing, filtering and viewing network management data through trend analysis. FTI has partnered with ODS Networks, who is the exclusive distributor of the software.

Winner of LAN Magazines Networld+InterOp Product Awards for the Network Manager category in Singapore, ProtoCop has drawn rave reviews from industry experts and customers even before the official product announcement. ProtoCop will be demonstrated during the Networld+InterOp Show at Booth #2243 this week.

Designed for today's switched network environments, ProtoCop is unique among all the network and system management products. Offering one of the industry's first simultaneous multi-vendor, multi-agent, and multi-standards summary screens. ProtoCop gathers all the information provided by traditional network management tools for thousands of SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) and RMON (Remote Monitoring) devices on the network. ProtoCop analyzes, correlates, and inserts the data into a relational database. This fully accessible SQL database informs the network manager of areas and issues that require attention in all five of the ISO network management categories: Security, Configuration, Accounting, Fault and Performance.

Protocop provides and information/category-centric versus a device-centric approach to network management, said T. Joe Head, Senior Vice President of ODS Networks. The network manager can manage and view the entire system or network, not just the simple narrow views of a single box at a time that are offered by other network management products. Current products on the market do not begin to address how to make management more than a post-mortem tool. ProtoCop also allows network managers to identify network bottlenecks; determine the cost of an over-utilized backbone; summarize essential upgrades and calculate return on investment for each; identify where infrastructure investments have the most impact; identify when critical servers and hosts are out of CPU capacity; charge-back network expenses to users based on server, subnet, application or even web connection; isolate failed devices by location, system, type or vendor; manage service agreement uptime guarantees against actual system performance; and automate system inventory and documentation. In essence, it automates the tasks an engineer or manager would attempt to do by correlating the data from hundreds or thousands of protocol analyzers and displaying the information on a single summary screen.

In addition to comprehensive network management, ProtoCop helps in reducing the costs of cyber-crime for organizations. According to the FBI, losses exceeding $10 billion occur every year due to hackers, sabotage, corporate espionage, corporate terrorism and other computer crimes. ProtoCop tracks security break-ins; finds security breaches in and around organization firewalls; identifies hackers in the system and traces Internet to foreign addresses.

"Firewalls, encryption and authentication technologies protect a networks front door," indicated Joe Head. "Professional thieves rarely use the front door to break-in. ProtoCop provides security inside an organization's network – like surveillance cameras and motion detectors in a building."

ProtoCop was designed to be leveraged with the capabilities of the ODS InfiniteSwitch.

FTI Global is a software development and business consulting firm in Dallas, Texas.