

Monolith Topology Manager



Monolith – Delivering Next Generation Monitoring for Operations

Overview

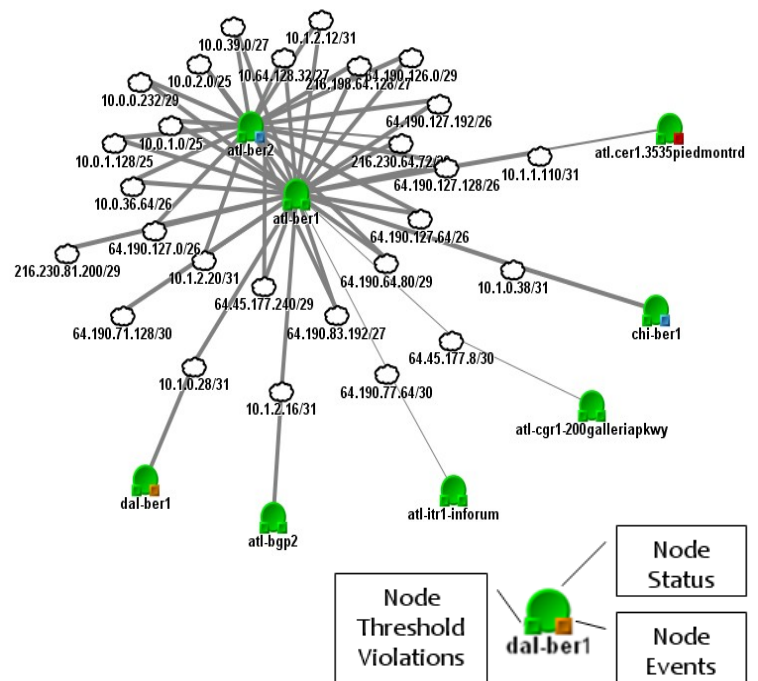
Monolith Topology Manager provides integrated auto-discovery, topology mapping, and root-cause analysis to give customers a dynamic representation of their networks. These tools have always been highly desired by companies in the technology management arena, but most vendors have struggled to develop a workable solution.

Monolith leads the industry with this new addition to the mSuite ITM Solution. Topology Manager allows organizations to automatically discover their networks, create dynamic topology-based maps, present Realtime status indicators for each node, and perform connectivity-based Probable Root Cause Analysis (PRCA) to provide downstream suppression.

Key benefits of Topology Manager

- Fully integrated into Monolith's single code set
- Great time-to-value (quick deployment)
- Fast discovery and easily maintainable
- Highly scalable
- Capable of handling any hierarchy – logical or physical

Topology Management Solution



Product Features and Benefits

Features

- Auto-discovery of network infrastructures
- SNMP deep discovery of devices
- Topology Overview reports showing number of devices or interfaces being managed, by type and by status
- Supports standard and customer topology hierarchies
- Open correlation engine supporting customer specific enhancements (not a black box correlation engine)
- Full integration with Dashboard Engine for real-time Topology Dashboards
- Supports custom topologies incorporating business logic & visualization (e.g. application modeling)

Benefits

- Provides accurate and up-to-date network inventory
- Key tool for help desk and managers to drill into device attributes
- Improves network availability & reliability due to faster MTTR delivered via correlation & topology displays
- Improved operational efficiency via correlation & real-time displays
- Automates management efforts
- Complete visibility of your network devices
- Improves accuracy of inventory data to provide for more informed decision making

The Monolith Advantage

With Topology Manager, organizations can automatically discover their networks, view dynamically created topology maps, deliver topology dashboards with realtime status indicators for network operations staff, perform connectivity based Probable Root Cause Analysis for providing downstream suppression functionality, and adapt the hierarchy storage engine and correlation models to meet their unique needs. Monolith has distinct advantages over our primary competitors in this market segment. The first key differentiator is the fact that Monolith has not acquired this technology. It was built by our developers to fit into our single code-set solution. This allows the look, feel and administration of Topology Manager to be highly consistent with our other modules and allows us to leverage data from our other components for a more streamlined solution. The second distinctive advantage is our open architecture. The few competitors that do have solutions in this space deliver it with a black box construct.

Network Inventory Collection

Topology Manager offers an ideal solution for organizations needing to consolidate network inventory onto a single pane of glass. Customers leverage out-of-the-box SNMP collection agents to retrieve and display a variety of useful information. The standard agent collects Interfaces, IP Routes, ARP Table, MAC Addresses, and CDP Neighbors.

Device Types		
Name	Number	Percentage
2948G-GE-TX	1,783	27.95%
4948	1,720	26.96%

Interface Types					
Type	Used	Available	Count	Total	% of Interfaces
Ethernet/ethernetCsmacd	185,391	216,571	401,962	642,492	62.56%
Virtual/propVirtual	92,972	2,903	95,875	642,492	14.92%
/voiceEncap	2,301	52,854	55,155	642,492	8.58%
Other/other	2,868	14	2,882	642,492	0.45%
DSO/ds0	59	10,432	10,491	642,492	1.63%

The screenshot shows a detailed view of a Cisco Catalyst 2948 Switch. The 'Device Info' tab is active, displaying the following information:

- Timestamp Added: 2006-03-14 11:30:12
- Timestamp Modified: 2006-03-14 11:30:12
- IP Address: 169.225.20.237
- Custom Name: (empty)
- DNS Name: chi29f20s2.net.pbsg.pvt
- SNMP System Name: chi29f20s2.net.pbsg.pvt
- SNMP Object ID: 1.3.6.1.4.1.9.5.42
- SNMP System Description: Cisco Systems, Inc. WS-C2948 Cisco Catalyst Operating System Software, Version 7.6(7) Copyright (c) 1995-2004 by Cisco Systems, Inc.
- SNMP System Location: 555 W. Monroe St, Chicago, IL, 60661
- SNMP System Contact: J&P Local Network Service Engineers 312-821-0388
- IP Forwarding: Yes
- Serial Number: JAB042101U4
- Device Type: Cisco Catalyst 2948 Switch
- Device Category: Switch

Layer2+3 Stitching

Processing your Network Inventory Data for Topology Mapping and PRCA

Stitching collected network inventory into topology data is now easy with Monolith's rules-based stitching. The standard stitcher will process IP Routes (for Layer3) and CDP Neighbors / ARP (for Layer2), generating the hierarchy needed for PRCA (Probable Root Cause Analysis) correlation as well as the layout for the topology-based dashboard engine.

The stitcher can also be enhanced to leverage other pieces of data to accommodate customer specific hierarchy updates to accurately reflect the clients actual environment. These updates leverage Monolith's HSE (Hierarchy Storage Engine) rules sets which are completely open and able to be modified directly by the customer with our 100% Perl based Rules Engine.

