

Asset Management Gets A Boost

NetSupport DNA Suite Receives An Update



NetSupport DNA 2.1

**Starting at \$26.88 per client;
volume pricing is available**

**Asset management solution
designed to lower TCO**

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Ensuring that IT assets are properly managed and maintained is characteristically a high priority for any competitive organization. In keeping with this theme, the latest version of NetSupport DNA offers an easy-to-use solution for a company to quickly and economically track, monitor, and report on its IT assets.

The modular design of NetSupport DNA 2.1 uses a central data repository, a management console package, and a client agent. Along with hardware and software inventory and optional remote software deployment and help-desk modules, this latest version offers an assortment of updates including enhanced software inventory, an improved user interface, new Internet metering settings, an application packager enhancement, DNS support, and a more extensive query tool. The Internet and application usage monitoring are unique features normally not found in competing products.

"With NetSupport DNA, IT departments at small and medium-sized firms can know what hardware and software they have in place, monitor application usage, budget more accurately for upgrades, improve their in-house IT support and performance, and even track Internet usage, all resulting in greater efficiency and reduced IT costs," says Dave Auwarter, president of NetSupport.

DNA offers the ability to automatically discover all workstations either within an IP range or within an existing Windows network. Once discovered, key information and DNA client status is made available. DNA clients can also be remotely installed onto clean systems across an enterprise.

Queries and reports, which are powered by the Crystal Report engine, provide pie and bar charts along with drill-down capabilities on all key summary data. Reports are also exportable.

DNA also provides for software distribution. To begin, an operator defines a software package to be deployed. The package can either be a collection of files and folders specified with appropriate action parameters once delivered to a target system, or a recording and scripting of any user prompts required during an actual application installation.

Other players in this market space include LANDesk, Altiris, ZENWorks, and Microsoft SMS.

NetSupport DNA 2.1 requires Windows NT/2000/XP/2003 Server. The central repository database requires Microsoft MSDE, SQL7, or SQL2000. The management console requires Win2000 or higher. Clients support Win98/Me/NT/2000/XP/2003 Server.

DNA is available in a modular format, letting you pick and choose only those features that best meet your business needs. Entry-level pricing begins at \$26.88 per client for 100 users of the inventory module. Remote control and help-desk modules are optional. Volume pricing is also available.

by Joseph Pasquini



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