



TECH TOOLS

Riverbed Central Management Console

Riverbed Technology released its Central Management Console (CMC) 5.0.

According to the announcement, the Riverbed CMC simplifies the process of deploying, configuring, and managing Steelhead appliances while providing visibility into the underlying performance of applications running across the WAN. Improvements include role-based administration, policy-based configuration management, hierarchical structuring, and centralized security management.

For more information, visit: <http://www.riverbed.com>.

Tideway Foundation 7.1

Tideway, an IT automation software provider, announced Tideway Foundation 7.1. The new version of the application dependency mapping (ADM) solution allows users to identify what has changed in their IT environment and why; view authorized, approved, and expected changes; and select the most relevant slices of data for more detailed reporting. According to the announcement, the new change control capabilities enable users to define a baseline "approved" state for their environment and compare all observed changes to the approved and expected states of that environment. This

change intelligence also offers users suggestions about what action should be taken to reconcile and explain discrepancies between the approved environment and the state captured by Foundation.

Improvements in Foundation 7.1 include enhanced capabilities for managing virtual environments and controlling virtual machine sprawl. Users can monitor the appearance, disappearance, and migration of virtual hosts and reconcile the changes with their authorization status. Users can tag configuration items with comments, notes, and links to other items. Improved visualization capabilities now enable users to navigate the graphical maps that Foundation produces to represent relationships between configuration items by simply dragging their mouse.

Tideway Foundation 7.1 is available now. For more information, visit: <http://www.tideway.com>.

JBoss Operations Network 2.0

Red Hat recently announced the release of JBoss Operations Network (ON) 2.0, an integrated middleware management platform. JBoss ON 2.0 provides centralized management for the JBoss Enterprise Middleware Portfolio, including inventorying, administration, deployment, and updating of JBoss-based middleware applications.

The use of JBoss ON server and agents allows enterprises to remotely deploy certified content from the JBoss Customer Support Portal, auto-discover resources that span from the operating system to the application, standardize deployments by centrally controlling and auditing application configurations, and capture performance metrics for each resource.

JBoss ON 2.0 includes a new agent with full command-line interface and remote agent configuration, extensible APIs for interoperability, and true SSL encryption and authentication for bi-directional server-agent communications. For more information, visit: <http://www.redhat.com/>.

PlateSpin Forge

Novell announced PlateSpin Forge, a disaster recovery hardware appliance for protecting physical and virtual server workloads. The announcement said that PlateSpin Forge is a custom-made consolidated recovery solution that includes prepackaged and pre-configured hardware, software, and VMware virtualization to accelerate deployment, simplify configuration, and reduce total cost of ownership. The PlateSpin solution reduces the time and specialized technical resources needed to plan, provision, and deploy a recovery environment. With PlateSpin Forge, organizations can begin protecting their physical and virtual workloads in hours.

Out of the box, the PlateSpin Forge appliance provides protection for up to 25 physical or virtual workloads. In the event of a disaster, recovery time is just a matter of powering on PlateSpin Forge's virtual standby workload. Upon receiving a failure alert by email, BlackBerry, or the web-based user interface, the admin can recover workloads rapidly with a single mouse click. PlateSpin Forge provides a highly flexible restore capability. Workload failback can be rapidly executed to any physical or virtual host regardless of manufacturer, make, or model.

PlateSpin Forge includes an intuitive web-based interface for managing, monitoring, and reporting on all aspects of workload protection and recovery.

Preconfigured reporting lets users quickly access all the pertinent metrics needed to report on the health of their recovery and protection plans, such as actual versus target recovery objectives, replication window sizing, and protection logs for auditing purposes. Data centers can protect both system and data volumes within a single bootable recovery environment.

Workloads can be protected locally or remotely across a wide area network (WAN) to facilitate off-site recovery.

For more information, visit: <http://www.platespin.com/forge/>.

Nominum DNS and DHCP Solutions

Nominum, a provider of network naming and addressing technologies, announced its line of DNS and DHCP software solutions to deliver guaranteed network availability, greater scalability, deployment flexibility, and attack resilience. According to the announcement, the Enterprise DNS package is available immediately and includes Nominum's Authoritative Name Server (ANS) and Caching Name Server (CNS). ANS is a dedicated authoritative name server, custom-made to scale to a large number of zones and records. CNS is a dedicated caching-only name server designed for recursively resolving domain names while also protecting the DNS infrastructure against Denial of Service (DoS) attacks and cache poisoning.

The Enterprise DHCP package is also available and includes Nominum's Dynamic Configuration Server (DCS), which offers a commercial-grade DHCP server with high availability, resiliency, and open APIs for flexible DHCP policy management.

Nominum DNS and DHCP packages are supported on any x86 and SPARC-based hardware servers and on Red Hat Linux, Solaris, and FreeBSD. For more information, visit: <http://www.nominum.com/>.

NexentaStor 1.0

Nexenta Systems Inc. announced the commercial release of NexentaStor Enterprise v.1.0. According to the announcement, NexentaStor Enterprise Edition offers unlimited storage, limitless filesystem sizes, unlimited incremental backups, inherent virtualization, multi-level data integrity, built-in search, and open systems – and it runs on industry-standard hardware.

The announcement says that since NexentaStor was first released as a freely available beta product in November 2007, more than 2,000 users have downloaded, installed, and registered the storage management software.

In March 2008, Nexenta Systems released a freely available Developer Edition v.1.0, which is a fully featured version of NexentaStor Enterprise Edition available at no charge.

For more information, visit: <http://www.nexenta.com/>.

REALbasic 2008 Release 2

REALbasic 2008 Release 2, a cross-platform development environment for Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux developers, is now available.

Geoff Perlman, President and CEO of REAL Software, said, "With over 200 fixes in this release and the addition of a new class called Pairs, we are providing a more productive and reliable tool set to our users."

REALbasic is a full-featured software development environment for creating a wide range of applications. REALbasic Personal (formerly Standard) Edition for Windows or Mac is priced at US\$ 100. REALbasic for Linux Personal Edition is offered for free. REALbasic Professional Edition, required for cross-platform deployment, is US\$ 500.

For more information and a complete list of improvements and new features, visit: <http://www.realsoftware.com/download/>.

Netgear ReadyNAS Pro

Netgear announced the launch of its six-bay, small-form factor desktop network-attached storage (NAS) solutions: ReadyNAS Pro 1.5TB Gigabit Desktop Storage (RNDP6350), ReadyNAS Pro 3TB Gigabit Desktop Storage (RNDP6310), and ReadyNAS Pro 6TB Gigabit Desktop Storage (RNDP6610).

According to the company, ReadyNAS Pro provides up to 6TB of network-attached storage, enabling users across the LAN or WAN to store, back up, and share digital data from a combination of Windows, Macintosh, and Linux platforms. ReadyNAS Pro supports RAID 0, 1, 5, and 6 and auto-expandable X-RAID2 to provide data protection against single-disk failure. The ReadyNAS Pro features dual redundant Gigabit Ethernet ports for failover protection.

The ReadyNAS Pro products support up to six SATA I or SATA II hard drives via six lockable, hot-swappable disk trays. Three USB 2.0 ports enable the connection of USB drives or printers.

ReadyNAS Pro features include a web-based GUI, a setup wizard, and an LCD display. The ReadyNAS Pro is backed by a five-year hardware warranty and will be available at a list price starting at US\$ 2,000.

For more information, visit: <http://www.netgear.com/>.

Acronis Snap Deploy 3.0

Acronis Inc., a provider of scalable storage management and disaster recovery software, announced Acronis Snap Deploy 3.0, which enables IT managers to configure and deploy multiple computers simultaneously. The announcement says that instead of configuring each individual machine and then installing the applications, customers use the software to install a standard, identical image – including the operating system and all applications – on every machine.

Walter Scott, CEO of Acronis, said, "Users find this product particularly useful in applications where system configurations are standardized, such as in the education and government markets, as well as for sales and general office applications."

Image configurations created by Acronis Snap Deploy can be installed from an optical disc or multicast simultaneously to computers over a local area network. With the separately licensed Acronis Universal Deploy add-on, IT managers can configure new systems with different hardware and still use the original saved image. Device drivers and the Hardware Abstraction Layer can be automatically or manually selected as needed to ensure proper booting of the computer. The product is available in workstation and server versions.

Acronis Snap Deploy 3.0 software is fully compatible with the prior version and all other Acronis products and supports 32- and 64-bit systems. Pricing is about US\$ 20 for the desktop version and US\$ 100 for the server version. For more information, visit: <http://www.acronis.com/enterprise/products/>.

