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**Enterprise Network Management Summary**

**Article originally by Richard “Zippy” Grignosis.**

In this article the author discusses the current state of modern day enterprise network management. This field is very broad and includes many different aspects like networks security, monitoring, planning, topology, mapping, analysis and network performance. With the rise of enterprise networks which is still a fairly new system, especially when it comes to IP communications many organizations are beginning to realize that it does not come without its problems. Originally when they transferred over from older telephony systems they expected most if not all their issues to be resolved with IP communications or VOIP. Soon after they have realized because this technology is so new there are still adjustments to be made and solutions to be found.

In order to battle the issues that have risen with IP communications many 3rd party companies have developed services that tailor to an infrastructure. Cisco which is a huge vendor in the enterprise network (IP Phones, switches, etc.), does not directly rely on selling network management software or tools because they make money off the equipment and maintenance fees. They do offer and try to sell you their tools but often it falls short of what 3rd party companies offer because it is not their area of expertise or only focus.

Let’s look at some examples of what 3rd party network management companies have to offer. Qovia offers IP telephony monitoring and management solutions. There management software unlike some competitors offers real time analysis of IP networks. Management service from NextNine has customers like Motorola and Comverse using their technology. They offer a virtual support engineering which is automated software that helps operate and maintain the network. This advanced tech can also run automated commands by communicating with the system via protocols to repair or update issues. These are some of the offerings currently available for enterprise network management. I come to my conclusion that enterprise network management is still a work in progress, as technology and knowledge of these systems grow so will the management’s tools.