



# 9 WAYS TO AVOID COMMON NETWORK ISSUES BEFORE THEY OCCUR

In today's mobile, work-around-the-clock culture, IT professionals are challenged with managing increasingly complicated IT infrastructures while trying to anticipate issues before they occur. Just one minute of network downtime can [cost an organization](#), on average, \$5,600 and can significantly impair productivity.

# Here are **9 tips** to avoid common network issues and ensure the daily health of your systems:

- 01** Identify hardware issues before they happen – Stay ahead of potential hardware problems by regularly reviewing your IT infrastructure to determine the standard temperature of your servers, when your hard disks are reaching maximum capacity, if memory is running low, or when it's time to update your internet connection to handle increasing bandwidth usage. Keeping abreast of your network conditions will allow you to plan for hardware enhancements before they become necessary.
- 02** Automate your reboot process – When a Windows service fails or hang-ups in your server occur, the common method for recovery is to manually reboot the entire server. To avoid extended interruption in services, automate this process so that your system reboots the server or service when it is down for a certain period of time.
- 03** Keep an eye out for saboteurs – Antivirus software is important, but shouldn't be your sole weapon to protect your organization against security threats. Monitor for uncommon traffic, CPU spikes, or brute-force login attempts – all indicators associated with malware. Being able to recognize malicious behavior in your network early on will limit the impact of the overall attack.
- 04** Practice climate control – High temperatures, humidity, water leaks and brightness are all potentially harmful conditions that could damage your server room. Be proactive in monitoring cooling equipment and other environmental values to ensure your devices remain safe and avoid a major outage.
- 05** Ensure your website is a star performer – Website performance is crucial for any company. Delays in web page loading or action requests can result in a lost sale or prospect for the company. Regularly monitor and test your website to ensure it is performing acceptably and is reachable day and night.
- 06** Virtual machines should be out of site, not out of mind – Virtualization provides greater flexibility but can also be unreliable. It is important to keep track of and monitor your virtual machines – how they are used, CPU and memory usage, as well as network speed to avoid performance problems.
- 07** Pinpoint the root of database problems – Low database performance can be the result of a number of things, including hardware issues, third party application interference or corruption within the database. In order to efficiently fix and optimize performance you need to first identify the cause. Regular maintenance of your database will help to avoid ongoing issues.
- 08** Avoid poor sound and video quality – Frequent Voice over IP (VoIP) sound quality issues and video streaming hiccups can be frustrating for your users. These interruptions are typically the result of a delay or loss in User Datagram Protocol (UDP) packet transmission. In order to avoid these quality issues, ensure your network is able to handle the increase in UDP traffic these services require.
- 09** Organize your backup needs – Maintaining and ensuring backups – operating system, complete image, virtualization, SQL, Exchange, etc. – run successfully can be a challenge and usually not a top priority, but is critical in safeguarding and keeping a record of your data in the event of a network/system failure. To save time, employ a tracking service that will analyze all backup status updates and send notifications when issues arise.

## Unified monitoring to the rescue!

A unified monitoring solution gives you a single location from which to view, track and manage these types of network issues before they become problems. For additional tips on proactively managing common network challenges and how Paessler's PRTG Network Monitor can help, download an overview of the **"11 Everyday Network Issues PRTG Network Monitor Helps Resolve."**

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