Riverbed Cascade Extends Network Visibility Deeper into the Data Centre

Virtualisation has made a huge difference to businesses and for increasing server utilisation in data centres. However, it has also created issues for network managers trying to keep track of traffic within and between virtual machines. And this is only set to increase.

World enterprise network revenue will rise to $39.4 billion in 2012, according to IDC. Enterprise mobility, video consumption and cloud infrastructure is driving this growth and spending will continue to rise because "the enterprise network is becoming much more critical" to high-priority business initiatives , according to Cindy Borovick, research vice president for IDC's Enterprise Communications and Datacenter Network services. But the speed of growth is forcing organisations to cope with unprecedented network and data centre stresses.

Many organisations struggle with extra load on their IT infrastructure that cause IT teams to scramble to address network problems. Riverbed has responded to this need by extending its service performance monitoring solution end-to-end across the remote LAN, the WAN and deep into the data centre. Cascade 9.5 provides network teams with the transparency they need to discover, monitor and troubleshoot todays complex data centres, providing visibility into load balanced and virtualised computing environments and converged VoIP.

Riverbeds Cascade provides organisations a unique, cost-effective, and easy-to-use solution for monitoring and troubleshooting todays complex IT environment and the critical applications that run over it.

Riverbed Cascade Extends Network Visibility Deeper into the Data Center

Network Performance Management Solution Extends Service Discovery and Monitoring into Next Generation Data Center Across Load Balanced and Virtualized IT Environments

SAN FRANCISCO January 31, 2012 Today, Riverbed

Technology (NASDAQ: RVBD), the IT performance company, introduced new capabilities to its Cascade application-aware network performance management (NPM) solution, which delivers the needed visibility into virtualized data centers and data centers that use load balancing application delivery controllers (ADCs). This new release, Cascade 9.5, extends end-to-end service performance monitoring and troubleshooting from the remote LAN, across the wide area network (WAN), and now deeper into the data center. Cascade Profiler is the first NPM solution to provide a wizard-based, streamlined configuration process for service monitoring across ADCs.Virtual Cascade Shark is the first product to offer continuous packet capture and performance analysis in virtual environments. With this new release, the Cascade product line has unmatched capabilities for complex, global networks that include load-balanced and virtualized data centers.

Enterprise
customers deploy ADCs to optimize application delivery, flexibility and resiliency. The challenges presented by load balancing ADCs create significant visibility problems for network operationsby masking the necessary metrics and application dependencieslimiting their ability to monitor for end-to-end performance or troubleshoot degradations. Cascade 9.5 automates the discovery and monitoring of load balanced applications. By integrating with ADCsF5 Local Traffic Manager, Riverbed Stingray Traffic Manager, and othersCascade bridges the visibility gap between the client-side and server-side connections of load balancers, providing IT operations with a view of application performance.

The irresistible tide of
server virtualization has combined with increasingly strategic deployments of application and network optimization technologies to create new and troublesome visibility barriers for IT operations, said Jim Frey, managing research director at EMA. This requires a fundamental re-assessment of performance monitoring and management technologies due to fast emerging requirements for integrated visibility and virtualized instrumentation. The Riverbed Cascade solution is evolving in this very direction, and coupled with the balance of the Riverbed optimization portfolio, comprises a unique and compelling combination of visibility and control for the evolving, virtualized enterprise IT infrastructure.

In addition to deploying
ADCs to optimize application delivery, enterprise customers are also virtualizing their data centers and consolidating IT resources to achieve flexibility and cost savings. However, as with ADCs, virtualization creates visibility challenges for IT operations teams because once an application enters a virtualized environment, they lose visibility into application performance. The new Virtual Cascade Shark software provides the real-time visibility needed to manage and troubleshoot application performance as it traverses the virtual switch in VMware ESX environments. Virtual Cascade Shark monitors all inter-virtual machine traffic, exporting application-enhanced traffic metrics to the Cascade Profiler performance management dashboard, for centralized service-level discovery and monitoring and accelerated troubleshooting. It also continuously captures packets and stores them on the local server or in a storage area network (SAN) for back-in-time analysis with Cascade Pilot network analysis software.

Without Riverbed Cascade,
it would be a trying experience to keep the network running on a day-to-day basis, said Marc Seybold, CIO at SUNY College at Old Westbury. If we were to turn off Cascade, then an accumulation of small problems would eventually grow into a rogue wave of problems, and we would not have the tools to know what is happening inside the network. Based on our experience with Cascade, we are very excited to gain the same level of performance management and visibility, into our virtualized environment, with the Virtual Cascade Shark.

Virtualization and load
balancing have fundamentally transformed the data center. While these technologies provide amazing benefits, they also create real visibility challenges, said Dimitri Vlachos, senior director of marketing and product management, Cascade Business Unit at Riverbed. For end-to-end performance, IT operations need visibility into all application and network traffic across all IT environments physical and virtual, from the user to the deepest depths of the data center. Cascade provides enterprise customers a unique, cost-effective, and easy-to-use solution for monitoring and troubleshooting todays complex IT environment and the critical applications that run over it.

Delivering Performance by
Troubleshooting Problems with Deeper Visibility

This release of Cascade also
includes a number of new and important features, including:

Multi-segment
analysis Cascade Pilot
simplifies the task of correlating and analyzing related traffic streams captured from multiple locations or sources to quickly identify where on the network performance issues are occurring whether it is on the remote LAN, the WAN or within the data center.

Precision
time stamping support
Cascade Shark can now adopt nanosecond time stamps from SPAN port aggregators for greater precision and accuracy. Adopting time stamps from existing network equipment is more cost-efficient and enables coordinated time stamping across the network for performance troubleshooting. It can also be used with the new multi-segment analysis capabilities within Cascade Pilot for monitoring low-latency trading environments and other time-sensitive applications for business critical operations. Supported network taps include Gigamon GigaVUE, cPacket Networks CVU and cTap, and VSS Monitoring Distributed Traffic Capture.

VoIP
quality reporting
Cascade 9.5 tightens the integration between Cascade Shark and Cascade Profiler by bringing support for voice over IP (VoIP) protocols and quality metrics into Cascade Profiler. This information enables IT managers to determine how VoIP

services are performing in conjunction with data resources in order to make effective capacity planning and optimization decisions, and improve end user experience. Supported VoIP quality metrics include mean opinion score (MOS), R-Factor, packet loss and jitter. In addition, Cascade supports the Cisco Skinny Client Control Protocol (SCCP).

Availability: The enhanced Cascade solution is expected to be generally available in Q1 2012.

For additional information on Cascade, visit http://www.riverbed.com/cascade. In addition, download a complimentary copy of Network Monitoring and Troubleshooting for DUMMIES Riverbed Cascade Special Edition at http://rvbd.ly/NMaTfD.

More than 16,000 organizations worldwide depend on Riverbed to understand, optimize and consolidate their IT infrastructure, through solutions that overcome performance issues caused by distance, distributed computing, and ever increasing amounts of data. As IT organizations embark on strategic initiatives to virtualize, consolidate and migrate workloads into cloud environments, users are moved farther from their data, and slow applications, file transfers and inefficient websites negatively impact the performance of these initiatives. Riverbed transforms IT performance by providing solutions spanning WAN optimization, application-aware NPM, application delivery, web content optimization (WCO), and cloud data protection for backup, archive and disaster recovery. By providing the broadest portfolio of performance solutions that deliver anywhere, any application optimization, Riverbed enables organizations to increase productivity and efficiency, while enhancing business resilience and controlling costs.

Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements, including statements relating to the expected demand for Riverbed's products and services, statements regarding performance results of Cascade solutions that may suggest likely or certain outcomes, and statements relating to Riverbeds ability to meet the needs of distributed organizations. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, as well as assumptions that, if they do not fully materialize or prove incorrect, could cause our results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties that could cause our results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements include our ability to react to trends and challenges in our business and the markets in which we operate; our ability to anticipate market needs or develop new or enhanced products to meet those needs; the adoption rate of our products; our ability to establish and maintain successful relationships with our distribution partners; our ability to compete in our industry; fluctuations in demand, sales cycles and prices for our products and services; shortages or price fluctuations in our supply chain; our ability to protect our intellectual property rights; general political, economic and market conditions and events; and other risks

and uncertainties described more fully in our documents filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about these and other risks that may impact Riverbeds business are set forth in our Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on October 28, 2011. All forward-looking statements in this press release are based on information available to us as of the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements. Any future product, feature or related specification that may be referenced in this release are for information purposes only and are not commitments to deliver any technology or enhancement. Riverbed reserves the right to modify future product plans at any time.

About
Riverbed

Riverbed delivers performance for the globally connected enterprise. With Riverbed, enterprises can successfully and intelligently implement strategic initiatives such as virtualization, consolidation, cloud computing, and disaster recovery without fear of compromising performance. By giving enterprises the platform they need to understand, optimize and consolidate their IT, Riverbed helps enterprises to build a fast, fluid and dynamic IT architecture that aligns with the business needs of the organization. Additional information about Riverbed (NASDAQ: RVBD) is available at www.riverbed.com.

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