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## Remote monitoring scores while bandwidth is all at sea

Our weekly round-up of all that's new in networking

By Bryan Betts

### Physical monitoring for smaller sites

Remote physical monitoring specialist NetBotz has added two new models to its range, along with a revised version of its management software. The NetBotz 320 and 420 devices are intended for monitoring smaller sites than the flagship 500 model, while being more expandable than the older 310 and 400.

The devices include cameras and can hook up to a variety of other sensors to measure temperature and other environmental factors. This enables regional offices and branch sites to be monitored from a central site via a Web browser. The revised [management software](#) supports paired servers for failover and also allows remote devices to call in instead of being polled, to avoid problems getting through firewalls.

NetBotz managing director Dave Watkins says the old models will remain available at reduced prices - for example, the 310 is now £699 versus £999 and £1580 respectively for the new devices. The 320 and 420 have features of the 500 such as a Linux-based OS, SSL encryption and USB expandability.

"Our applications have evolved tremendously," Watkins says. "When I started in this two years ago, no-one had physical security as a line item for IT, now we have companies on their second phase of deployment. With the 420, now we can reach customers who wanted the 500 but wanted it to be less complex."

### Scan for over 3000 vulnerabilities

Linux, Solaris and HP/UX are among the extra systems which can now be vulnerability-scanned by its [Network Security Inspector](#), says Sunbelt System Software. The company claims that the upgraded tool now covers over 3,100 vulnerabilities, and can scan Cisco routers and HP printers as well as Windows systems.

Now at version 1.5, Sunbelt Network Security Inspector can scan addresses or entire subnets, look for open ports and active Windows services. It can search using its default settings, or administrators can specify groups of vulnerabilities to look for, for example by risk or category.

Normally priced at £1,335 per administrator, Sunbelt also offers the Windows-based software at a competitive upgrade price of £847. It says this even applies to users of freeware.

### **Fluke adds RMON2**

[Fluke](#) reckons that the latest version of its OptiView Link Analyzer will enable faster network problem resolution, thanks to its support for RMON2 and a new Web interface, which make it easier to access troubleshooting data. It adds that Link Analyzer 6.1 also allows engineers to set up scheduled packet captures for events performed outside office hours, and includes a number of features to help track the quality of voice over IP calls.

To tie in with this, Fluke has a new release of its Protocol Expert software. This can manage Link Analyzers centrally and has a larger capture buffer plus search and filtering functions that let users identify data patterns anywhere in the packet, for example to help track down worms or viruses. The company adds that Link Analyzer 6.1 is priced at Euro 22,345, and Protocol Expert 6.1 at Euro 3,760.