

# Proactive Network Healthcheck

## Assurance assessment of mission critical networks

A proactive approach to reducing network downtime and mitigating associated business risk.

**The performance capabilities of a mission critical network are fundamental to both the successful completion of daily operations and the achievement of corporate strategic objectives.**

**Essant has extensive experience in deploying, managing and monitoring complex mission critical networks.**

**Our Proactive Network Healthcheck is designed for businesses that want to improve network performance, availability and productivity based on a true understanding of the activity and vulnerability of their corporate network.**

As networks evolve they may become exposed to many different types of risk. New features, systems and services may be deployed. Cumulative changes, such as device upgrades, personnel changes and security practice amendments are commonplace. Meanwhile protocols, technologies and their means of implementation are constantly improved.

In such a fast-changing environment, the Essant Proactive Network Healthcheck acts as a check and balance, providing you with an in-depth analysis of the health of your network, its vulnerabilities and its suitability to meet organisational objectives.

This proactive approach ensures ongoing stability within your network infrastructure and conformance to best practice, whether for internal purposes or external regulatory compliance.

The customised report considers your current and future objectives and provides the following business benefits;

### **Improved Network Availability**

By ensuring redundancy and by reviewing device configurations, the service identifies problems before an outage occurs.

### **Industry & Regulatory Compliance**

The output from the Healthcheck provides an independent assessment of your network's capability and conformity to industry best-practice.

### **New Service Readiness**

For clients looking to deploy new networked services such as Voice and Video over IP this optional module assesses the networks readiness to deliver these services.

### **Improved Knowledge**

The insight gained during the process and documents created will augment & improve the capability and knowledge of your staff.

### **Reduced Costs**

As a thorough understanding of the network is obtained; maintenance contracts can be reviewed, internal resource can be aligned to requirements, and risk of network downtime and its associated costs can be minimised.

### **Risk Mitigation**

The health check is recommended as an annual service to help identify the potential for downtime before failure conditions prevail. It complements existing 'break fix' hardware maintenance contracts by providing an additional layer of intelligence.

# Network Health Check Service Overview

The output of the Healthcheck generates a comprehensive report and a set of Compliance Tables, addressing Physical Structure, Network Structure and Device Compliance. These tables provide a simple, high-level view which is colour-coded to allow rapid identification of areas requiring attention. The resulting assessment will provide the basis of an immediate 'Get Well' programme, where required, as well as a framework methodology for optimising the network in the future.

Based around a phased approach of; preparation, information gathering, analysis, recommendation and feedback, the health check delivers a bespoke report on all aspects of network optimisation.

## Phase 1 – Discovery Workshop

Our engineers work with all major stakeholders to identify operational and technical objectives, prior to commencing the Proactive Network Healthcheck, typically this is done as an onsite workshop, for which all relevant personnel should be available, briefed and have all current documentation available.

## Phase 2 – Onsite Assessment & Configuration Gathering

Onsite assessment of the network Physical Structure, taking into account areas such as:

Computer Room Security	Environmental Issues
Cabinet & Device Naming	Cleanliness & Tidiness
Power Distribution	Cabinet & Equipment Access

Assessment of the Network Structure, findings will include reports on:

General Configuration Baseline	Security Baseline
Network Diagrams	Support Documentation
Change & Configuration Control	VLAN Convention & Structure
IP Addressing Scheme	Device Access
Resilience	Routing Protocols

Configuration gathering of all devices which can be done locally or remotely if permitted, and may involve the use of various software tools to assist in this process.

## Phase 3 – Best Practice Assessment

Assess device configurations, Physical Structure and Network Structure against Essant's Best Practice Criteria for Compliance, Partial-Compliance, Non-Compliance. Essant's Best Practice Criteria are based on vendor published information, recognised third party experts and the wealth of experience our engineers have built up over many years in the industry.

### STATUS FLAGS

Not Compliant / Critical Issue  
Partially Compliant / Observation  
Compliant / No Issue  
Recommendation / Consideration  
Not Applicable

N/C
P/C
C
REC
N/A

## Phase 4 – Healthcheck Findings Presentation

Post Healthcheck workshop with all major stakeholders to present and explain the Healthcheck findings, answer questions and provide advice with a view to putting in place a 'Get Well' plan that can be implemented by the Client, Essant or another suitable third party.

Essant recommends the Proactive Network Healthcheck for any organisation delivering mission critical services across its network and for those looking to capitalise on offering new networked services or planning network upgrades in the near future.

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If you'd like to know more about Essant Network Healthcheck, or about other ways we could help your business, please call us on **08456 740047**, email [enquiry@essant.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@essant.co.uk) or visit [www.essant.co.uk](http://www.essant.co.uk)