Assignment 1

Dr Perigo:

There are many Network Management System (NMS) tools to choose from and finding the right one depends on the needs of the customer. I will be evaluating two different NMS tools: Nagios and SolarWinds. Nagios is a free, open-source software that offers community-built features with direct and third-party applications for optimized scalability. While on the other hand, Solar Winds is a paid service with countless built in features and a class leading user interface. To conclude which software would be best suited for one’s needs, I will be comparing these management tools. Below is a bullet point list containing the pros and cons for both applications.

Nagios:

Pros:

* **Price and availability:** Nagios is available to anyone for free.
* **User interface:** The user interface is simple to use and is a good learning tool for beginners.
* **Plugins:** The ability to add community-built plugins allow for endless possibilities for user specific needs.

Cons:

* **Dated User Interface:** While the UI is simple, it lacks certain UI features that software like Solar Winds has.
* **CLI Based:** For users not familiar with Linux, this software can have a steep learning curve.

Solar Winds:

Pros:

* **Automated processes:** Solar Winds has the capability to self-diagnosis network problems and resolve them according to the user’s preferences.
* **Built-in UI Features:** Solar Winds’ UI allows for users to drag and drop management tools that are visually appealing and easy to understand for new users.

Cons:

* **Resolving software bugs:** Bugs found in Solar Winds can only be resolved by the developers at the company and not by the user.
* **Price:** While Solar Winds is an exceptional software, it is extremely expensive and in turn skews their customer base.

Overall, both Nagios and Solar Winds are a great choice when deciding on a good network management tool. Nagios seems to cover a larger customer base spanning from small businesses to tech giants like Apple. On the other hand, Solar Winds is a robust software that has automation features that Nagios lacks but comes with a hefty price tag.

Best Regards,

Logan Chayet

Sources:

<https://www.trustradius.com/products/solarwinds-network-performance-monitor/reviews?qs=pros-and-cons#reviews>

<https://www.trustradius.com/products/nagios-core/reviews?qs=pros-and-cons#reviews>

<https://www.nagios.org/>

<https://www.solarwinds.com/>