

VALUE SCORECARD

NETWORK

RATING LEVELS	NETWORK ARCHITECTURE	MEETS NEEDS	RELIABILITY	OBSOLESCENCE	COST \ EFFORT
3 HIGH	Network Roadmap				
2 MEDIUM	Performance Capacity Planning				
1 LOW	Operating Procedures				

ITEM	CURRENT RATING	PREVIOUS RATING
NETWORK ARCHITECTURE	2.1	N/A

CRITICAL (1 - 2.5) Serious deficiencies have been identified that require attention within the next year
MODERATE (2.6 - 3.5) Deficiencies discovered that require attention within the next 2 years
PASS (3.6 - 5.0) No deficiencies discovered

NETWORK ARCHITECTURE

CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT
MEETS NEEDS Businesses technology requirements are met	During the assessment and interview process there was limited information from the network team on future directions and roadmaps of the local and regional network. This does not align well with the business requirements to move away from ad-hoc decision making. The lack of formal processes was also reflected in both Performance Capacity Planning and Operating Procedures .
RELIABILITY Component provides stability and reliability	Due to the lack of a SOP framework, documentation standards and a reference architecture, decisions to build and expand the Region network infrastructure have mostly been ad-hoc and 'stop gap' based.
OBSOLESCENCE Component is up to date and fully supported	Over the years no formal network architecture has been developed - changes to the infrastructure have been dealt with by point solutions, creating a dispersed and 'island-based' landscape of tools, technology and a multitude of vendors.
COST/EFFORT Includes direct costs (HW/SW) and indirect costs downtime/operations)	The cost to maintain the Region network infrastructure is high, in financial terms, as well as in the workload on a few individuals - the risk is high of losing knowledge without proper documentation. A network change or fix appears in many case to become an undocumented work-around.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop a roadmap that addresses technology, availability, performance and security chapters, as well as provisioning towards the integration of the Region's application infrastructure.
- Performance and Capacity Management - The Region is applying QoS/Type of Service markings for latency sensitive applications such as VoIP inside its network infrastructure. Maintaining this practice is important since the amount of data competing for bandwidth will only increase, requiring protection of latency sensitive apps.
- In the context of performance monitoring and capacity planning, it is deemed essential to utilize and/or implement performance and capacity monitoring solutions.
- The Region should leverage the investment in Solarwinds
- These dashboard-type solutions with real-time data give immediate insight into the current state of an infrastructure and allow to act preventively rather than in a reactive mode.
- These monitoring solutions enable ITS to plan ahead of any change, evaluate application load, data storage patterns and protect existing end-user performance SLA.