

DATABASE

TRENDS AND APPLICATIONS

Solutions for the Information Project Team • www.dbta.com

Volume 21, Number 6 • June 2007

Panorama Unveils World's First BI Virtual Appliance

The promise of plug-and-play BI-in-a-box is fulfilled.

Panorama Software, a global leader in business intelligence (BI) solutions has unveiled the Panorama NovaView® Virtual Appliance. The first of its kind, Panorama NovaView Virtual Appliance is a pre-built, pre-configured and ready-to-run software-based appliance with an operating system and a pre-configured suite of BI applications inside a virtual machine. Panorama Software's Virtual Appliance enables customers to download and start using an enterprise-ready version of Panorama NovaView in less than one hour.

Utilizing leading-edge virtualization platforms from VMware, the global leader in virtual infrastructure software for industry-standard systems, as well as Microsoft's Virtual hard drive, Panorama Software has built this unique Virtual Appliance to provide customers with the most cost-effective and user-friendly way to deploy their flagship enterprise BI solution - Panorama NovaView. "This is actually BI-in-a-box," said Oudi Antebi, Panorama's vice president of marketing and strategy. "Every component you need is there."

Virtualization and Appliances

Virtualization is one of the most significant trends in IT today. It delivers two key benefits. It reduces costs and is easier to manage. Five years ago, enterprises generally needed to support individual servers for each application. "You needed one box for your email server; one for BI; one for your Internet server; one for your intranet," said Antebi. "It became very expensive."

With virtualization, several servers can run on the same hardware box, which can also be used to support failover, back-up and restore operations. "It becomes a lot cheaper and easier to manage," Antebi noted.

At the same time, enterprises are increasingly looking for turnkey solutions so they do not have to worry about installing and configuring

applications. "Installation and configuration are challenges for IT," Antebi said. "They want plug-and-play."

The idea of an appliance--a fully pre-configured solution--addresses that desire for plug-and-play functionality. "An appliance reduces the time it takes you to get up and running," Antebi said.

Reducing Complexity

Panorama has capitalized on the trends towards virtualization and appliances to address one of the biggest challenges facing companies wishing to initially deploy BI today or extend their BI deployments to a larger number of users--complexity. The database must be properly set up. The correct security protocols must be put in place. The application must be optimized.

The Panorama NovaView Virtual Appliance resolves all those issues and more. "We have taken away the complexity," Antebi said. "We have taken care of setting up the database, the security and the optimization." Moreover, he added, since Panorama optimizes the solutions, end-users can be certain they are getting a perfectly tuned implementation.

NovaView Virtual Appliance

With the NovaView Virtual Appliance, Panorama has bundled VMware and Microsoft Virtual hard drive with a configured database and running image of NovaView, which provides enterprises a complete and integrated BI solution including analysis, reporting, dashboards, scorecards, process modeling, and advanced data visualization.

The package also contains sample data and easy-to-use wizards to connect to an enterprise's existing data and tutorials. The bundle can be downloaded to a server or a laptop. "It is all preconfigured and ready to run," said Antebi. "Within a matter of minutes you can

start analyzing data from your own network."

The BI Challenge

The Panorama NovaView Virtual Appliance removes one of the most significant barriers blocking the increased deployment of business intelligence. "We have reduced the friction involved in getting started," Antebi stated.

To prove that point, Panorama has launched what it calls the BI Challenge. Enterprises can test drive the NovaView Virtual Appliance for free to see for themselves. "We are inviting companies to give it a try, whether they plan to buy it or not," Antebi said. "Companies can use our Virtual Appliance to benchmark their existing BI implementations. And it is an easy way to evaluate different solutions."

Deploying business intelligence, Antebi said, does not have to be complex. Nor do business intelligence implementations have to be outrageously expensive. "We are breaking all the rules," he said. "BI can be simple."

The reason for the BI Challenge is simple. "If you eliminate the barriers to getting started, enterprises will see the results and the benefits," Antebi said. "When they see how easy it is to set up enterprise BI, they will stick with our solution."

You can download the Panorama NovaView BI Virtual Appliance at:
www.panorama.com/challenge

CONTACT INFORMATION



Panorama Software

164 Eglinton Avenue East Suite #400
Toronto, ON M4P 1G4, Canada

Phone: 416-545-0990 Fax: 416-545-0877

Toll Free: 1-877-709-5848

www.panorama.com