

# Tech Tip: Network Status Review

November 2008

Enabling Your IT Infrastructure

## Take Time for an Annual Network Status Review

Regular yearly maintenance is required to maintain the performance and stability of your critical systems. Part of maintaining a healthy data center includes performing an end of year review of network status. The last quarter of the calendar year should be dedicated to logging into every component, and then taking a network survey of ALL assets; network, server, storage, and tape.

### WHAT SHOULD A SCAN INCLUDE?

- The scan should include; serial numbers, BIOS and firmware levels, UNIX/Linux patch levels, application levels, and Windows service pack levels.
- Review Antivirus application versions across all systems (older versions of Norton are notorious for causing system crashes).
- Document each servers' HP Proliant Support Pack (PSP), IBM Director, and Dell OpenManage Server Administrator (OMSA) levels.
- Once you have gathered the necessary information about your systems, create an action plan for bringing the equipment up to a common level.
- Lastly, once the network is updated and level-set, reset the Domain (or LDAP/NIS) Administrator's password. Always reset the Administrator's password every year.

These steps will help ensure your systems remain up to date and perform better throughout the year.

## About Akibia, Inc.

Akibia provides innovative IT solutions that enable leading companies worldwide to optimize, secure, manage and support their mission-critical data center and security infrastructure. Combining expert consulting, integration and support services with world-class customer service, Akibia helps IT organizations maximize the value of their existing infrastructure, while mitigating risk and reducing complexity. Founded in 1988, Akibia is an independent IT services company with offices throughout the United States and Europe.