Open Source Management Solutions

KING Consulting

Greg King

Agenda

- Profile: King Consulting
- What is “open source”?
- Why consider open source system monitoring?
- Benefits

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open source™

King Consulting

Greg King, MBA, PMP – Principal

Greg King has over 25 years of experience in the management of operational IT systems from mainframes to PCs and UNIX. Formerly, he has held senior technical positions with oil and gas companies and an IT vendor.

Greg's current activities revolve around enterprise management systems such as HP OpenView and some of the leading open source solutions in this area. His in-depth knowledge of these systems enables him to position them for maximum customer benefit.

HP OpenView certified

Linux Certified

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What is “open source”?

- Term coined in mid 90s to overcome some incorrect perceptions associated with “free software”
- Software distributed under GPL, OpenBSD or other license giving the right to source code and authority to modify for own use and obligations around subsequent distributions of the software.
- Always “free” (as in speech), usually no cost
- Supported by developer community or by commercial companies or consultants.

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Why consider open source systems monitoring?

- **Sobering facts about systems monitoring**
  - **50%+ of large scale systems monitoring endeavours fail**
  - **Expensive monitoring tools are frequently shelved when customer support staff change**
  - **Ongoing support of commercial systems monitoring tools themselves can eat up any perceived payback**
  - **Basic infrastructure monitoring tools are now a commodity**

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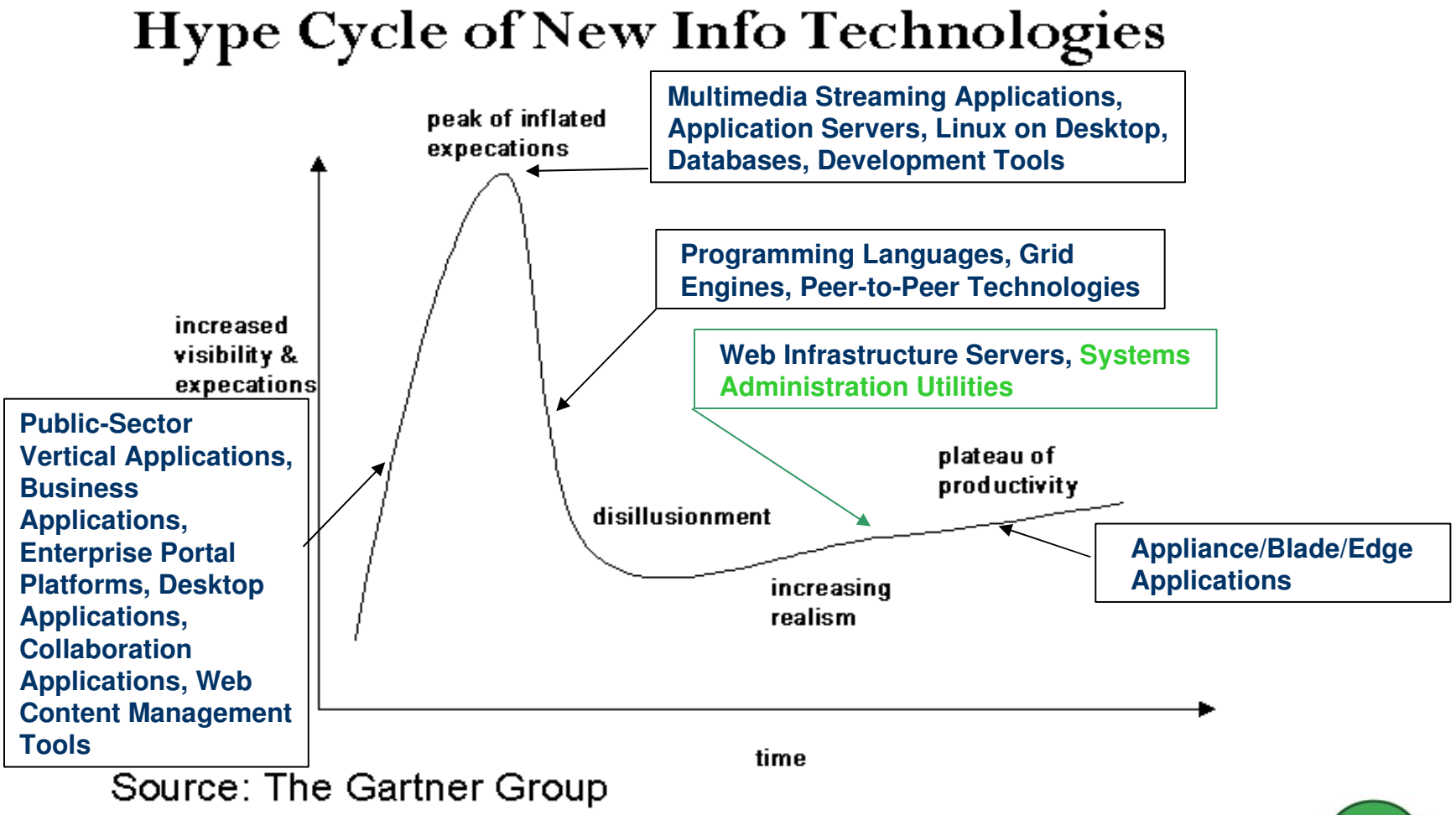
Why consider open source systems monitoring? The time is right for open source



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Why consider open source systems monitoring? The time is right for open source

Another indicator:

Harvard Professor Nicolas Carr's 2003 con[illegible] paper "IT Doesn't Matter".

Resonated with CxOs.

Premise: IT is a commodity which does not provide strategic advantage; IT is an essential service like electricity, phones, etc. and should be managed as such.

Recommendations: Focus on making IT as reliable as possible at the lowest cost.

How? Proven open source monitoring tools can address both parts of recommendation.

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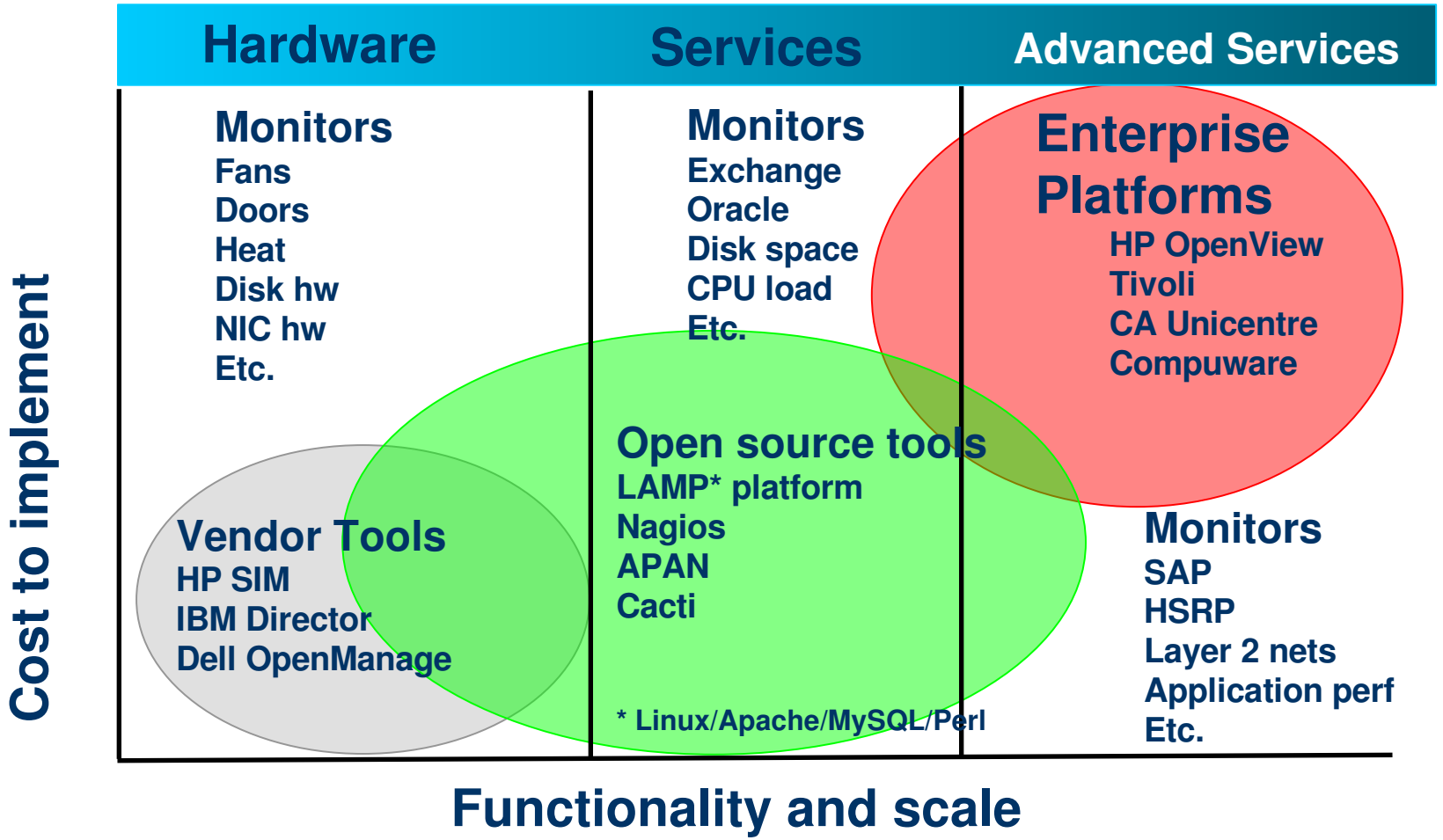
Where does open source fit ?



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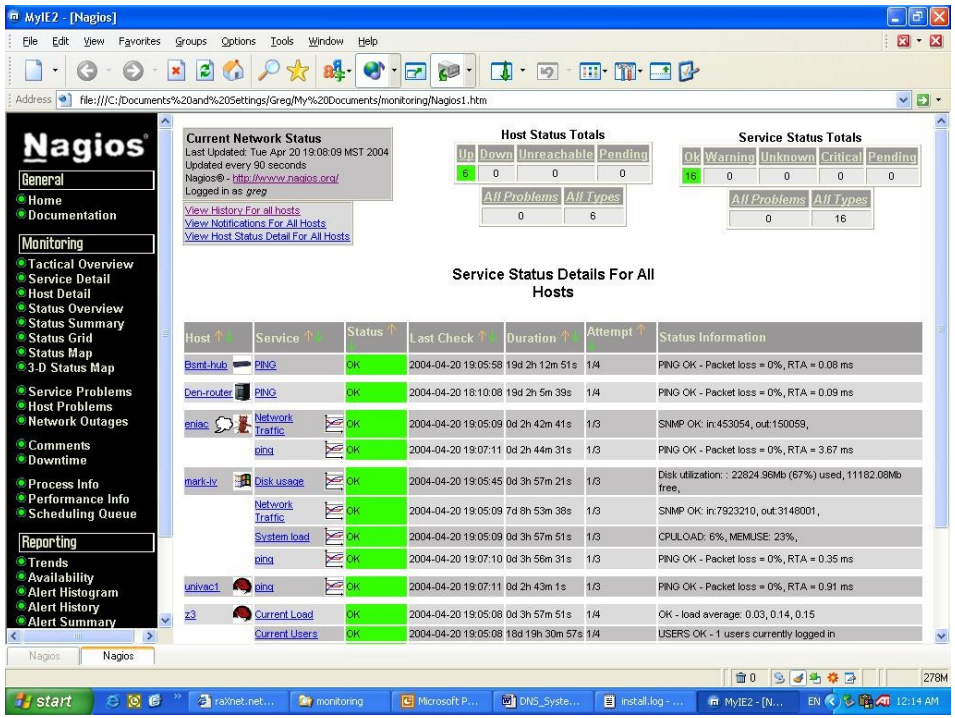
Why consider open source systems monitoring?

- **Typical monitoring requirements**
  - Ping a network device and alert if no response
  - Check server CPU, memory and disk utilization, alert if threshold exceeded
  - Check for an active service or process, alert if stopped or down
  - Store monitored metrics for historical trending



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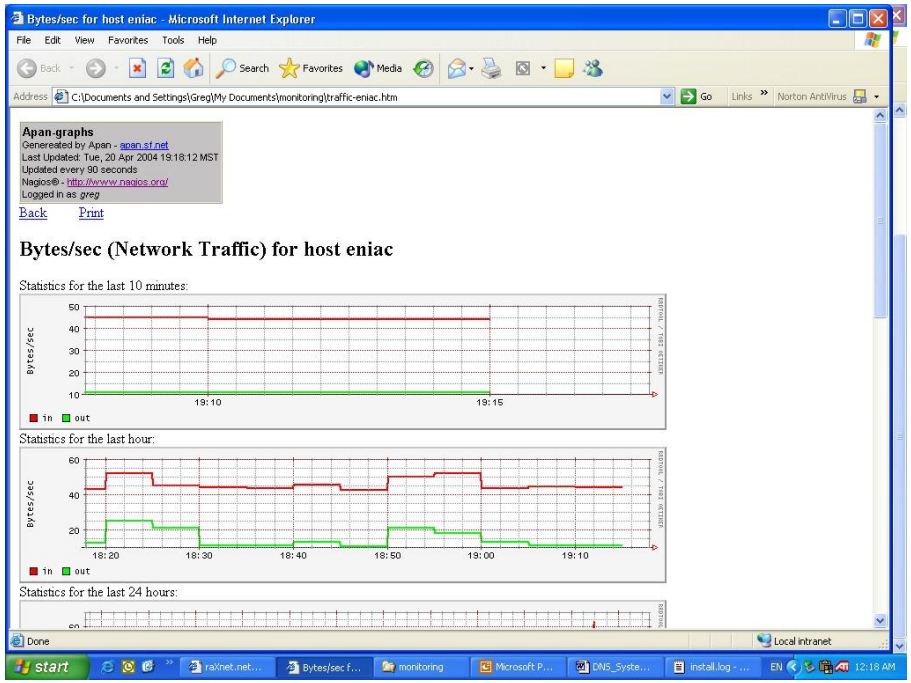
Why consider open source systems monitoring?

- **Don't pay for commodity solutions**
  - Terrific base monitoring solution, or augment existing commercial monitoring tools
  - Web based administrator console with secure access
  - Extensible toolset
  - 100s of users in every industry
  - Active support community



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Benefits

2. Up/down monitoring of network devices and alerting when down. Knowing which infrastructure components are failing is the first step to restoring your IT services quickly and maintaining a reliable IT infrastructure.
3. Monitoring key server global metrics of CPU/memory/load and disk free space, and alerting when thresholds are exceeded. Knowing when devices are operating beyond critical thresholds enables you to take preventative actions before services are disrupted.
4. Archiving of historical metrics for on-demand reporting. Knowing your historical usage patterns enables you to plan infrastructure capacity increases in an orderly manner, and to be able to distinguish between a capacity blip and a long term trend.
5. On-demand reporting of availability, events, and notifications. As the adage says “if you can’t measure it, you can’t improve it”, so knowing how well your IT infrastructure is operating is the first step in improving it.
6. Web browser access to the monitoring solution. This provides flexible access to the monitoring tools from any network connected device.
7. Low cost, fast implementation = low risk.

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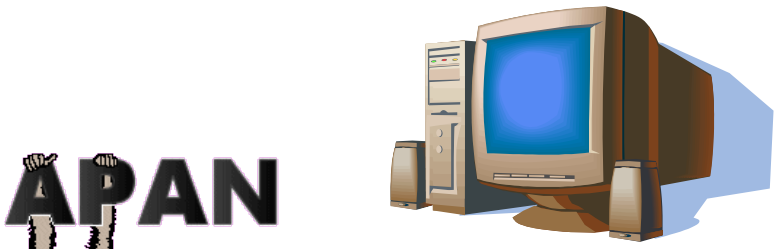
King Consulting can help

King Consulting has assembled an integrated package of the best open source system management tools available

King Consulting can implement quickly and provide ongoing support

King Consulting has partnerships to offer monitoring as a service with help desk or other infrastructure services.



Nagios®

Perl MySQL

cacti

php

Built on Tobi Oetiker's RRDTOOL

SOURCEFORGE.net

open source

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low risk systems monitoring

Example service checks:

- check_breeze check_ifoperstatus check_nntp check_real check_users
- check_by_ssh check_ifstatus check_nt check_rpc check_vsz
- check_dig check_imap check_sensors check_wave
- check_disk check_ircd check_ntp check_smtp
- check_disk_smb check_load check_nwstat check_ssh
- check_dns check_log check_oracle check_swap
- check_dummy check_mailq check_overcr check_tcp
- check_flexlm check_mrtg check_ping check_time
- check_ftp check_mrtgtraf check_pop check_udp
- check_http check_nagios check_procs check_ups

- More checks being developed on an ongoing basis …

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