BROCADE TSM HEALTHCHECK SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Proactively Manage and Optimize TSM Environments

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enable the high-quality administration that IBM Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM) requires
- Gain a reliable perspective of demand versus capacity
- Help ensure that backup and retention policies are valid and up to date
- Improve the utilization of existing staff and system resources

Today's IT organizations face a wide range of challenges in their data backup environments. The data used to run today's corporations is growing at a dramatic rate while IT resources and budgets often remain unchanged. In addition, the need for 24x7 data availability has significantly restricted the amount of downtime allowed for data backup processes.

Any organization responsible for managing an IBM Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM) environment must overcome common problems associated with enterprise backup requirements. From failed backups and insufficient backup windows to tape drive and library management issues, keeping a backup infrastructure running smoothly can challenge even the most experienced organization. With proper maintenance and fine-tuning, however, even a troublesome TSM environment can be brought back under control.

Leveraging experience gained from years of performing TSM implementations, Brocade® has developed a comprehensive service to analyze the overall state of TSM environments. The Brocade TSM HealthCheck Service includes data collection, analysis, and best-practice operational recommendations that enable organizations to proactively manage their TSM environments—at minimal cost and with minimal disruption to their operations.

BROCADE TSM HEALTHCHECK OVERVIEW

The Brocade TSM HealthCheck Service provides an insightful analysis of how TSM processes are performing, from both an operational and a resource utilization perspective. Using specially designed analytical software, Brocade consultants collect and analyze TSM data, then present their findings. During this presentation, they explain the results of the analysis and offer recommendations to improve the TSM environment.

A Brocade TSM HealthCheck typically covers the following topics:

- Server resource usage
- Tape usage
- Reclamation efficiency
- Tape migration processes
- Tape pooling efficiency
- Amount of data backed up nightly
- Total amount of data in each storage pool

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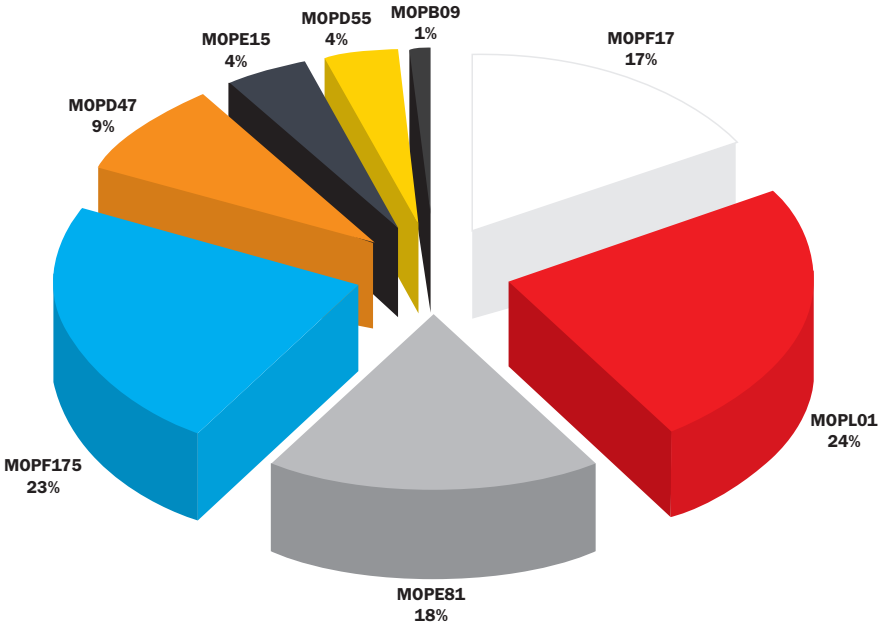

Figure 1.
A Brocade TSM HealthCheck generates graphical representations of operations, such as server workload distribution.

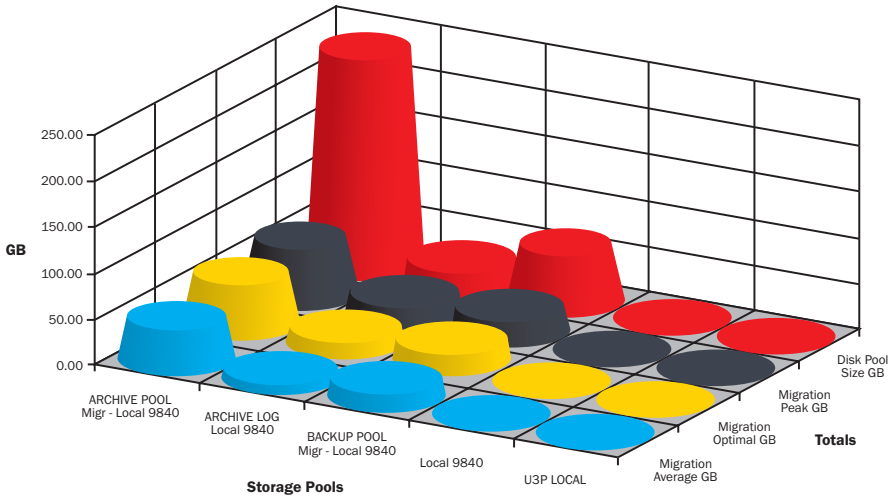

Figure 2.
Graphs such as this one illustrate whether TSM disk pools are sized correctly.

A UNIQUE APPROACH

At the heart of the Brocade TSM HealthCheck is a proprietary software tool that queries the TSM master servers and log files, providing detailed data for the service engagement. As part of this service:

- Brocade experts will collect and analyze data about the TSM environment.
- Brocade will interview TSM administrators and produce a report about the overall state of the TSM environment, including recommendations for optimization.
- Brocade will present the findings and discuss the analysis and recommendations with the TSM administration team. These discussions are an integral part of the service, because they help educate IT staff about the intricacies of managing and fine-tuning TSM.

CLEAR AND USEFUL FINDINGS

Results of the TSM HealthCheck typically include analysis and recommendations in the following areas:

- Operating parameters defined for the TSM server per best-practice strategies
- Client backup and retention policies
- Media management—which TSM clients consume the most tape storage and how the tape cartridges are being utilized
- Correct sizing of the TSM tape library, tape drives, and disk cache
- Optimization of TSM administrative events and event reporting
- Timing of administrative tasks such as migration, reclamation, and storage pool backup
- Throughput of individual TSM processes such as backup and migration

THE TSM HEALTHCHECK ENGAGEMENT

Brocade offers the TSM HealthCheck as an annual, semi-annual, or quarterly engagement, depending on an organization's particular needs. During each engagement, Brocade will analyze TSM data from master server and log files, and deliver a comprehensive analysis, including recommendations.

The TSM HealthCheck requires Brocade personnel to be onsite for two to four days, during which time they will interview TSM administrators, operators, and data center management to understand the environment, backup growth expectations, and current issues. Using proprietary software, Brocade consultants will also gather detailed TSM system information for use in developing analysis and recommendations.

Equipped with their data and findings, Brocade consultants will work offsite for approximately two weeks in order to formulate recommendations and develop a complete report and presentation. The detailed findings and recommendations will be delivered in a written report and discussed with administrators and executive management in an extensive onsite meeting.

In the case of semi-annual or quarterly TSM HealthChecks, Brocade will also

Node Name	Backup	Archive	Platform	Last Access
CSTOREV1T	0	0.003	AIX	6/26/2000
MOPCO1	32.369	2.886	AIX	10/1/2002
MOPCCW	15.763	8.731	AIX	10/7/2002
MOPF01	113.126	69.724	AIX	10/30/2002
MOPF09	13.085	1.914	AIX	11/25/2002
MOPF11	16.567	1.263	AIX	11/4/2002
MOQ721	27.782	0	WinNT	4/11/2002
MOQ722	52.228	0	WinNT	4/12/2002
MORW04	0.006	26.991	WinNT	5/13/2002
MORW05	0.008	2.240	WinNT	5/7/2002
MOSAZA	16.642	6.656	WinNT	11/14/2002
MOXADW	30.125	0	WinNT	12/18/2001
MOXAG4	75.155	0	WinNT	1/16/2002
MOXAG5	51.352	0	WinNT	1/16/2002
N13	0	42.919	AIX	9/12/2002
N16	0	28.299	AIX LF	1/18/2002
U21TDP25	0	238.700	TDP R3 AIX	4/21/2002
U7E	0	203.849	AIX	5/9/2000
U7S	0	377.485	AIX	3/19/2002
Total	**444.2**	**1,011.7**		

Figure 3.
Brocade TSM HealthCheck tables show key results, such as potentially obsolete data on a particular server.

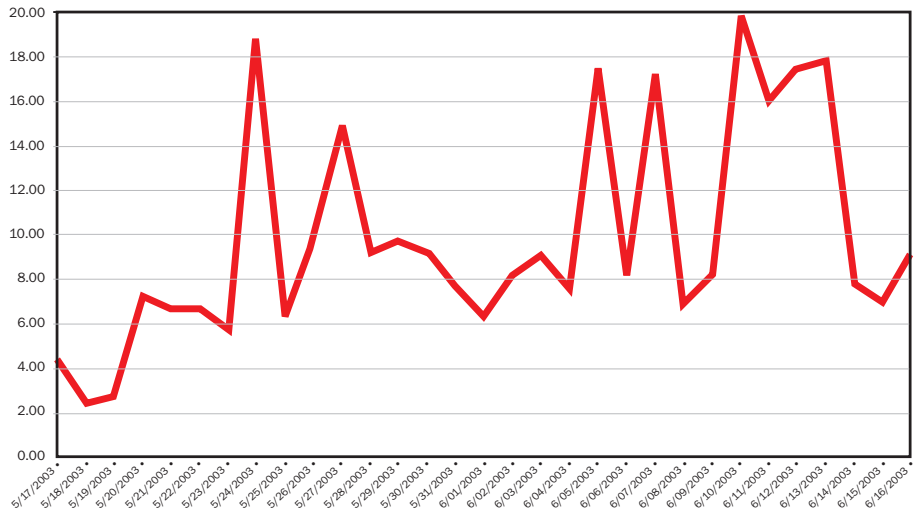

Figure 4.
The TSM HealthCheck daily backup workload charts illustrate servers' peak workdays, indicating how to distribute workload more efficiently.

compare data from previous engagements and identify operational differences.

FIELD-PROVEN EXPERIENCE

As the storage networking expert and a leader in TSM implementations and operations, Brocade has performed over 400 TSM installations, assessments, optimizations, health checks, and monitoring engagements across IT platforms and environments. As a result, Brocade consultants have experienced TSM's power and can help optimize this unique platform.

Brocade has the professionals, knowledge, and services to help:

- Analyze key objectives and resources
- Bridge knowledge and resource gaps
- Streamline the IT decision-making process
- Accelerate the process for implementing strategies, systems, and procedures
- Free up IT resources for other strategic tasks
- Recommend the right solutions and best practices to help streamline operations

RELATED SERVICES

In addition to the Brocade TSM HealthCheck Service, Brocade offers the following related services:

- TSM assessment
- TSM implementation
- TSM daily monitoring and reporting
- TSM optimization

MAXIMIZING INVESTMENTS

Brocade and its partners offer complete data center solutions to meet a wide range of technology and business requirements. These solutions include education and training, services, and support to help optimize data management investments. For more information, contact an authorized Brocade sales partner or visit www.brocade.com.

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