WIN-T DEPLOYS SOLARWINDS SOLUTION TO MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS WITH TACTICAL WARFIGHTERS

Warfighter information Network-Tactical (WIN-T) provides network connectivity to the Army to meet the needs of soldiers in current and future operations. WIN-T is the Army’s common tactical communications network backbone that enables mission command and secure reliable voice, video and data communications anytime, anywhere.

“Since incorporating SolarWinds products into the WIN-T baseline, SolarWinds and WIN-T have worked together to add features and capabilities to their products to meet WIN-T deployment needs. This partnership has been mutually beneficial to both sides.”

— Steve Wisniewski, Senior Systems / Software Engineer, US Army WIN-T

WIN-T is part of Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications –Tactical (PEO C3T), which leads in defense of the tactical network. WIN-T supports PEO C3T by enabling soldiers operating in remote and challenging terrain to maintain voice, video and data communications while on the move, with connectivity rivaling that found in a stationary command post.

WIN-T has deployed a range of SolarWinds network management, monitoring and troubleshooting tools, including Network Configuration Manager, Network Performance Monitor, NetFlow Traffic Analyzer, VoIP & Network Quality Manager, and Engineer’s Toolset. WIN-T deploys bundles of SolarWinds network management tools based on the location needs and mission requirements. SolarWinds software is modular and integrates through a platform called Orion, easily supporting WIN-T use cases. SolarWinds tools are operated at Regional Hub Nodes around the globe and they are also deployed at Division, Brigade and lower levels to maintain the voice, video and data communications of tactical units.

WIN-T selected SolarWinds because the solution met the program’s technical mission requirement and was more affordable than other offerings. WIN-T utilized DOD’s ESI BPA contract, designed to implement a software enterprise management process within DoD. Other important considerations of WIN-T’s SolarWinds decision included ease-of-use and interoperability. Ease-of-use was important so users could quickly diagnose and troubleshoot network issues. WIN-T also liked that the SolarWinds solution has a built-in integration layer to support integration with their other enterprise tools in the future.

WIN-T continues to upgrade its network operations and management, in an effort to converge networks and simplify operations. SolarWinds is viewed as a responsive partner with broad capabilities and the ability to adapt to support future needs. And SolarWinds values the partnership it has shared with WIN-T for nearly 10 years.
WIN-T Leverages SolarWinds for VoIP Call Detail Solution

WIN-T needed call detail records (CDRs) of their VoIP calls in order to comply with TRADOC requirements. The NetOps tool previously used provided this functionality but WIN-T only used a small portion of the appliance’s capabilities. The tool was expensive, and had limited portability. WIN-T requested that SolarWinds add functionality to support Cisco® Call Manager® CDRs so they could consolidate vendors and reduce expenses. SolarWinds observed an unmet need in the marketplace when looking into this request and responded by developing a solution for aggregating CDRs. This is a great example of SolarWinds partnering with customers and responding to their needs, and WIN-T played an important part in defining and testing the solution.

Standard for Army acquisitions, WIN-T was seeking the lowest cost solution that met their technical mission requirements. SolarWinds prides itself on providing IT management solutions, like VNQM, that are powerful, affordable, and easy-to-use. SolarWinds added the needed CDR functionality and WIN-T successfully implemented the CDR solution at a fraction of the cost of their previous appliance.