

Broadcom Expands NetOps Portfolio with AppNeta Acquisition

EMA IMPACT BRIEF



Broadcom Acquires SaaS-Based NPM Vendor AppNeta

Broadcom, a leading provider of network performance management (NPM) solutions, announced its intention to acquire AppNeta, which offers SaaS-based active network performance monitoring. Broadcom will integrate AppNeta Performance Manager into its DX NetOps suite. This integration will deliver an industry-leading set of solutions for end-to-end network performance management and digital experience management. The terms of the acquisition were not disclosed. The purchase is expected to close in January 2022.

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Broadcom Adds Internet and End-User Experience Monitoring to DX NetOps

Broadcom and AppNeta are both prominent providers of NPM solutions today. Enterprise Management Associates recently evaluated both vendors in the “EMA Radar Report for Network Performance Management.” The report **recognized Broadcom’s DX NetOps** solution as a Value Leader and awarded it special recognition for industry-leading alarm and alert management capabilities. EMA **recognized AppNeta Performance Management** as a Strong Value solution and awarded it for having the best end-user experience monitoring capabilities in the report.

Although both vendors are classified as NPM providers, they offer very different core competencies. Broadcom DX NetOps collects device metrics, logs, and network flows. It excels at providing capacity planning, fault management, and performance management workflows for modern data centers, campus and branch networks, and other on-premises infrastructure. As enterprises have adopted next-generation technologies, such as software-defined networking in the data center, cloud networking, and software-defined WAN, Broadcom has kept pace, adding performance management support for these next-generation technologies.

AppNeta Performance Manager excels at internet monitoring and end-user experience monitoring in a work-from-anywhere enterprise. It combines various active and synthetic monitoring techniques with BGP monitoring and packet monitoring to provide path visibility and end-user experience visibility across any type of network, but especially the internet. As enterprises have adopted more SaaS applications, AppNeta has provided them with user experience assurance for these cloud-based services. As enterprises sent millions of workers home during the pandemic, where they rely on the internet for connectivity to corporate applications, AppNeta adjusted its licensing to allow its customers to scale up its visibility into the home office experience.

Both companies have been innovating to deliver value to IT organizations that are transforming their networks and their digital services. With Broadcom's acquisition of AppNeta, these two innovators will be combined.

EMA Perspective

The merger of Broadcom and AppNeta's NPM technology will be extremely complementary. In short, the two solutions address each other's technology gaps. For instance, Broadcom's DX NetOps solution excels at managing on-premises networks, but it lacks strong features for internet monitoring and end-user experience management. AppNeta is strong in both these areas. EMA's Radar Report recognized AppNeta for being an industry leader in end-user experience monitoring, and AppNeta's internet monitoring is extremely comprehensive. AppNeta also provides packet monitoring capabilities that will give Broadcom deeper visibility into network traffic.

On the other hand, the EMA Radar Report found that AppNeta’s solution primarily addresses high-level engineering functions like problem isolation and diagnostics, rather than event management. It lacked many of the alert and alarm management capabilities that network operations teams require for frontline triage. Broadcom DX NetOps was recognized by the EMA Radar Report for having some of the best alert and alarm management features on the market. In other words, AppNeta and Broadcom offer complementary strengths.

Another benefit to AppNeta’s solution is around AIOps. EMA research recently found that **90% of IT organizations** believe AIOps-driven network management can lead to better business outcomes for enterprises. Broadcom’s AIOps capabilities, which are adept at consuming data from third-party tools like AppNeta’s, are some of the most comprehensive AIOps capabilities in the NPM market. AppNeta’s AIOps capabilities are more limited, so integration with Broadcom will allow AppNeta to take a leap forward in this critical new area of innovation.

EMA believes this merger of Broadcom’s and AppNeta’s NPM solutions will be highly beneficial to customers of both companies. The combined solutions will provide more comprehensive coverage of the network operations requirements of today’s digital enterprises.

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About EMA

Founded in 1996, Enterprise Management Associates (EMA) is a leading industry analyst firm that specializes in going “beyond the surface” to provide deep insight across the full spectrum of IT management technologies. EMA analysts leverage a unique combination of practical experience, insight into industry best practices, and in-depth knowledge of current and planned vendor solutions to help its clients achieve their goals. Learn more about EMA research, analysis, and consulting services for enterprise IT professionals, and IT vendors at www.enterprisemanagement.com or follow EMA on [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).