

What is NTQR?

NTQR is a web application for monitoring the capacity and the traffic of Voice, VoIP and IMS networks. It provides network capacity planner and network operation & management with traffic analysis data and network performance information.

NTQR generates reports based on the switch traffic measurement, device logs, CDR (Call Detail Record) and port allocation data. Several reports are available for the network capacity management and network quality monitoring.

The development the NTQR application was started in 2001. It has been growing since then with new features accompanying the evolution of the networks. The focus of the development has been the web-based applications that work as well as they look, which is essential for the users to enhance the way doing the daily business. The approach is to find creative ways to design web portal that look nice and work for everyone.

NTQR is developed to provide a single environment to support regional network planning and traffic engineering across different countries and networking technologies (Nortel, Siemens, Cisco, Sonus).

NTQR Modules

NTQR comprises of several modules. Following are the most used modules and are explained in the next slides:

- Trunkgroup Traffic Reports
- Network Quality Reports
- Germany Transit Traffic Analysis
- Cisco Monitoring
- Sonus Monitoring

Incorporate trunkgroup description, categories and tags

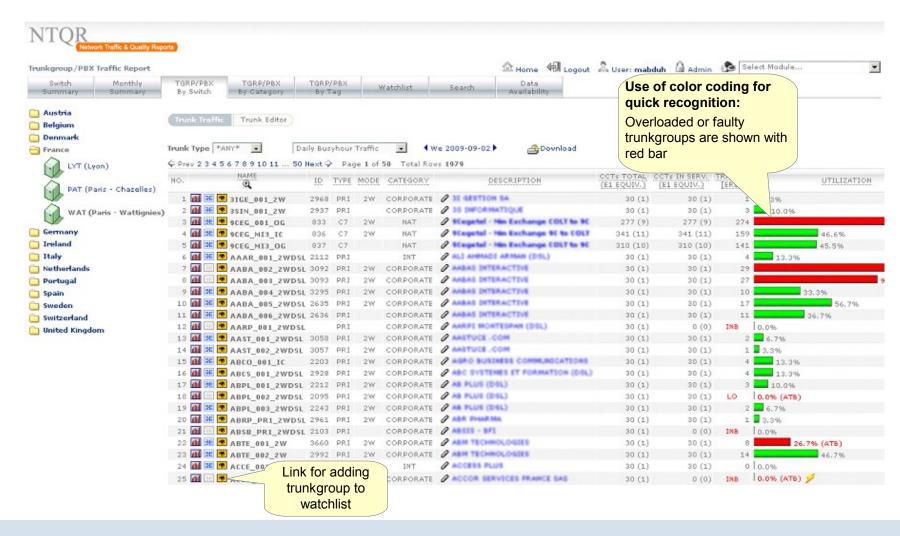
Search trunkgroups

Manage trunkgroups in the watchlist

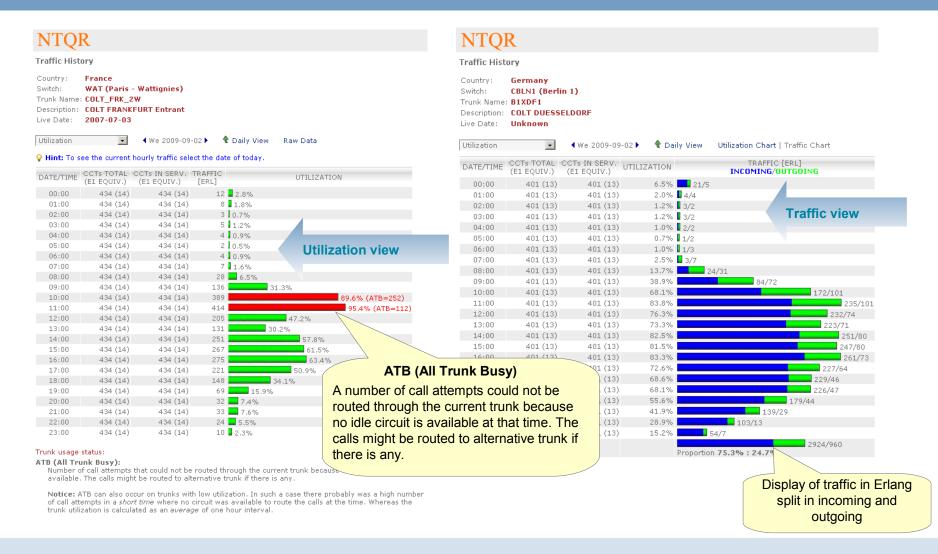
Alert notification on trunkgroup faults

Generate monthly capacity reports

How can I manage more than 25,000 trunkgroups of a large pan-European network without tools? It was the question raised by a desperate network planning engineer. NTQR was developed to help users monitor huge number of trunkgroups. User can manage trunkgroups in her/his watchlists. NTQR provides reports that show historical data of traffic volume, call statistics, trunk usage, trunk status etc. of trunkgroups. It can help us detect traffic flow problems such as out-of-service trunks, all trunk busy conditions, or call blocking which ensures uninterrupted voice services to the customers. Customers sometimes ask for reports for their PBX trunks. Such PBX traffic report can be generated by NTQR in a very easy way.



Display trunkgroups by switch



History of trunkgroup traffic & utilization





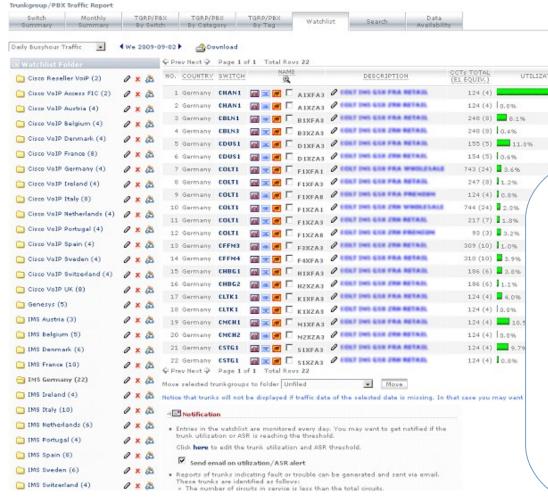
Network usage is the KPI for the network capacity management. It can be monitored easily in NTQR.

To minimize the network cost e.g. leased line cost the network must be dimensioned properly. Underutilized trunks causes unnecessary cost.

Example:

The Interconnect-trunks should have the average usage of 80%. The monthly capacity reports show the actual average trunk utilization compared to the target utilization. If the actual utilization exceeds the target then there is a need to expand the capacity. If the current utilization is below the target some circuits may need to be ceased.

Monthly reports



Utilization threshold can be specified for each trunkgroup. The user receives alert emails if the current utilization exceeds the threshold.

Users of NTQR are from different departments. Each user is interested in specific trunks. The national interconnect managers are interested in Interconnect-trunks with national carriers whereas for the traffic management team the international trunk are more relevant.

THRESHOLD

80%

80%

80%

80%

80%

To fulfil those requirements NTQR provides the Watchlist feature. The user can put trunkgroups to her/his watchlist folder. The trunkgroups can be moved to other watchlist folder or removed from the folder. Having trunkgroups in the watchlist the user can find the trunkgroups and generate the traffic reports quickly.

Manage trunkgroups in the Watchlist

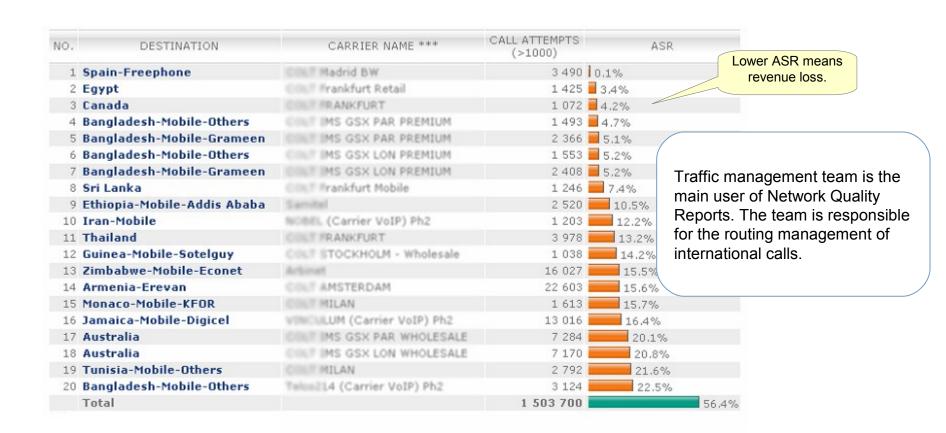
Monitor ASR, NER, ACD by destination, routing plan, supplier

Identify bad suppliers

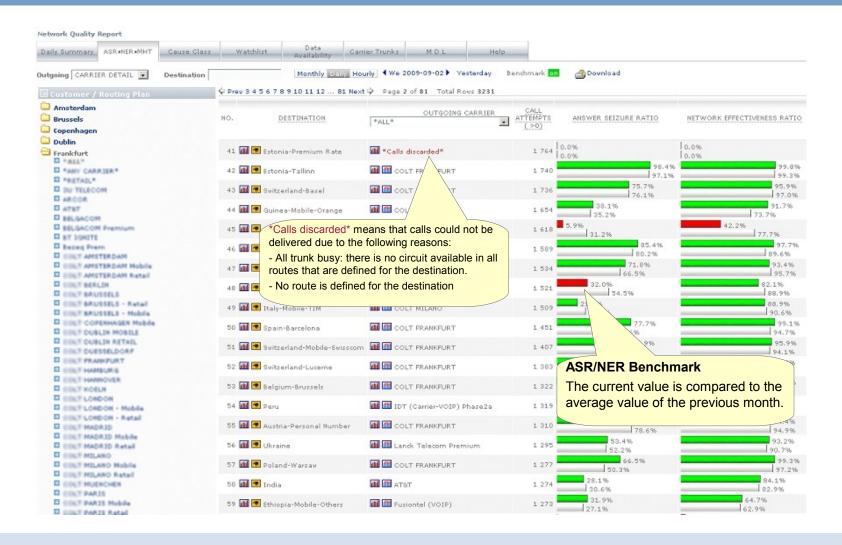
Real-time alert notification on ASR

Call routing adjustment

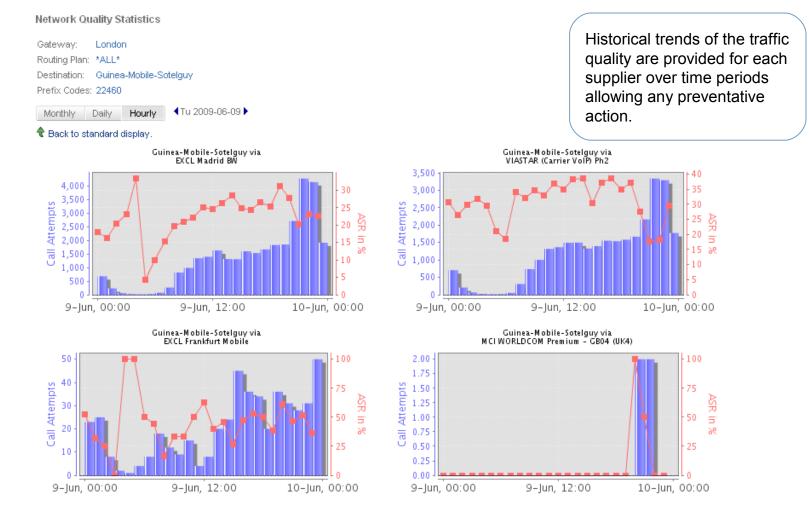
Keep revenue for voice services high and increase customer trust with SLA assurance! NTQR performs real-time monitoring of network quality parameters ASR (Answer Seizure Ratio), NER (Network Effectiveness Ratio) and PDD (Post Dial Delay) per destination and per routing plan e.g. Wholesale, Retail. A real-time alert notification is available for network operation engineer. He is responsible for optimizing call routing in term of voice quality and economy, but also for routing adjustment of calls with low ASR to guarantee SLA's and to reduce revenue loss.



Destinations with poor ASR



ASR, NER by destination



Comparison of ASR of different suppliers

Module "Germany Transit Traffic Analysis"

Charge for transit service is high

> The goal is to reduce the transit traffic

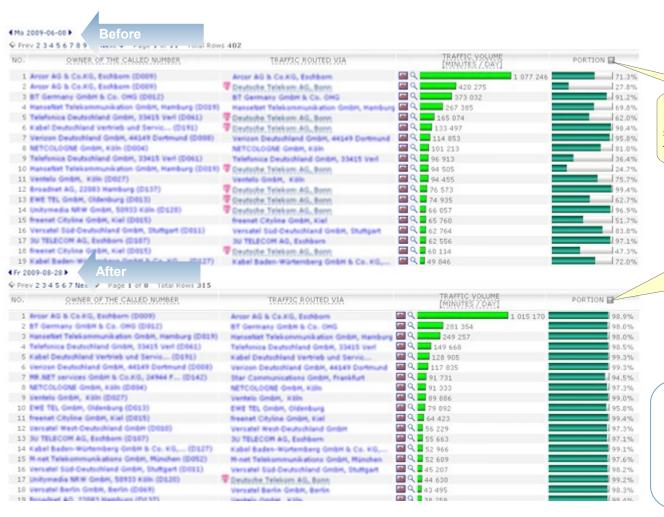
Direct routing or routing via interconnect partners e.g. BT, Arcor

> Provide transit service to other carriers

By default the calls to subscribers or to service numbers of other network operator are routed via Deutsche Telekom (DTAG). DTAG then forwards the calls to the actual network operator. This call routing service of DTAG is called transit service which causes high costs for the carrier. For this reason the carriers establish interconnect with some network operators to which they can route the calls directly and thus reduce the high charge for transit service via DTAG.

The transit traffic analysis in NTQR is based on CDR. The information regarding the subscriber numbers is available through the number database RDB. The database contains both native and ported numbers of German network operators.

Module "Germany Transit Traffic Analysis"



Before the migration of LNP/MNP into IN Teligen system the total portion of transit traffic was ~10%

After the migration of LNP/MNP into IN Teligen system the total portion of transit traffic is now < 1.5%

After the introduction of IN Teligen system as routing engine for LNP/MNP the transit traffic has been reduced drastically.

Module "Germany Transit Traffic Analysis"



Display device configurations

System health stats

Customer dial plans

Customer traffic stats

Voice quality monitoring

Alert notification service

COLT provides VoIP services based on Cisco platform. The services include:

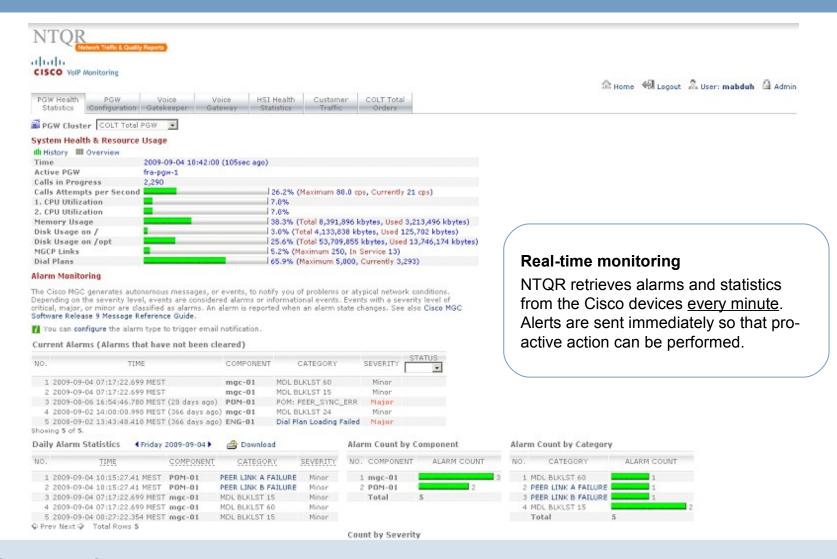
COLT Total

An integrated package of high speed internet and voice services, providing business-grade IP services to midsize companies.

COLT VoIP Access

It connects customer IP PBX to PSTN via an end-toend IP network.

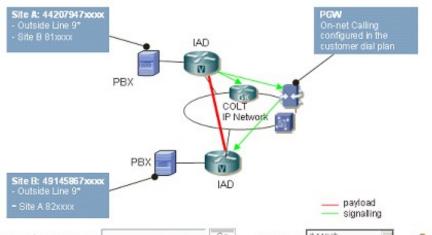
NTQR is used to monitor the Cisco VoIP devices e.g. PGW, HSI, Gatekeepers, AS5400. The main functions include system health and alarm monitoring, customer traffic reports, voice quality monitoring.



PGW Health Statistics



Calls of COLT Total customers that is originated and terminated at COLT Total sites are routed directly over VoIP between the sites. This on-net calling is implemented in PGW dial plan SE03. Those calls are not charged and do not appear on the invoice or any CDR reporting systems.



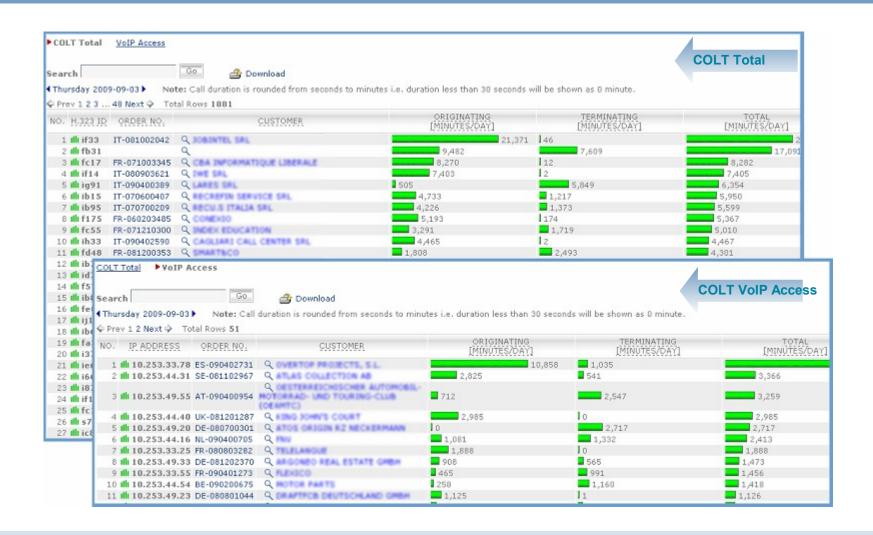
Free Intersite Calls

All calls to other sites (provided they are connected with COLT Total) and COLT Total customers will be provided free of charge and will not appear on bill.

NTQR generates routing commands for the feature. The provisioning tool APT deploys the commands into PGW.



Free Intersite Call Routing



Customer Traffic Statistics

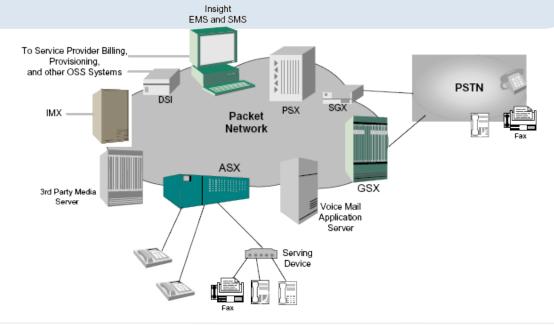
Display device configurations

Performance analysis and reports

System health stats

Trunkgroup traffic stats

The performance reports are generated based upon data collected from the Sonus Insight managed devices e.g. GSX, PSX Policy Server, ASX Access Server etc. The reports supply a variety of performance information useful in ascertaining the overall health of the network. The data collection within Sonus Insight is configured to export the data to NTQR server 15 minutes.





The system health status is determined based on Sonus Network Element Engineering Guidelines. According to guidelines the network elements should be eingineered to the following thresholds:

PSX

■ CPU: 80%

GSX

- CPU: 80% (for all server cards)
- Memory: 80% (for all server cards)

NBS

- CPU: 80% (for all server cards)
- Memory: 80% (for all server cards)

DSI

■ CPU: 80%

EMS

■ CPU: 80%

Other indicators to monitor depend on the configuration, traffic characteristics and desired quality level:

- Call attempts per seconds
- Circuit utilization
- Signaling link utilization
- SIP registrations
- Subscriber feature complexity
- Server congestion
- Disk space usage

Currently the performance analysis includes the following number of devices

- **5** PSX Policy Server
- 8 GSX Open Services Switch
- 4 NBS Network Border Switch
- 3 ASX Access Server
- **14** DSI DataStream Integrator
- 2 EMS Element Management System

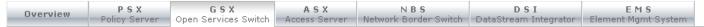
System Health Statistics

Total devices 36



Trunkgroup Traffic Statistics

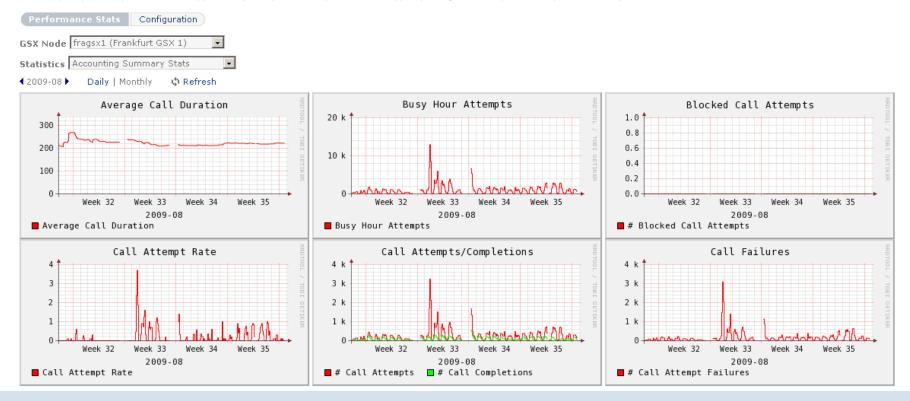




The Sonus GSX9000 provides carrier-class media gateway functions. It provides the Sonus interface to the PSTN. A single GSX9000 chassis terminates and interconnects up to 22,176 simultaneous VoIP calls and supports toll-quality voice in a packet network environment (IP or ATM). The GSX9000 performs limited PSTN user interaction (announcements, tones, and digit collection) all under the control of the PSX Policy Server.

The GSX9000 supports voice coding and compression based on G.711, G.711 with Silence Suppression, G.723.1, G.723.1A, G.726, G.729A+B, iLBC, and iLBC with Silence Suppression. Each Circuit Network Server (CNS) module is a data and protocol-processing engine, and has on-board DSP signal processing resources to support G.168 echo cancellation on all its associated DS0s. Voice activity detection and silence suppression are also supported for both G.711 and compressed encoding schemes.

The GSX9000 handles higher level SS7 (for example, ISUP), ISDN, and CAS signaling and uses the Sonus SGX SS7 Signaling Gateway for lower level PSTN signaling (such as SS7 MTP). For signaling to IP telephony devices, the GSX9000 supports SIP, SIP-I, and H.323 protocols. To support peering relationships between packet carriers, the GSX9000 can function as a network border switch.



GSX Accounting Summary Statistics



GSX Configurations

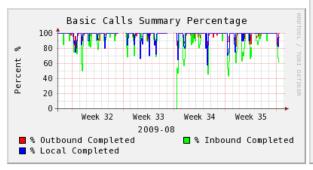


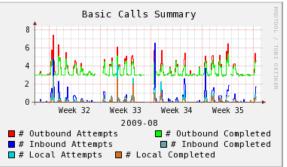
The Sonus ASX Access Server provides line-side support for subscriber devices, call agent functions, and line-side access features. The ASX supports open standardsbased interfaces. The ASX interfaces with the packet network using 100 Base-T Ethernet and supports MGCP, H.248, SIP, and the cable standard NCS to control a wide variety of access devices. The ASX can also leverage third-party application servers, providing additional line-side services such as intelligent call centers, IP voicemail, and unified communications.

The ASX runs on a Sun Netra platform and performs call agent functions including call setup and feature signaling for IP-based endpoints. It provides support for MGCP serving devices (SDs, such as IADs and MTAs), H.248 serving device (Media Gateway), and SIP endpoints. For PSTN interconnection, the ASX seamlessly interoperates with the GSX9000 and GSX4000 Open Services Switches and the SGX SS7 Gateway softswitch module to extend robust SS7/C7 signaling support to the network edge. This includes TCAP support and international ISUP variants for access to worldwide circuit-based networks and services. Also, the ASX communicates with the PSX, which provides both policy and routing services.



4 2009-08 ▶ Daily | Monthly





Descriptions

Inbound Attempts

The number of inbound calls attempted in current interval.

Inbound Completed

The number of inbound calls completed in current interval.

Local Attempts

The number of local calls attempted in the current interval.

Local Completed

The number of local calls completed in the current interval.

Outbound Attempts

The number of outbound calls attempted in current interval.

ASX Call Summary Statistics

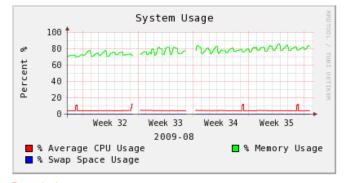


The DataStream Integrator (DSI) captures call data records from Sonus network elements, transforms them into the appropriate billing system input format, and distributes them to billing applications. Working with other components in Sonus Open Services Architecture (OSA), DSI ensures that network usage data is formatted properly and distributed to back-office applications such as billing, fraud, settlement, performance traffic management, and signaling analysis and reporting systems.

The DSI is typically deployed in a cluster configuration with a minimum of two servers to provide High Availability which ensures data integrity, transaction integrity, and continuity of operations through any single server failure. Secure communications between the DSI and backoffice applications keeps network usage data safe. The figure 1 illustrates how DSI is positioned in the network.







Descriptions

% Average CPU Usage

The total CPU time is the sum of 4 values: user time, kernel time, IO-wait time, and idle time. Each time value is calculated by taking the difference between present and the previous samples. The sampling period is 5 seconds. Usage is calculated using this formula: (user time+kernel time+kernel time+kernel time+IO-wait time+idle time)*100. The value is rounded up to an integer. The calculation is performed for each CPU, and the usage value is the average.

% Memory Usage

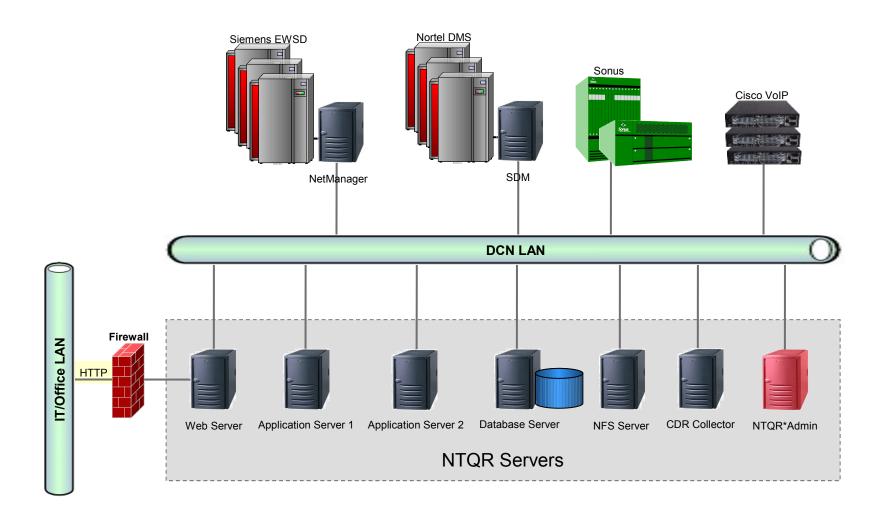
The usage value is calculated by dividing total in-use memory by total physical memory in the system. The Usage value is represented as a percentage and rounded up to an integer. The sampling period is 5 seconds.

% Swap Space Usage

The usage value is calculated by dividing total in-use swap space by total available swap space. The Usage value is represented as a percentage and rounded up to an integer. The sampling period is 5 seconds.

DSI System Usage Statistics

System Architecture



Some Technical Facts

Applications	NTQR applications are written in Java and JRuby. The applications run on the application servers Glassfish and Tomcat.
Host servers	SUN X2100 and X4200 series with Solaris 10.
Database servers	Oracle 10g