



Highlights

- Deploy 20 years of storage networking best practices in one click to simplify the deployment of monitoring with predefined, threshold-based rules, actions and policies
 - Monitor Fibre Channel and Fibre Channel over IP (FCIP) health and performance indicators using customizable, browser-accessible dashboards
 - Enable fast troubleshooting and problem isolation through comprehensive Fabric Vision diagnostics and dashboard playback
 - Help reduce costs by automating tasks across the network management lifecycle
 - Provide unprecedented visibility and insight into the storage area network (SAN) fabric through integration with Fabric Vision technology¹
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IBM Network Advisor

Simplified network management for today's increasingly dynamic SAN fabrics

Under pressure to reduce costs and increase agility, organizations can become stuck in a reactive mode, overspending on inefficient measures aimed at keeping their networks up and running. By standardizing and automating processes, however, network teams can proactively address availability and performance issues, and dramatically reduce costs.

To address this issue, the IBM® Network Advisor software management tool provides comprehensive management for storage networks. This single application can deliver end-to-end visibility and insight across different network types; it supports Fibre Channel SANs—including Gen 5 and Gen 6 Fibre Channel platforms—and IBM FICON® and IBM b-type SAN extension solutions. In addition, this tool supports comprehensive lifecycle management capabilities across different networks through a simple, seamless user experience. It is available both in SAN Professional Plus and SAN Enterprise options.

Simplified network management for dynamic storage fabrics

IBM Network Advisor simplifies storage network management and helps organizations proactively diagnose and troubleshoot issues to maximize uptime, increase operational efficiency and reduce costs. Customizable,



browser-accessible dashboards represent data from discovered devices, including advanced diagnostic information delivered through integration with Fabric Vision technology.¹ As network issues arise, teams can drill down through the user-friendly interface for more details and rapidly identify, diagnose and troubleshoot problems before operations are affected.

Proactive monitoring

IBM Network Advisor with Fabric Vision technology provides unprecedented insight and visibility into fabric health and performance through customizable dashboards and interactive topology views. In this way, IBM Network Advisor transforms data into intelligence that storage teams can easily act upon to quickly identify potential issues, abnormal behaviors, and trends at the device and fabric level. To further simplify network management and reduce costs, IBM Network Advisor provides simple wizards and right-click menu options to automate critical tasks, from configuration through troubleshooting and reporting. These powerful capabilities enable storage teams to proactively manage their storage networks, maximize uptime and optimize resources without requiring high-level expertise.

Fabric Vision technology features that can be managed through IBM Network Advisor include Monitoring and Alerting Policy Suite (MAPS), Fabric Performance Impact (FPI) Monitoring, IO Insight, VM Insight, Flow Vision, Configuration and Operational Monitoring Policy Automation Services Suite (COMPASS) and ClearLink diagnostics.¹ IBM Network Advisor v14.0.1 or later is needed to unleash the full potential of Gen 5 and Gen 6 Fabric Vision technology.²

Rapid troubleshooting for increased availability

Once network issues have been identified, organizations need to be able to diagnose and fix them quickly. IBM Network Advisor enables rapid troubleshooting with multiple dashboard views, highlighting out-of-range conditions and providing drill-down menus for more details. As a result, administrators can correlate multiple data points across storage networks to make fast, informed decisions. Among the troubleshooting features provided by IBM Network Advisor are live monitoring and point-in-time playback, network and time scope filters, event management, configuration change management, and Advanced Call Home.²

Simplified management and optimized resources

IBM Network Advisor helps organizations manage the entire network management lifecycle, automating time-consuming tasks and freeing up valuable resources. The easy-to-use graphical user interface minimizes administrative effort and guides the user through otherwise complex operational tasks. In addition, bulk deployment and configuration offer significant time savings over repetitive switch-by-switch administrative tasks, reducing costs and increasing resource efficiency.

The latest IBM Network Advisor version is available with flexible package and licensing options for a wide range of network deployments and for future network expansion. IBM also offers a path for customers using the IBM Network Advisor Professional Plus feature to upgrade, for a fee, to the IBM Network Advisor Enterprise option.

IBM Network Advisor v14.2 at a glance

Product number	5639-NAU
Hardware requirements	The system requirements and recommended configuration options vary depending on the size of the SAN fabrics being managed with IBM Network Advisor. Consult the user manuals or contact IBM Support for details.
Required Fabric OS features	Some IBM Network Advisor Enterprise features require specific Fabric OS licensed features to be enabled.
Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IBM Network Advisor SAN Professional Plus option, licensed to manage up to 36 fabrics and 2,560 ports• IBM Network Advisor SAN Enterprise option, licensed to manage up to 100 fabrics and 15,000 ports

Why IBM?

IBM offers a full line of intelligent SAN solutions for modernizing IT infrastructure and building business-resilient solutions. In addition to IBM Network Advisor, IBM has SAN switches, directors and routers to connect servers and storage systems in local, campus, metro and global infrastructures, and to provide end-to-end SAN management software.

For more information

To learn more about IBM Network Advisor, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit: ibm.com/us-en/marketplace/network-advisor

Additionally, IBM Global Financing provides numerous payment options to help you acquire the technology you need to grow your business. We provide full lifecycle management of IT products and services, from acquisition to disposition. For more information, visit: ibm.com/financing



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Actual available storage capacity may be reported for both uncompressed and compressed data and will vary and may be less than stated.

¹ For most current information, please refer to the [Fabric Vision Technology web page](#).

² For more information, please refer to the [IBM Network Advisor Redbooks Product Guide](#).



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