



Network Asset Planning
COST, risk and business agility at your fingertips

Remove **risk, uncertainty** and **waste** from IT infrastructure asset management

Do you know what's on your network?

Full visibility of the age, support status, and succession plans of all IT infrastructure assets on your network is a critical element of secure, cost-effective, fully optimised network management.

Dimension Data's Technology Lifecycle Management Assessment service can provide the compass you need to navigate and chart your IT infrastructure assets on the network, giving you the visibility to make sound choices about your network IT infrastructure spend and avoid waste and unnecessary expense.

At Dimension Data we are network specialists. We have designed, deployed and managed thousands of networks for clients of all sizes and from all industry verticals, in almost every country in the world. Based on our experience, the most effective advice we can give clients is to be proactive – have a plan in place to deal with managing your network long-term. Knowing the IT infrastructure assets on your network will equip you to make the right decisions at the right time, allowing you to plan, budget and negotiate for network maintenance in a logical and cost-effective way.

It's the smart way to know your network.

Cost, Risk and Strategic Agility . . .

identified, managed and planned to deliver a Business-ready Network

Network Asset Planning is a proven methodology that helps you manage the risk, cost and agility concerns involved in running your network, based on precision identification of every component of your infrastructure.

The Technology Lifecycle Management (TLM) Assessment is a simple, cost-effective service that delivers this complex view of the IT infrastructure assets on your network to you. TLM Assessment is secure, non-invasive and an excellent way for you to get to know your IT infrastructure assets on your network.

Cost



Managing the expense of your network journey . . . **COST**

One of the biggest mistakes we see clients make is **failing to plan** for network upgrades and maintenance and then **carrying the hidden costs** of not knowing what is on their network.

Adopting Network Asset Planning as a strategy in your business can unlock some great cost savings and can enable you to optimise your IT spend. Two ways Network Asset Planning can help you achieve greater efficiencies are through:

- ▲ Extending the working life of targeted assets that have reached end-of-support; and
- ▲ Avoiding unplanned and expensive emergency repairs and replacements.

A leading industry analyst estimates the average organisation's maintenance spend to be as high as 42% of the annual WAN budget. The most common concern shared by organisations is how to extend the working life of assets and get the greatest possible value from their IT spend, especially in current market conditions. Dimension Data specialises in helping clients extract maximum value from their assets and balance risk and cost to achieve optimal business agility.

The starting point to **maximising the lifespan of your technology investment** is firstly to have a clear, accurate overview of your IT infrastructure assets on your network and an awareness of all your network devices, their age and lifecycle status. Once you have this insight, you can collaborate with a technology partner with the depth of experience and operational ability to advise you on how, where and why to extend the use of equipment beyond end-of-maintenance in areas of low risk, and so maximise available budget and spend without compromising the integrity of your network. We can help you identify those products that still work and put in place more creative maintenance options, extending the life of products installed in locations where lower availability can be tolerated.

In addition, Network Asset Planning will help you reduce overall spend by helping you **avoid crisis management spending**. This occurs where there is an unanticipated failure on the network and a realisation – too late – that there is no longer maintenance or support in place for that device. This leaves you in the no-win situation of having to potentially source grey market spares, assigning problem resolution to less-qualified engineers, and thereby extending mean time to repair – all grave threats to the integrity of your business systems. However, when you have a complete knowledge and control of your IT infrastructure and network have the flexibility to plan ahead, budget and cater for device failure, or plan around them reaching end-of-support status with alternative maintenance options.

How will IT infrastructure Asset Planning help support the quest for optimised network spend and cost savings?

Our primary focus is to help clients achieve and maintain a business-ready network. Once you have an understanding of what's on the network, you have visibility of the current and future status of your infrastructure, and this gives you the comfort of predictability. By knowing the status of every device, you can plan ahead and plot a succession and maintenance plan for every element of your network, thus avoiding expensive, unplanned for failures and replacements. You will also be able to identify where you can safely make low-risk decisions to sweat assets beyond end-of-support, thus saving money without compromising your network integrity.

When you don't know the lifecycle of your assets, you can find yourself backed into a corner and faced with a failing network – and this is when poor business decisions get made. We can help empower you to avoid these pitfalls and make sound, cost-effective decisions that keep your network up and running.

“Remove the costs attached to not knowing what's on your network by running a simple, effective three stage assessment – we can help.”

Why Dimension Data?

- ▲ We do network infrastructure better than anyone else.
- ▲ We have an unrivalled understanding of the interdependencies and design of networks.
- ▲ We can help you gain insight and control of your network and make a proactive start to controlling and managing your costs through our **Technology Lifecycle Management (TLM) Assessment**.

Technology Lifecycle Management (TLM) Assessment

What is it?

TLM Assessment is a service we recommend that executes on our approach to Network Asset Planning in a practical and effective way. By identifying and classifying IT infrastructure assets running on your network, we present you with a report that maps and describes your current IT infrastructure asset status in detail. It identifies weak spots, highlights vulnerabilities, and updates you on the lifecycle status of your network components. When you have the high level of visibility enabled by TLM Assessment, you then have the time, knowledge and insight to plan for upgrades, make informed decisions on what assets to prolong the use of, and which you will need to budget for upgrades or source cost-effective spares for. By giving you an accurate inventory of your network, it will also empower you to make the right decisions at the right time and at the right price.



How does it work?

TLM Assessment is delivered in three stages:

Discovery: There are two phases to discovery. First is the Business Interview, where we collect information from about the business use of your network. In the Technical Interview, we collect more specific information about how your network is architected and gather information that is required to get a good onsite environment discovery off the ground.

Analysis: The results of the Discovery phase provide information about the network's IOS vulnerabilities, lifecycle status information (e.g. end-of-sale), configuration and maintenance coverage that provide the insight to review and analyse its operation status and answer the question: Is your network business-ready?

Recommendations: The analysis of the information gathered in the previous steps enables the consultant to recommend remediation for the current problems, understand the gaps and recommend solutions that are appropriate to your network environment. These may include architectural design changes, equipment upgrades, process changes, training, and other areas. Recovery strategy, architecture recommendations, implementation roadmaps and solution costs are all completed in this step. The information they compiled into a comprehensive report, giving you practical first steps on how to proceed to gain greater control over and better management of your network, focusing on cost, risk and business agility.



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