



Turner Studios Boosts Performance of Video SANs with Vicom Software

Vmeter Software Raises Streaming Capacity Under High-Demand Conditions — No Hardware Required

Santa Clara, California – December 8, 2010 — Vicom Systems, provider of transparent wire-speed data services and solutions for systems and storage, announced that Turner Studios has selected Vmeter SQM™ software to improve the performance of the company's video editing SANs.

When installed on SAN-attached video clients, Vmeter software raises the overall performance of Apple-based SANs by controlling the storage system access rates of attached workstations. By managing peak demand rates, Vmeter effectively increases the video streaming capacity of SAN systems without requiring upgrade of storage system hardware.

"When post-production operations need more performance, they typically upgrade their storage systems," said Horatio Lo, Vice President of Systems and Professional Services at Vicom. "Using Vmeter software, organizations like Turner Studios can improve video streaming capacity significantly through simple addition of software. Instead of expensive hardware upgrades, Turner has found they could achieve the same results with a single, cost-effective site license," said Lo.

Post-Production Operations at Turner Studios

Turner Studios, the full-service production division of Turner Entertainment Group, is the largest production company of its kind in the United States. Today, Turner Studios produces diverse cable TV programming content for CNN, TBS, TCM, TNT, truTV, Boomerang, and the Cartoon Network.

Turner accomplishes most of its post-production work with a network of 90 Apple OSX workstations, OSX servers, and three-quarters of a petabyte of Xsan-compatible storage spread across three SANs. Under peak usage conditions, editing operations had become increasingly problematic under peak video streaming demands placed on storage systems. Even with SAN optimization measures, Turner's editorial engineering team saw that SAN performance would have to be increased substantially to meet the organization's video bandwidth demands.

Vmeter Solution

After reviewing options for improving the performance of its video SANs, Turner's engineering team decided to test the Vmeter SQM 2.0 software solution from Vicom Systems. Not only did the solution appear easy to implement, but it also had potential to boost streaming performance by as much as 3:1 with client-installed software. Alternatively, adding storage arrays could also increase SAN performance, but it would come at a significant premium over the Vmeter solution.

Vmeter testing soon provided the editorial team's with definitive results: under peak-demand conditions, SAN video streaming performance increased by 50-100 percent. As a result, Turner Studios purchased a Vmeter site license to cover use on all of its post-production workstations.

About Vicom Systems

Vicom specializes in the delivery of transparent, wire speed data services for systems and storage. Vicom's technology and solutions deliver on the long-standing promise of SANs: seamless consolidation, any-to-any connection, simplified management, and high availability. The company's customers include Deutsche Bank, Wells Fargo, Ceva Logistics, Intelsat, NFL Films, and Korean Broadcasting. For more information on Vicom, please visit www.vicom.com.

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