product information

Ascend

NavisXtend Fault Server

The NavisXtend™ Fault Server software application intelligently processes fault information from Ascend IP, Frame Relay, ATM and SMDS networks to help operators quickly identify and respond to network problems.

The Fault Server intelligently sifts through the flood of SNMP event information found in busy, complex service provider networks. It uses rules-based processes to correlate, consolidate and prioritize incoming network events so that only pertinent information is passed to the network operator. As a result, network operators stay better informed and are able to respond to problems with greater speed and efficiency. This, in turn, helps service providers lower operating costs and increase customer satisfaction by decreasing network downtime.

Intelligent inference engine increases information relevancy

NavisXtend Fault Server intelligently correlates, parses, filters and ages incoming records so that only critical events are flagged. This focuses network operators on the key service-affecting issues. In the event of a threshold alarm, the Fault Server can initiate scripts to drive operator actions. A threshold event can generate an alarm; multiple events can be consolidated into a single alarm; or multiple events can be given varied severity levels.

Highly reliable traps ensure event delivery

Packet sequencing is employed to ensure that the Fault Server application has received the alert. If a trap is missing, Fault Server recovers it or issues a warning.

Relational database facilitates problem analysis

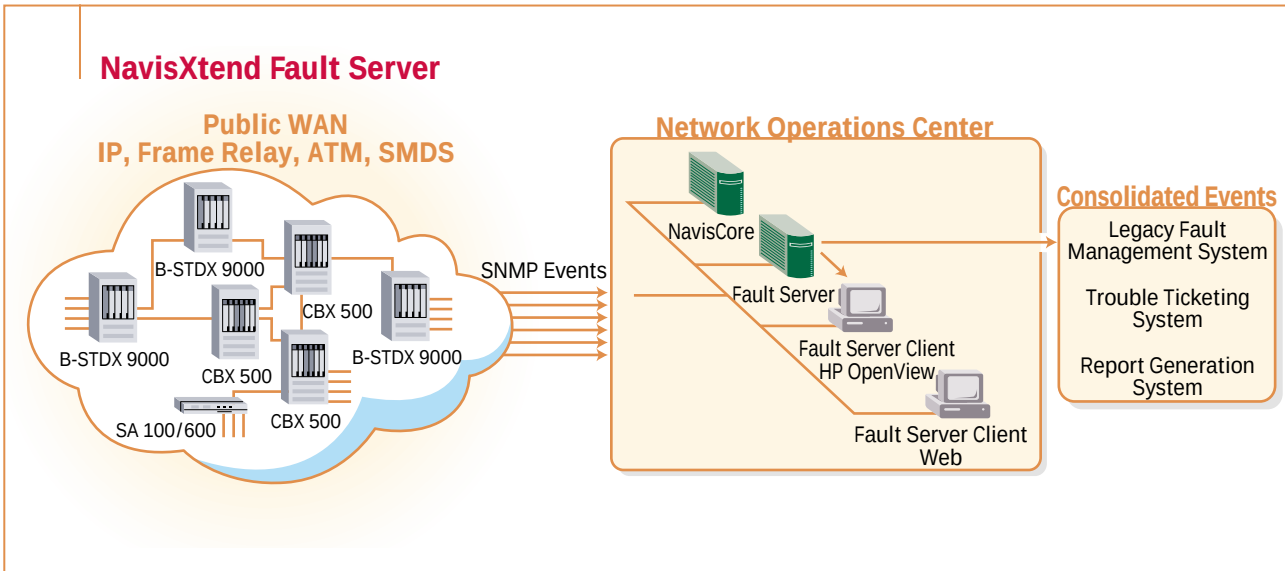
Network events are stored in a Sybase relational database, allowing operators to use Standard Query Language (SQL) to sort through fault information and perform complex queries with multiple levels of granularity. Service providers can use the archived data to investigate customer uptime and throughput levels, to produce internal reports on network fault activity and to view existing and potential trouble spots on the network.

Distributed management improves performance

One or more Fault Server applications can be used to track network fault information. The distributed, flexible architecture supports multiple access points for improved performance in large networks.

Forwarding agent integrates with existing applications

The Fault Server can also forward events to other management platforms. These include comprehensive network managers such as HP OpenView and trouble-ticketing systems such as Remedy and Vantive. This feature enables service providers to standardize record keeping and event response activity in a multivendor environment.



Web browser interface provides convenient, low cost access

The Fault Server supports client access through familiar, easy-to-use Web browsers such as Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer, providing a completely distributed and cost-effective approach to event processing.

Fault Server Technical Specifications

Hardware Requirements	Sun SPARCstation or UltraSPARC 128 MB RAM 4 GB hard disk space CD ROM
Software Requirements	Solaris 2.4 or higher Sybase version 11 or higher
Browser Support	Netscape Navigator 3.0 or higher Microsoft Explorer 3.0 or higher, or any other browser that supports JAVA applets
Switch Software Requirements	B-STDX 8000/9000: 4.0 or higher CBX 500: 1.0 or higher or 2.0 or later for enhanced trap delivery STDX 6000: 2.3 or higher SA 100/600: 1.0 or higher

NavisXtend Servers

The NavisXtend family includes the following servers:

Accounting Server	Collects Switched Virtual Circuit (SVC) and Permanent Virtual Circuit (PVC) call detail that can be used to generate customer invoices
Customer Network Management Server	Allows service providers to offer managed data services with customer viewing
Fault Server	Intelligently correlates and consolidates network event and alarm information to quickly identify network problems
Provisioning Server	Reduces configuration steps by automating the provisioning of cards, ports and circuits
Standby Server	Allows warm standby of primary network management database to increase the level of data availability in the event of an outage to the primary site
Statistics Server and Report Generator	Collects network statistics and generates graphical reports that are easily understood by end users

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Ascend Communications, Inc. develops, manufactures and sells wide area networking solutions for telecommunications carriers, Internet service providers, and corporate customers worldwide. For more information about Ascend and its products, please visit the Ascend web site at http://www.ascend.com, or e-mail info@ascend.com.

Ascend markets the B-STDX, CBX, GRF, IP, MAX, Multiband, MultiDSL, Navis, Pipeline, SA, SecureConnect and STDX families of products. Ascend products are available in more than 30 countries worldwide.

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