

Metron News Release

METRON SIGN DEAL WITH BELGIUM'S LEADING WATER SUPPLY COMPANY.

26th January 2004, Taunton, Somerset, UK: Leading European performance management and capacity planning specialist, Metron Technology Limited, has signed a three year agreement with Vlaamse Maatschappij voor Watervoorziening (VMW) to provide Metron's Athene performance and capacity management software. The initial agreement covers 15 key UNIX and Windows servers within VMW as well as initial training and implementation support.

VMW is the Brussels based Flemish water company established in 1983 following the Belgian state reform of drinking water suppliers in 1980. VMW aims to serve the public with products and services offered at a fair price, whilst showing maximum concern for environmental issues and the society in which it operates. The business believes it will achieve and maintain these objectives through the employment of trained, creative and motivated staff working in an open and quality-conscious environment. This has been backed by an extensive investment program since the 1990's to increase capacity and improve facilities for research.

VMW chose Athene primarily for its ease of use and full automation of the performance reporting process, from data capture to display of reports on the web or Intranet. In an organization serving the public such as VMW, efficiency and cost effectiveness are important factors. Athene will enable VMW to benefit from the quality of performance management data typically only available to larger IT organizations without requiring significant staff time and effort to generate that information. Metron was awarded the contract after an evaluation by VMW IT staff of a variety of solutions for their performance reporting needs.

Piet de Porre ICT-manager of VMW says : 'We chose Athene because, in contrast with other suppliers, Athene delivers automatic reports for trending information. This means that we can avoid problems in a preventive way, before they cause damage and frustration to the user. We look forward to working with Metron because of their know-how and experience. Athene will be used on our central application servers and oracle database servers running under Windows 2000 and Sun-Solaris in order to get a daily report of principal key indicators and trend information, to avoid problems in the near future.'

Andrew Smith, Metron's Director who lead the sales campaign, says 'The IT department of VMW is similar in many respects to Metron. It is a small professional team focused on doing a quality job for their customers. From our perspective it is nice to be working with an organization that plays such an important role in everyday Belgian life. Just as we all expect water to run from a tap when it is needed, VMW's IT users expect their systems to perform well whenever they hit a key. We look forward to ensuring that our Athene software plays its role in making this happen within VMW.'

Notes for editors

About Metron Technology Ltd.

Metron Technology was founded in 1986 and is Europe's leading Performance Management and Capacity Planning specialist. At Metron we are committed to continue developing products to provide IT users the maximum benefits at the least cost. We are delivering this by creating automated products that embody an increasing level of intelligence to address the continuing evolution and complexity of hardware environments and software applications.

Metron's Athene performance management software is the most cost-effective product in its class providing fully integrated ITIL[®]-compliant capacity management with automatic performance analysis and reporting for UNIX, Linux, Windows and Mainframe Servers.

In Europe Athene is installed for clients such as T-Mobile, WH Smith, O2, Nestle, LloydsTSB, and a number of government agencies. The company works in partnership with leading IT suppliers such as Hewlett Packard, Microsoft Systems, VMware, Computer Associates, IBM, Capgemini, and Oracle. The world's leading outsourcing companies and half the UK's top 100 companies are now using Athene combined with expert ITIL[®] consultancy and training services as a key element of their Service Management and Delivery. Athene is a registered trademark of Metron Technology Ltd

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