



Enterprises are looking for new ways to optimize resources and improve business operations while continually adapting to increasing technological complexity. To accomplish these goals, IT organizations are turning their attention to the data center.

Increased business demands, ongoing technology changes, business policies, new regulations, and limited resources are driving IT organizations to re-evaluate their data center management strategies. As enterprises focus on refining business processes, IT organizations are undertaking new projects to drive efficiencies such as server consolidation and green IT, both of which can reduce costs by lowering data center power consumption. Meanwhile, IT groups continue to maintain service-level agreements to meet constant and critical business demands.

Timely Solutions

To address these changing demands, IT organizations must ensure that their data center management solutions are versatile. The solutions must address today's challenges such as provisioning, availability, compliance, and protection — and at the same time let data center managers focus on tomorrow's opportunities.

Integrated Solutions for IT Services

Data center managers don't simply manage stand-alone applications and silos — they are looking for complete management solutions applicable to the IT services in their data center. In order to ensure availability of business processes built on these IT services, enterprises today need solutions that

provide end-to-end management across IT services spanning the entire IT infrastructure.

Microsoft Data Center Management Solutions

Microsoft System Center provides integrated management to optimize resources and ensure that they remain available and responsive. The System Center solutions incorporate extensible data center solutions for configuration management, end-to-end monitoring, server compliance, and data protection and recovery.

Configuration Management

The System Center data center configuration management solution helps streamline deployment with centralized, automated provisioning, updating, and management of both physical and virtual servers.

The configuration management solution is designed to help reduce costs and decrease power consumption through server consolidation and virtualization management. These savings in turn effectively help meet the increasing demands of the enterprise.

End-to-End Monitoring

The System Center data center end-to-end monitoring solution supports "always-on" availability and provides application- and service-level visibility across the data center's physical and virtual environments.

With this proactive monitoring solution, data center managers can rest assured that applications, services, and systems are running

efficiently. They also can identify potential availability, performance, configuration, and security issues. By enabling monitoring of the entire physical and virtual platform, this solution increases uptime and improves responsiveness. It also helps ensure that IT services, applications, and servers remain in the desired configuration state and consistently meet service-level agreements.

Server Compliance

To maintain internal and external standards, the System Center data center server compliance solution helps enterprises stay in step with business policies and regulatory requirements. It accomplishes this with easy-to-use configuration controls and a comprehensive collection of security events.

Console dashboard and reporting tools in the solution help data center administrators understand and control the state of their server configuration compliance against both regulations and best practices. With a centralized view of security events, administrators can easily track activities such as account lockouts and privilege changes. They can then generate a report to assess regulatory compliance, work to satisfy auditors, and improve data center security.

Data Protection and Recovery

To help safeguard critical data, the System Center data center data protection and recovery solution simplifies disaster recovery and storage management. In addition, this approach improves business

continuity and responsiveness with server virtualization management and near-continuous data protection.

Through virtualization, workloads are load balanced over geographically distributed locations. If one location fails, the workload is automatically distributed over the remaining locations, to ensure that business operations are continuous and uninterrupted. If an outage does occur, the solution works to quickly backup and restore mission-critical enterprise data.

Interoperability

An extensible and interoperable solution that connects to other systems is critical in the data center to provide IT managers the greatest visibility, openness, and choice. Components of the System Center data center solutions are based on open standards (e.g., [WS-Management](#) and [OpenPegasus](#)) and common models, to ensure the greatest interoperability and extensibility for managing both Microsoft and non-Microsoft products and technologies. The solution's highly extensible platform allows industry partners to easily develop and extend the System Center data center end-to-end monitoring solution to manage non-Microsoft applications.

Solution Benefits

Enterprise IT organizations today are working to optimize data center operations by transitioning to a dynamic data center that can adjust efficiently to changing business demands. System Center's integrated solutions help data center managers optimize resources, improve visibility

of IT assets and issues, and meet service levels, all while decreasing costs.

Microsoft System Center Server Management Suite Enterprise

The Microsoft System Center Server Management Suite Enterprise offers the System Center products that together enable data center managers in enterprise IT organizations to

proactively manage their physical and virtual environments. The System Center Server Management Suite Enterprise license is a cost-effective way for enterprise IT organizations to acquire the core components of the System Center data center management solutions.

These System Center solutions lower costs, improve efficiency, and ensure the data center remains available for critical business needs in a dynamic server infrastructure.

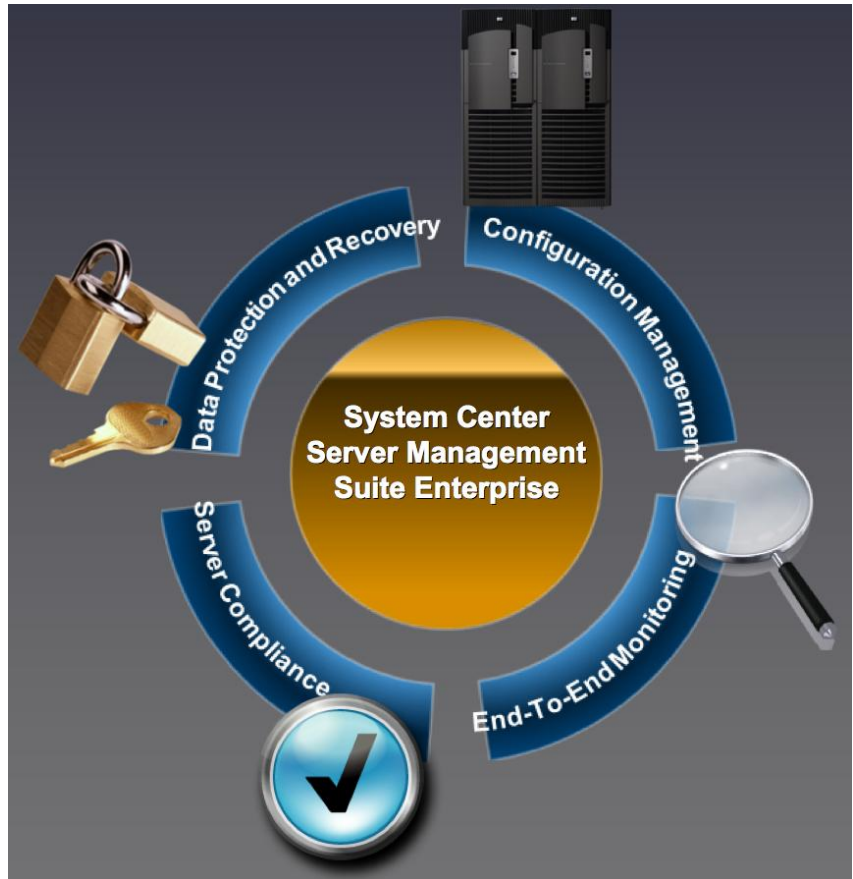


Figure 1 - System Center Data Center Management Solutions and the Server Management Suite Enterprise

For more information about System Center Data Center Solutions, visit <http://www.microsoft.com/systemcenter>.

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