

Check it Out

How does your network measure up? Do you have a system in place that efficiently manages your monitoring, maintenance and support needs? It's time to assess your strengths and weaknesses in five key areas of network management. Take this short quiz and find out if you make the grade. Circle the letter of the answer which best describes your organization:

MONITORING: *Are your systems monitored 24/7 and advise YOU when something is wrong?*

- A. We have 100% monitoring in place which is tested regularly
- B. We have some critical devices monitored
- C. We have no monitoring capability

PATCHES & UPDATES: *Are your systems current with all the latest security and functional updates?*

- A. We patch all devices regularly and in a timely fashion
- B. We apply patches only to major devices such as servers
- C. We patch and update only on an as-needed basis

NETWORK & BUSINESS PLANNING: *How fast will you recover in the event of an emergency?*

- A. We have a plan in place for every type outage
- B. We have considered disaster planning and have a general idea of what we should do
- C. There is no plan in place to address failures or outages

DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT: *Is your ability to capture and store data as efficient as it can be?*

- A. We have a document/mail management system which includes digitizing paper, organizing/indexing files and setting expiration dates
- B. Each department has basic guidelines yet no company-wide standard exists
- C. We have no formal document management strategy

DATA ACCESS: *Is your information portable?*

- A. We have a secure remote access system which allows users to access their data anytime, from anywhere.
- B. We have some tools such as FTP to get files to remote users
- C. We often struggle when remote users need files or e-mail

If you answered mostly A's: Congratulations! Your network is reliable and secure.

If you answered mostly B's: There is need for improvement here... A free consultation from UNICOM is vital to maximizing your network.

If you answered mostly C's: Your network requires immediate attention!

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