Innovative Solutions Canada Program

Challenge EN578-170003/34: Data Centre Discovery Tool with Options Analysis

Attachment 1
Questions and Answers #1 to #3

This document contains questions and answers related to this challenge.

Question #1:

Does this discovery tool only collect and analyze hardware information from 500+ data centers, or does it need to cover applications running on this hardware as well?

To consolidate data centers, the most important information is to have is CPU, Memory, Hard drive and Network information to provide enough infrastructure in the consolidated new data centers. Is any other application information important to you?

Response #1:

Application information is highly valuable. Knowing what runs on each VM/Physical server helps in planning migration path.

Question #2:

What kind of information can I get at the beginning? For example, all server access information that's collected already by the previous tool?

Response #2:

The datacentres vary in terms of maturity and quality of information. Some would have very detailed and up-to-date information, some may not have any information, or manually conducted inventories.

Question #3:

"*consume no more than 1Unit of rack space*": Does this mean the size requirement for discovery tool at centralized location *("be able to collect data and deliver to a central location"*), or at each rack cross all data centers?

Response #3:

Due to security requirements, some of our clients would not allow the proposed solution to communicate outside of the datacentre. In other cases, this might not be a problem. At the very least, however, the proposed solution cannot communicate outside Canada during its operation (for example, but not limited to, looking up a discovered service and comparing it to a database catalogue of known services to determine the applications running on the system). We anticipate discovery to be done on a datacentre per datacentre fashion.