d i g i t a l

DIGITAL
Commander

T H E   S O L U T I O N   I S   C L E A R

Microsoft® Exchange here. Office Server there. Directories,

gateways, and connectors. A mix of Windows NT®, OpenVMS™,

and UNIX® platforms everywhere. How can you manage it all?

Quite easily, thanks to DIGITAL™ Commander, designed to

deliver the information you need to optimize system perfor-

mance and save on operation costs.

F E A T U R E S

- Easy-to-use Graphical User Interface (GUI) provides a complete real-time view of the current status of systems and applications.

- Allows you to select your choice of monitoring parameters, including which events and data to monitor, and at what frequency.

- Designed to operate on Intel® and Alpha™ systems running Windows NT, as well as VAX™ and Alpha systems running OpenVMS or DIGITAL UNIX.

- Windows-based tool panels and on-screen maps help make planning and setting up DIGITAL Commander quick and easy.

- Flexible Scanning Modules monitor your messaging environment.

- Alarm module ensures that problems can be identified and preventive action taken before users are affected.

- Detailed reports provide a snap-shot of the performance and traffic volume of each message transfer system.

The right tool to help you manage your changing messaging environment.

DIGITAL™ Commander is a monitoring and management product for electronic messaging infrastructures that can be customized to fit a specific enterprise-wide solution. Different messaging systems within a corporation can create failures and service outages that are highly frustrating and costly. DIGITAL Commander monitors the entire mail network for management problems. It scans all mail servers, backbones, gateways, etc., and sounds an alarm when it looks like trouble is brewing. It even attempts repairs and restarts to avoid problems. DIGITAL Commander adds these management capabilities to the Microsoft ® Exchange environment on Windows NT ®. It is also available on OpenVMS™ and DIGITAL UNIX ® for other mail servers.

Central management

DIGITAL Commander puts you in control. From one central location, you can proactively monitor and manage your messaging systems and network applications across local- and wide-area networks — and tune them for optimum performance.

Easy-to-use GUI

Built on a scalable client/server architecture, the Commander features an easy-to-use Graphical User Interface (GUI) that provides a complete real-time view of the current status of systems and applications. So you can quickly pinpoint potential or existing problems—and remedy them before they affect network performance, before your users ever notice there is a problem. The result? A more cost-effective infrastructure that will improve the efficiency and profitability of your business and help keep your competitive edge sharp.

Windows®-based tool panels and on-screen maps help make planning and setting up DIGITAL Commander a quick and easy task. With the click of a mouse, you can configure client monitoring, add servers, activate tools and controls, and edit configuration files.

The GUI Client operates on Windows 95 as well as Windows NT running on Intel and Alpha systems.

Monitoring features

Highly customizable, the DIGITAL Commander allows you to select your choice of monitoring parameters, including which events and data to monitor, and at what frequency

Without leaving your station, you can use this feature-rich tool to:

• Scan the messaging traffic through your complete system, focusing on a site, a server, or a gateway.
• Monitor traffic volume over time.
• Select message volume by message size or priority.
• Display information graphically, in tabular format, or as a report.
• Check processes and batch jobs, disk space, bad message files, and event logs.
• Trigger alarms that provide early warn-ing of impending problems.
• Issue commands from the GUI client to start and stop mail servers, gateways, and other networked components.
• Use PING commands to check network connection status and system performance.

Three components deliver 7x24 monitoring capabilities. The DIGITAL Commander architecture incorporates:

• A **GUI Client**, which connects to one or more servers to display the information being monitored.
• A **Server**, which handles Client requests for information and triggers the scanning activities.
• **Scanning Modules** that examine individual applications and relay the data and status information to the Server.

Flexible Scanning Modules

Co-resident with, and triggered by, the Server, DIGITAL Commander Scanning Modules transparently check the status of their respective products, as well as standard system components and message traffic. The collected information is then sent via the Server to the GUI for display. You can define scanning intervals to determine how frequently products are monitored, or you can choose to monitor a product continuously.

In addition, PING, Network, and CONTROL Management Scanning Modules are included with the DIGITAL Commander Server. PING is particularly useful for verifying network connections and application availability, and for checking network performance. To ensure smooth, continuous network operations, Network Scanning Modules monitor the DEC Naming Service (DNS) in DECnet™ and Internet Protocol Subnet Monitoring (ISM) definitions and changes. Command Modules provide you with the tools you need to start, stop, and restart remote applications such as gateways and mail servers.

Customize your Scanning Modules

You can easily select the applications that you want the Scanning Modules to monitor, or add more applications. Plus, you can set the frequency at which these application entities are scanned.

An optional software developer's toolkit allows you to develop and integrate new Scanning Modules, so you can extend the monitoring capabilities and benefits of DIGITAL Commander to cover your specific mix of applications and E-mail systems.

Alarms warn you of potential problems

The DIGITAL Commander Alarm Module ensures that problems can be identified and preventive action taken before users are affected. Such advance warning enables you to keep user disruptions down and productivity up.

The Alarm Module can even be programmed to signal a system operator's pager when a potential trouble spot is found.

Reports detail performance

Easily displayed on screen, detailed reports provide a snapshot of the performance and traffic volume of each message transfer system. You can control the severity level and type of information displayed.

Easy migration

An essential component in any enterprise deployment of electronic messaging systems, DIGITAL Commander is a particularly valuable tool when you are in the process of upgrading, migrating, or integrating new solutions into your existing messaging environment.

For example, if you are upgrading from ALL-IN-1™ to an Office Server solution, migrating from a VAX™-based to an Alpha™-based MAILbus™ messaging backbone, or deploying Microsoft Exchange, DIGITAL Commander enables your old and new messaging environments to operate and be monitored in parallel. You get a complete picture of the upgrade process. And, most importantly, you can manage that process in a more planned, controlled, and cost-efficient way.

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