

BROCADE DATA CENTER SOLUTIONS LEADERSHIP



APPLICATION DELIVERY

Enabling On-Demand Application Resources in the Data Center

HIGHLIGHTS

- Provides administrators with a rich set of monitoring, decision-making and application-centric reporting features
- Gathers and leverages application performance metrics as seen by ServerIron ADX
- Enables intelligent provisioning decisions
- Ensures individual application performance by dynamically adding and removing application resources (VMs)

Shared and virtualized infrastructures promise to deliver significant benefits to enterprises by reducing costs and efficiently consolidating IT resources. This critical first step toward enterprise private clouds presents challenges, however, as hundreds or thousands of applications compete for resources in a shared environment. The ability to guarantee assured application delivery services becomes more vital than ever in a virtualized environment, with most options, such as over-provisioning application resources or best estimates for resources, resulting in waste, inefficiencies, missed SLAs and increased costs. At the same time, these solutions fail to address the challenge of operational manageability associated with a virtualized environment.

Brocade® Application Resource Broker (ARB) and ServerIron ADX simplify and automate resource provisioning tasks to address varying application traffic demands on the infrastructure while providing application-centric visibility for a clear understanding of virtual resources.

Together, they enable a more agile application infrastructure, providing increased business responsiveness, and optimized use of costly application infrastructure.

APPLICATION RESOURCE BROKER

An extension to Brocade ServerIron ADX, Brocade Application Resource Broker is an infrastructure software component that enables shared IT environments to provision virtual machine resources when needed to support application and infrastructure traffic demands.

Network-wide performance monitoring gathers application infrastructure response times, traffic load and application configurations from ADXs across the network and collects infrastructure utilization from infrastructure managers like VMware vCenter.

Application-centric visibility automatically associates which virtual machines roll-up to support any application service and collects and stores historical performance metrics to aid in determining baselines, future capacity planning and billing initiatives.



Figure 1. ServerIron ADX with Application Resource Broker is a key enabler for on-demand virtualized or shared IT infrastructure.

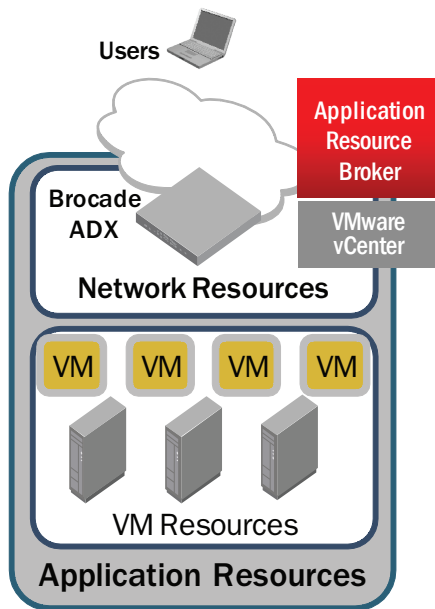


Figure 2a. ServerIron ADX with Application Resource Broker (ARB) monitors network and infrastructure resources

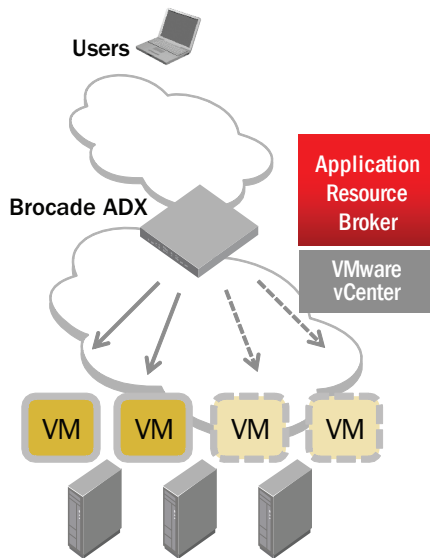


Figure 2b. ARB Initiates provisioning and immediate use of additional application resources to meet traffic demand

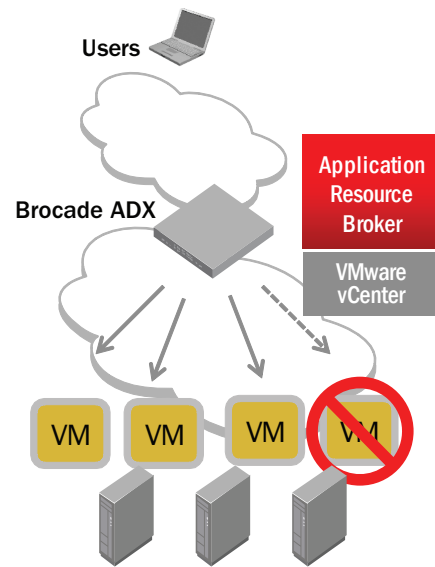


Figure 2c. Application resources are de-provisioned when traffic demand subsides

On-demand provisioning enables provisioning and de-provisioning of application resources based on end user demand.

VMware vSphere compatible, with a rich set of monitoring, decision-making and application-centric reporting features, delivered via plug-in for VMware’s vSphere administrative interface.

Real-time resource monitoring determines in real-time if application resources are meeting end user demand.

Policy-based decision engine logs events and alerts administrators to potentially inadequate application resources.

Automatic, demand-based provisioning uses those same policies to automatically provision additional application VM

instances and application delivery controller resources to service user demand, and de-provision the VM instances and resources when demand subsides.

Resource polling and analysis where application metrics are polled at regular intervals and analyzed by the decision engine.

SERVERIRON ADX

Brocade ServerIron ADX switches provide industry leading Layer 2 through 7 switching performance, enabling highly secure and scalable application service infrastructures. The switches efficiently distribute unified application services by measuring server utilization and connection load in real time, providing visibility and manageability of application performance, security, and service delivery. As a result, Web

applications run more efficiently and with higher availability—streamlining operations, increasing business agility, significantly reducing costs, and helping service providers support growth.

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Brocade partners with companies of all sizes to deliver innovative solutions that help organizations maximize the value of their most critical information. To learn more, visit www.brocade.com/alliance.

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From enterprise data centers to the service provider core, Brocade develops extraordinary networking solutions that connect the world’s most important information. Delivered directly and through global partners, these solutions help today’s data-intensive organizations operate more efficiently and maximize the business value of their data. For more information, visit www.brocade.com

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