

NetworkWorld Reprint

The leader in network knowledge ■ www.nwfusion.com

November 12, 2001 ■ Volume 18, Number 46

The Best Issue

BEST PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

BEST OF THE TESTS



Thirteen products win our 2001 Best of the Tests Award as tops in their tested categories.

BY CHRISTINE BURNS

Network World awards the Best of the Tests distinction to products that have shined in our rigorous hands-on testing during the past 12 months. This designation signifies which among the more than 240 products and services from 150-plus companies we tested from Nov. 1, 2000, to Oct. 31, 2001, are the cream of the crop.

We divided the tested products and services into 13 categories based on market focus. Our Best of the Tests Award categories are: client maintenance, directories, enterprise servers, Internet appliances, ISP services, mobile management, multimedia networking, network management,

security, enterprise switching/routing, Web acceleration, Web site management and wireless.

To determine the winner in each category, we took into account the score — with the best possible a 5.0 — awarded to each product by the Network World Global Test Alliance member or independent reviewer who conducted the test. In cases where multiple products vied for the top spot within a category based purely on score, *Network World* reviews editors picked the winner based on how well each product outperformed or outfeatured the products against which it was tested.

Now, on to the winners of this year's Best of the Tests Award.

Client maintenance

For the second year, Intel's LANDesk Management Suite topped a half-dozen competitors in the overall desktop management suite realm, besting products that help migrate desktop personalities to new PCs and assist with application installation. Intel's suite got the thumbs up for strong standard features such as desktop configuration and software distribution and for its innovative approach to Web-based management.



Best of the Tests Award winner:

LANDesk Management Suite

Company: Intel, www.intel.com

Date reviewed: April 9

Score: 3.53

Score above category mean: 0.37

Reviewer's comment: LANDesk is the best overall choice . . . because it includes things not found in its competitors' offerings, such as Norton AntiVirus protection and support for Linux machines. — Paul Ferrill, independent reviewer