

dimension
data 

accelerate your ambition

Technology Lifecycle Management Assessment

Know your network - achieve business agility

Helping you plan, deliver and **manage** **a business-ready** **network**

Your network is the platform on which you build the success of your organisation. In addition to connecting your people and customers to the business tools and information they need, whenever and wherever they need it, it gives you the agility to take advantage of a changing market and remain progressive and competitive.

Managing this crucial piece of infrastructure is no simple task. Your network already includes thousands of devices and end-points, and spans several geographies. It's hard enough to keep up with the latest technology trends and security threats, find the right skills, and deliver against strategic business goals, let alone ensuring that your network remains secure and as close to 100% available as you and your team can manage.

Questions you're struggling with include:

- How do you manage your ICT infrastructure without knowing exactly what's on your network?
- How do you shorten the time to repair 'broken' or inefficient assets and/or sub-optimal configurations?
- How do you justify equipment upgrades in tough economic conditions?
- How do you ensure your assets are adequately supported, yet keep costs in check?
- How do you remove risk and remedy security vulnerabilities proactively?
- How do you manage ever-changing compliance standards in line with corporate governance policies, and ensure alignment with configuration, security, and patch management best practices?
- How do you accommodate the latest networking trends such as virtualisation, collaboration, and mobility?

You need to have a plan in place to deal with managing your network over the long term. Full visibility of the age, support status, and refresh cycles for all the devices on your network is a critical element of a secure, cost-effective, and optimised infrastructure.

Dimension Data's Technology Lifecycle Management Assessment

Better network asset lifecycle management can help you manage the risk, cost, and agility concerns of running your network. This is based on the accurate identification of each and every asset in your estate. Our Technology Lifecycle Management Assessment is the smart way to get to know your entire network. It's a simple, cost-effective service that delivers a complete view of all your assets in a secure and non-invasive way.

After identifying and classifying all devices running on your network, we present you with a full report that maps and describes your current network status in detail. It identifies weak spots, highlights security vulnerabilities, and updates you on the lifecycle status of all network components.

With the visibility enabled by the Assessment, you'll have the time, information, and insight you need to better plan for upgrades. You'll be able to decide which assets to use for longer, and which will require you to budget for upgrades or source cost-effective spares.

You'll also be able to navigate the ever-changing security threat landscape by integrating new functionalities, processes, and patches to mitigate risk and achieve and maintain a high standard of security.

Above all, an accurate networking asset inventory will empower you to make the right network management decisions at the right time.

How does the Assessment work?

The Assessment is delivered in three stages:

1. Discover

This stage of the engagement focuses on information gathering and consists of both workshop and automated components. We conduct business and technical interviews, collect asset information by means of network discovery, and analyse them against lifecycle milestones and associated maintenance contracts.

2. Construct

Focusing on architecture mapping, we execute and analyse an automated asset discovery process. We assign conceptual, high-level network architecture zones to provide context for security profiling and mapping. Then we create a set of prioritised recommendations and a roadmap, which we align with medium- and long-term architectural objectives.

3. Recommend

The last stage of the engagement features the delivery of our recommendations and roadmap in the form of an official report and an on-site presentation. We base our recommendations on risk, cost, and strategy. Our report includes custom-built security policies to assess the configuration and identify security risks of all the discovered devices, as well as detailed recommendations to align with compliance requirements and security policies.

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Dimension Data's TLMA is an ICT infrastructure assessment service that **discovers** installed assets on your network, **identifies** their lifecycle status, **determines** maintenance coverage, and **identifies** their IPv6 readiness. By **analysing security configurations and vulnerabilities**, the Assessment also ensures that your organisation **doesn't expose itself to unnecessary risk.**

Why Dimension Data?

Dimension Data has designed, built, and managed over 9,000 IP networks, enabling 13 million users to connect to their organisations' networks

As top ICT infrastructure specialists, Dimension Data:

- has designed, built, and managed over 9,000 IP networks, enabling 13 million users to connect to their organisations' networks
- supports and manages more than USD 30 billion of networking infrastructure 24/7
- holds over 5,800 networking certifications across multiple technology vendors
- is the world's largest security systems integrator by revenue, with over 5,000 security clients and more than 500 dedicated security employees
- has successfully delivered over 2,000 Technology Lifecycle Management Assessments to organisations around the world

Top networking trends that influence technology refresh and require thorough asset planning:

- A sustained focus on cost reduction: this follows the recent global economic crisis and is particularly evident in the form of reduced capex budgets at many organisations. The usual three- to five-year technology refresh cycles are disrupted as businesses tend to 'sweat' their assets for longer.
- The greater availability and uptake of new, as-a-service ICT consumption models: as a growing trend, this strategy can save costs and reduce the need to invest in own infrastructure.
- Preparing the network for enterprise mobility: some organisations are refreshing their technology in specific areas of the network, particularly the access layer.
- The rise of programmable, software-defined networks: this new development in network technology is causing many organisations to 'wait and see' before selecting and implementing new technology.

Read our latest [Network Barometer Report](#) for more about the most recent trends in networking.

What are you doing with your e-waste?

According to marketing research firm, Pike Research, the number of electronics at end-of-life will double between 2010 and 2025. Device replacements and upgrades are inevitable, and now a standard, but the dilemma most organisations face is where and how to dispose of this electronic waste.

How we'll help

If you're planning, or undergoing, a hardware refresh project with Dimension Data, our Technology Lifecycle Management Assessment, coupled with our e-waste component, is the ideal option. The service can also be implemented for normal end-of-life equipment replacement, or for operational changes. It's also useful for cataloguing your equipment and future planning.

We love ambitious ideas

[➤ Find out more](#)

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