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New Research – The Road to Self-Healing

Excerpt from the Vitria AIOps Telco Webinar Series: Self-Healing Networks

The Road to Self - Healing Networks

Telcos have begun the journey towards the self-healing network, but progress seen in research just conducted is slow and fragmented. One of the most striking findings has been the wide range of intelligence required as well as the amount of diagnostic/predictive decisioning that will be significantly higher than other network automations. Indeed, the self-healing network might be the most concentrated area of intelligence requirements across a telco. This paper therefore starts by defining the self-healing network and then moves to discuss the intelligence and data required to fulfil telco requirements.

What is a self-healing network?

This paper starts by looking at the definition of a "self-healing" because, although it is part of the Self-X terminologies within the TM Forum's autonomous network project, it is often used to describe different functionalities within the network.

As one research participant discussed, "the sad reality is that many problems can be fixed by just turning off the offending hardware/software and turning it on again." This was certainly a feature of the first self-healing capabilities in SON REL 10, which focused on problems such as software glitches. The next iteration used self-healing to describe issues such as traffic re-routing in the event of a fiber cut in protected network configurations using SONET.

More recently, self-healing has been focused around the cloud where services failover automatically to standby hardware and backup links. Indeed, the advent of virtualized networks allows the term to expand to quite simple activities (e.g. scheduling the nightly rebooting of a network function) and more complicated closed-loop activities adapting in real-time to faults or new demands on the network from services.
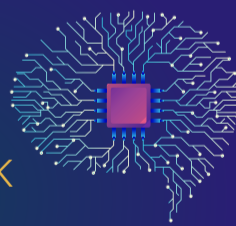

WEBINAR

The Road to a Self-Healing Network

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RESEARCH PAPER

Charlotte Patrick research paper

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