Monday, March 2, 2020
2:10 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
DAG Insights – Your First Step Toward Digital Transformation

Philip Riley
Director of Technology
Data Agility Group International

Charles Smith
Enterprise Account Executive
Data Agility Group International

Abstract:

Problem
Thirty years ago, an IT leader's responsibility was to ensure that workstations performed, staff were able to log into their applications and that business could transact without any hiccups. Back up and disaster recovery were manual processes involving reels of tape daily transported from one location to the appointed DR site. If that seems challenging now, imagine how challenging it was back then. It was definitely a job suited for management by a skilled expert.

Since then, the people, processes and technology needed to manage IT infrastructure have evolved. IT environments have changed from being on-premise data center set-ups with physical servers in a room to include everything from colocation to edge computing devices to cloud-only environments in certain instances.

Solution
In order to keep ahead of the curve, the day-to-day of data center infrastructure management must become table stakes. This means your data center running efficiently, cost-effectively and workloads being properly located where they are optimized is only the beginning. I&O must run like a business in itself, not just part of a business.

So, how do you get started?
1. Understand what is driving this change.

- A changing market that is growing more intelligent and demanding
- A need for faster, more seamless product delivery to meet that demand
- The need for automation, analytics and the ability to demonstrate ROI for the technology investments that meet the need

2. Embrace the hybridization of your environment. Don't fight it.

- Change is the only constant here. Get comfortable with it.
- A hybrid setup provides an ideal environment for digital transformation.

3. Gain 20/20 visibility. "Fine-tooth comb" your data center.

• See everything you have, it's health, where it's operating, how it's connected and who owns it, via visual mapping of dependencies, workflows, network paths and performance

• Know when to retire, consolidate or migrate workloads and assets based on interdependencies and business impact

• Quickly address vulnerabilities, enabling you to successfully mitigate business risks

• See the big picture: export to a TBM solution; aggregate this intel with DCIM intel

Results

While leaders must develop hybrid digital infrastructure management tools to maximize business value from the I&O platform, any solution you adopt should enable you to:

• Make decisions with confidence, knowing that you are backed by data from a single source of truth in your data center

• Successfully mitigate business risks, whether security or compliance related

• Cut operating costs by seeing under-utilized resources and finding hidden savings in duplicate licensing • Utilize open APIs and exports to allow information transfer and simpler integration between tools enabling you to see the big picture including infrastructure intel from your DCIM and TBM solution