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Testing Helps You Foresee Difficulties That Could Occur Down the Road by [Betsy Zikakis](#)

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Your network is the backbone of your company, and the better it runs, the better the entire business functions. Smooth data flow signals a company that is humming along, undeterred by any minor emergencies or the need to quickly react to changes in the marketplace that require targeted responses.

Your job is to keep the network running at its best so that business can be conducted without interruption. These days, that means that youâ€™ve got to be up and fully running at all hours, every day of the week. That can be a tall order for many companies because the stress of everyday use and burgeoning demands being placed on the network make it increasingly difficult to keep it running on a regular basis with no slowdowns or service outages.

Chances are you have some service level agreements that must be met, and in order to do that, youâ€™ve got to make sure that you are aware of any weak spots that might exist in your network. If you do find areas of weakness, such as places where data is likely to bottleneck, you must be able to alter those potential trouble spots at times when the network is not fully engaged and running at full capacity.

One way to stay on top of your networkâ€™s operation is performing a regular battery of tests at measured intervals. Youâ€™ll need to know where potential stress cracks might develop and you can obtain that information by performing an occasional SOASTA load test. That sort of testing will show places where the potential for breakdown exists.

Load testing simulates data traffic as it might flow during an average day of network use, and the test module can be manipulated to increase or decrease levels of simulated traffic. If you monitor the network while applying tests, you can see areas where data flow problems occur, and once you know about the trouble areas, you can make adjustments that will prevent such problems from coming up. If you simulate higher levels of data traffic than your network is typically handling, you can see how the network will perform when the inevitable upticks in traffic finally do occur.

You will also benefit from monitoring mobile applications, since this is one of the fastest growing segments of most companiesâ€™ digital enterprises. You might want to perform regular SOASTA mobile app testing in order get a view of your networkâ€™s capacity to effectively handle any number of mobile applications that your workforce is using every working day. By testing your networkâ€™s capacity to manage mobile applications, you can reduce or eliminate network slowdowns or outages.

Proper testing is not just an option for network administrators â€“ itâ€™s a must if you hope to operate an efficient, trouble-free network.

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SOASTA, cloud testing pioneer, provides the industry's leading a [SOASTA mobile app testing](#) service used by organizations to optimize the performance, scalability and reliability of their websites and web applications. SOASTA CloudTest leverages the resources of the Cloud for a [SOASTA load](#) and performance testing. CloudTest accurately simulates traffic hitting a website or application from outside or inside the firewall, testing both lab and production environments. CloudTest Analytics combines key performance metrics with monitored system data for identifying issues while a test is running.

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