January 31, 2012

Q. What is Advanced Event Management?

A. Advanced Event Management (AEM) is a powerful and flexible set of tools to automate tasks, customize the behavior of the system and associated operation of the switching infrastructure. Leveraging an open operating system, AEM allows operators to fully utilize the intelligence within EOS to respond to real-time events, automate routine tasks, and take local automated action based on changing network conditions. Simplifying the overall operations, AEM provides the tools to customize alerts and actions. It is composed of three major components:

- Event Manager
- Event Monitor
- Linux tools

Q. What is Event Manager?

A. Event Manager is the product component in Arista EOS that provides the functional services to implement Advanced Event Management (note--Event Monitor and Linux Tools are two other components of AEM). Event Manager reacts to changing system events and leverages the underlying Linux OS allowing the creation of useful tools and even new features that can tailor a system to act as required by the operational model not dictated by a vendor.

Q. Why is AEM better than traditional bulk data collection and analysis?

A. Simply put, traditional bulk data collection and analysis does not scale. Exporting massive amounts of data from the switch to a server just to find some small subset of information (e.g., counter change, interface error, etc…) is inefficient and unnecessarily complex. Increasing the bulk data collection does little to decrease systems outages. AEM is a better way of minimizing mission-critical systems outages because it relies on the network elements to learn, react, and inform. Instead of massive data-exports, let the switch do the work of parsing and alerting based on configurable events. This dramatically reduces the amount of information that needs to be analyzed when there is an issue.

Q. What network changes are necessary to deploy AEM?

A. AEM is compatible with Open, Standards-based, Software Defined Cloud Networking (SDCN) deployments. AEM ships as a subset of Arista EOS--the world's most advanced network operating system.

Q. Where can dynamic event management go from here?

A. Event-driven controls bring simplicity to network operations. Open, standards-based, Software Defined Cloud Networks (SDCN) are gaining in popularity and accomplishment. This trend is expected to continue, allowing even today's un-dreamed of advantages to be delivered with tomorrow's new innovations through AEM extensions. And EOS with AEM delivers the dynamic, extensible, and powerful character-

istics that allow for the continually expanding capability of today's leading-edge net-

work solutions.

Q. Why is AEM needed?

A. AEM is needed to minimize network downtime, react to changing dynamic net-

work environments, reduce operational complexity, and improve predictive fault man-

agement.

Q. What Arista product SKU's should be ordered to deploy AEM?

A. AEM is a subset of EOS--the world's most advanced network operating system--

available across all Arista hardware platforms and ships with software release version

4.9.