Somix Technologies is a Network Management company that provides products and services to some of the world’s leading companies such as Disney Stores, Fannie Mae and AutoZone. Somix found that existing Network Management products were expensive, difficult to implement, and did not capture the level of detail for Network Managers to effectively identify traffic bottlenecks and optimize the performance of their networks.

To provide enterprise network managers with real-time decision making capabilities, Somix captures 20x more data than existing network management products. Somix relies on MySQL to manage these high-volumes of data. Furthermore, MySQL was cost-effective, enabling Somix to satisfy the requirements for price-sensitive small and medium businesses (SMBs). As a result, Somix has enabled their customers to save millions of dollars by optimizing their network resource utilization rates.

“MySQL is easy to use, reliable, and has stood the test of time. Plus, the performance of MySQL is unmatched. MySQL is making a lot of my customers very happy right now!”

Michael Patterson
President
Somix Technologies
Being able to visually manage a network is becoming increasingly important, especially as more and more operations are conducted online. For many organizations, downtime means that operations grind to a halt, directly impacting their revenues, their customers, and their bottom line. Therefore, being able to identify over and under utilized network resources can save organizations tremendous amounts of money by reducing the cost of leased lines and server hardware.

However, Somix found that there were a number of issues facing existing Network Management products impacting their adoption and success. Existing Network Management products are:

- **Expensive** requiring at least $100,000 to implement, leaving small-to-medium sized businesses with few options.

- **Complex and difficult to support** requiring dedicated staff resulting in increased costs.

- **Require long deployment cycles** forcing organizations to wait months before network managers could optimize the network.

- **Could not capture the volume of data** required by enterprise network managers to get detailed, real-time views into network traffic. Somix products overcome these barriers to adoption, enabling both large enterprise and SMBs to better manage their networks. In particular, Somix enables organizations to:

  - **Cost-effectively implement** a network management solution at a fraction of the cost of existing solutions. A typical Somix Network Management solution can be deployed for less than $30,000.

  - **Rapidly deploy a solution** in days, not weeks. For example, the US Dept. of Agriculture was able to set up Somix WebNM in just 3 days and avoided weeks of high cost training and consulting.

  - **Simplify network management** with a user-friendly solution that does not require high-cost administration resources. Somix WebNM is completely web-based giving network managers easy to read web views into the health of the high-level technology infrastructure, performance of network elements, real-time status of network components, and more. In turn, Somix does not require extensive training and enables them to manage more servers than with traditional offerings.

  - **Uncover more detailed network information** so that network managers can make timely decisions based on real-time resource utilization capacity. Somix WebNM allows organizations to pinpoint network bottlenecks by users, applications and interfaces on an hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly basis.

Somix gains its competitive advantage with the help of MySQL. MySQL provides Somix with some key features to help them meet the network monitoring demands of some of the world’s largest networks.
Gaining a Competitive Advantage with MySQL

Performance
MySQL’s Pluggable Storage Engine architecture enables MySQL to achieve its performance advantage by allowing users to use purpose-built storage engines that are ideally suited for their particular type of application. For example, Somix uses the high-performance of MySQL to capture and analyze 20x more data than existing network management products that rely on file systems or proprietary database technology. This enables Somix to pinpoint network bottlenecks in real-time, such as identifying who is taking up the most bandwidth or which resources are over utilized.

Ease of Use
Somix prides itself on how quickly their customers can implement a network management solution and achieve results. MySQL’s ease of installation, configuration and use, allow Somix’s customers to get a complete network management solution up-and-running in days.

Reliability
For many of Somix’s small to medium sized customers, having high-cost in-house administration resources is not an option. They need a reliable solution that works out of the box. Therefore, MySQL’s high reliability and zero-administration is an ideal fit for Somix’s solutions.

Cost-effective Licensing Model
MySQL’s cost-effective licensing model gave Somix the opportunity to penetrate the price sensitive SMB market with affordable products that deliver enterprise-class performance, scalability and reliability.

Excellent Support
With the help of MySQL Professional Support and Services, Somix was able to fine tune the performance of MySQL to achieve performance levels required by the most demanding enterprise networks with hundreds of routers. A Somix implementation typically handles over 2.4 million transactions/hour to display network traffic information in real-time.
**Typical Environment**

*Hardware:* Dell PowerEdge 2850  
*OS:* Windows Server 2003  
*CPU:* Dual Intel Xeon  
*RAM:* 2-4 GB  
*Hard Disk:* 120 GB  
*Database:* MySQL Server  
*Database Size:*  
  - 600 MB  
  - 3.5 Million records  
*Transactions:* 2.4 Million transactions/hour

**About MySQL**

MySQL AB develops, markets, and supports the MySQL database server, the world's most popular open source database. With over six million active installations, MySQL has quickly become the core of many high-volume, business-critical applications.

Major corporations such as Yahoo!, Sony Pictures Digital Entertainment, Lucent Technologies, Motorola, NASA, HP, Xerox and Cisco rely on the ultra-fast, highly-reliable MySQL database. MySQL is available under the free software/Open Source GNU general public license (GPL) or a non-GPL commercial license.

For more information about MySQL, please go to [www.mysql.com](http://www.mysql.com).