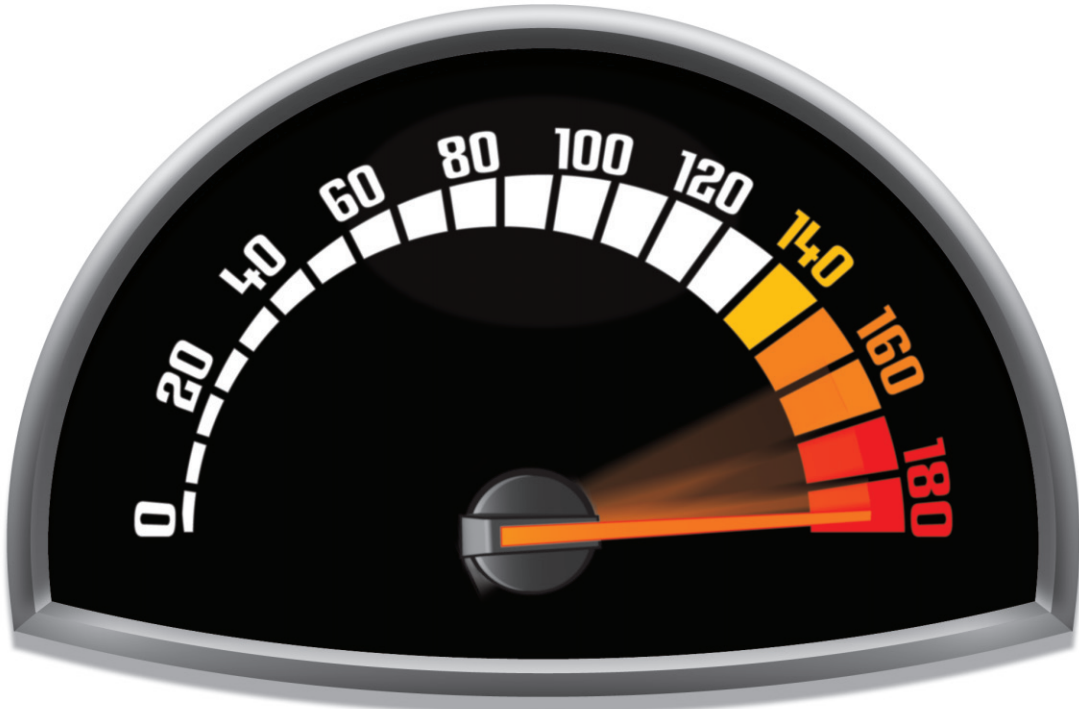


▶ **SPECIAL SECTION**

THE ITCHANNEL'S HANDBOOK FOR TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES

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TURBOCHARGING VIRTUALIZATION

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF VIRTUAL MANAGEMENT

BY SAMARA LYNN & FAHMIDA Y. RASHID

Virtualization promises many things: lower energy costs, less complexity in the data center, lower hardware costs, freeing up physical space, better security, lower costs of deployment, etc.

As solution providers start migrating customer infrastructure to virtual environments, they are discovering that the promises tell only half the story. Virtual environments have their own set of challenges that require attention. It is easy for the costs of managing virtual servers to spiral out of control. Virtualization has reached a point where

it's having some growing pains, according to Ken Klapproth, vice president of marketing at Entuity Ltd., Marlborough, Mass. "Do I hop more on board or jump off?" he said.

Some concerns don't go away just because the physical servers have. There are still questions about security, management, maintenance, audits, optimization and availability. In fact, these concerns are even more complicated in the virtual environment because there are multiple layers to focus on: the actual physical server host, the base operating system, the physical network, the virtual platform, the individual machines, the guest

