

F5 WANJet now available through EMC Select program

Data replication is a required business process within most enterprise IT departments today. The need to protect critical data and ensure continuity of operations drives companies to deploy sophisticated replication solutions that meet very specific service-level agreement (SLA) objectives, which is not always easy. In addition, customers are increasingly dependent on the WAN to deliver their data replication performance and recovery objectives.

The F5 WANJet 500 appliance provides a market-leading, high-performance WAN optimization and traffic-shaping solution for customers of EMC Symmetrix® networked storage systems using EMC's market-leading SRDF remote data replication software. WANJet significantly accelerates the throughput and performance of SRDF while at the same time greatly reducing bandwidth usage.

In addition, EMC will sell F5 WANJet through its worldwide sales force and network of channel partners as part of the EMC Select program, providing a total replication solution. WANJet was thoroughly tested for interoperability through the EMC E-Lab™, widely known for the most rigorous and extensive interoperability testing process in the industry, and is approved as an EMC E-Lab tested product. Finally, F5 and EMC have signed a Cooperative Support Agreement to ensure streamlined support of customers deploying the F5 WANJet 500 product with EMC solutions.

With WANJet, EMC customers can accelerate data replication traffic while using less bandwidth, mitigating the effects of latency and packet loss, and meeting Recovery Point Objectives (RPOs) and Recovery Time Objectives (RTOs). Ultimately, that boils down to less business risk and a lower cost of ensuring against those risks. For more information about WANJet 500 and EMC, please visit www.f5world.com.

WANJet joins the TMOS platform

With the launch of the WANJet 5.0 WAN optimization appliance, F5 announces the first WANJet software release to be developed on the unique TMOS architecture. Integration with TMOS enables F5 customers to implement high-performance WAN optimization and acceleration functionality, and builds on F5's broader Application Delivery Networking (ADN) solution portfolio. Along with the new 5.0 software release, F5 is introducing the TMOS-enabled WANJet 300 hardware platform to address customers' branch-office-to-data-center optimization needs.

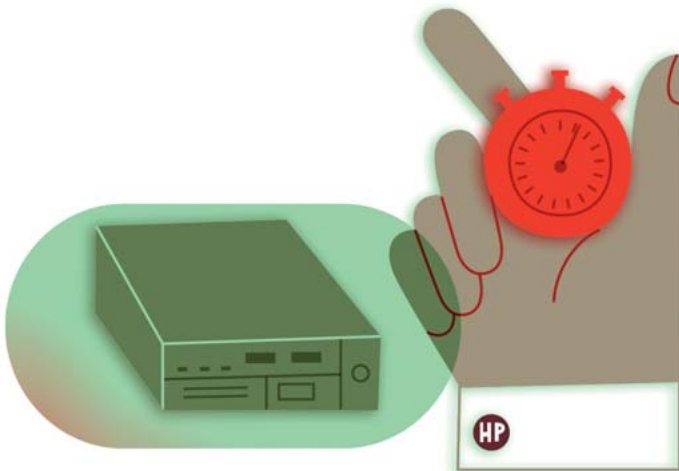
The new release includes increased application throughput via improvements to CIFS protocol optimizations, and reduced management costs and improved operational efficiency through integration with Enterprise Manager v1.4. This is a clear differentiation for F5 and will help redefine the WAN optimization space from point products to handle a tactical need, to a more strategic network-wide implementation that handles all optimization and acceleration needs.

The new WANJet solution enables enterprises to employ WAN optimization as part of their larger Application Delivery Network to bolster application performance, security, and availability. To read the press release, please visit www.f5world.com.

Single-click PCI compliance with BIG-IP ASM

Still trying to figure out how to meet PCI DSS compliance before the June 2008 deadline? Worried that your security dollars have to be reused every year on annual code reviews to comply with 6.6? With the new BIG-IP Application Security Manager (ASM) 9.4.2 application firewall release, F5 has made PCI compliance a single-click application security policy away. Beyond Requirement 6.6, F5 has solutions that cover multiple PCI requirements, including data security (Requirements 3 and 4) and access control restrictions (Requirements 7, 8, and 9). Listen to the podcast featuring F5's Alan Murphy to learn more about PCI compliance with BIG-IP ASM at www.f5world.com.





HP offers best practices for deploying SharePoint 2007 with F5

With the recent launch of Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007, Microsoft added new and exciting functionality into its already widely deployed online collaboration and document management suite. With the 2007 version, users will now be able to take advantage of various productivity tools, such as wikis, blogs, and enterprise search. As a part of the upgrade to SharePoint 2007, many organizations are taking the opportunity to consolidate their distributed deployments and SharePoint server farms into far fewer centralized data centers. This approach, however, requires consistent and predictable service across the wide area network (WAN), placing an increased importance on the network.

As one of its business-enablement strategies, HP commonly tests and documents best practices for various solution deployment strategies. These results, which HP publishes, are designed to educate its own services group on different deployment best practices. One of HP's recent projects was to document strategies for accelerating SharePoint over the WAN, using only F5 technologies. HP combined its SharePoint and hardware expertise with F5's network and application acceleration solutions, with the goal of finding the best network environment for a SharePoint and HP deployment. In all, HP ran more than 100 performance tests over the course of several weeks to develop guidelines for as many types of network environments as possible.

HP developed the test plan, which targeted the two most commonly seen deployments by HP's consulting practice: a "branch office" scenario, representing corporate users accessing SharePoint performing read/write operations; and an "Internet" scenario, representing anonymous users accessing a read-only version of a company's externally facing Internet portal. The test results showed a significant increase in user-perceived performance, a decreased load on the web front-end servers, and overall network optimization. HP documented these results in a white paper that illustrates best-practice configurations and performance results for each scenario, while also demonstrating how significant performance improvements can be realized using F5 solutions. To read the white paper, please visit www.f5world.com.

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