



MERCURY TOPAZ

Integrating Mercury's Topaz and F5 Networks Solutions

Executive Summary

With the disparity between different applications in the network, enterprises are searching for ways to easily and effectively monitor and manage the network as a whole. With Mercury Topaz™, combined with F5 Networks' iControl API, management of all aspects of the network becomes a secure, highly available, integrated solution.

Through F5's iControl® API (Application Programming Interface), F5 integrates Mercury's Topaz application performance management solutions with its Application Delivery Networking products to receive information, such as alerts and performance data, to affect traffic management decisions, and to provide maximum application uptime and performance.

Challenges

In order for enterprises to deliver the highest Quality of Service through their site, they must be able to effectively identify, isolate and diagnose problems when they arise. Ensuring performance requires the ability to gather data from a variety of devices and applications, and present that data in a useful fashion so it can be acted upon. Application and traffic management are key components of performance. But until recently, any changes to traffic management to improve performance were unable to incorporate the range of information gathered by the Topaz solution. Manual intervention was also required when a change was needed.

The goal was to build a solution that would ultimately help organizations reduce costs by helping them identify, diagnose, resolve, or avoid performance issues before their customers ever experienced a problem.

Solution

By integrating Topaz and F5 products, the Topaz solution is now able to use information it gathers to automatically adjust the traffic management configuration to respond to specific events. This increases performance, reduces the instances of manual intervention, and creates a more robust management solution for the customer. This integration provides more intuitive network management, giving enterprises increased ability to manage performance and a higher degree of control over traffic management.

F5 Networks' BIG-IP® Local Traffic Manager continuously monitors network devices to ensure availability and performance, routing incoming queries to the most available resource. Advanced health checking capabilities provide increased throughput, reduced latency and overall improved site stability in a highly secure environment.

The key to the solution is F5's iControl; the industry's first open application program interface (API) for a comprehensive suite of application traffic management products. Made available as a free SDK, the iControl architectural approach overcomes the greatest challenges of integration - making it quick and easy to create intercommunication between 3rd party applications and the network via F5's products.

About F5

F5 Networks is the global leader in Application Delivery Networking. F5 provides solutions that make applications secure, fast and available for everyone, helping organizations get the most out of their investment. By adding intelligence and manageability into the network to offload applications, F5 optimizes applications and allows them to work faster and consume fewer resources. F5's extensible architecture intelligently integrates application optimization, protects the application and the network, and delivers application reliability—all on one universal platform. Over 10,000 organizations and service providers worldwide trust F5 to keep their applications running. The company is headquartered in Seattle, Washington with offices worldwide. For more information, go to www.f5.com.

About Topaz

Mercury's Topaz was designed to meet organization's application performance management (APM) needs. By using Topaz, organizations can monitor the performance of their applications, receive alerts when issues arise, identify problems and diagnose their cause. It is the only solution that measures end-user experiences 24x7 and correlates performance issues to their cause in the Web infrastructure - inside and outside the firewall and in the application. As a result, organizations can ensure users are receiving solid performance while quickly resolving any infrastructure problems.