



QUEST SOFTWARE SHAREPLEX

Intelligent Traffic Control Using F5 and Quest Software's SharePlex

Executive Summary

F5 Networks and Quest Software™ are helping enterprises maximize the efficiency of their networks with a joint solution that provides security, high availability, and reduced administration for their application management solutions. This results in increased ROI, as the combined solution eliminates the need for highly specific individual products, and maximizes application availability while reducing administrative overhead.

Integrating F5 products and Quest Software's SharePlex® provides enterprise organizations with a complete load balancing, synchronization, and fail-over solution for local and globally distributed applications that use Oracle® databases. Merging these two technologies allow organizations to create solutions where service continues despite failures of any part of the network, application, web and/or database servers.

Challenges

A common goal among businesses is to maximize network and application availability. Because many applications depend on back-end databases such as Oracle, customers are looking to extend redundant deployments down to the database. In doing this, customers need to ensure that mission-critical data is synchronized across their systems and that application traffic is aware of what is occurring on the back-end, to allow for transparent fail-over and business continuity.

Solution

The combined Quest and F5 solution has an immediate impact on return on investment (ROI); maximizing application availability, allowing for trouble-free maintenance, and reducing administration overhead. The combined solution is key for business continuity and helps customers maximize their investment in Oracle databases and the network by affording them a much more proactive, hands-free administrative environment.

This integrated solution is designed to provide customers with a complete system to effectively deploy redundant Oracle databases, including the synchronization of data across local or distributed sites and the intelligent management of traffic. In the case of a database failure or planned maintenance, Quest's SharePlex can seamlessly alert and instruct F5's BIG-IP® Local Traffic Manager and BIG-IP Global Traffic Manager to shift traffic flow away from failed or unsynchronized databases, to redundant or alternative sites.

The BIG-IP product can read any value(s) of an IP-based packet header or payload and direct it to the appropriate resource. Based on precise business criteria and requirements, iRules™ allow an organization to easily incorporate application specific logic into the BIG-IP product; resulting in significant operational efficiencies. Web Services, enterprise and mobile applications no longer have to shoulder the burden of high availability, security, or control within the application itself. These functions can be offloaded to the BIG-IP product, enabling simplified scaling, deployment, and ongoing maintenance of applications and Web services.

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 Quest Software

Quest Software, Inc. is a leading provider of application management solutions. With comprehensive product families surrounding today's core databases and applications, Quest offers solutions for Oracle, IBM®, and Microsoft® databases, as well as leading business-critical applications. Specifically, SharePlex for Oracle allows customers to meet their high availability and performance needs by maintaining current, available copies of production databases.