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Kohei Makino  
Systems Department

## Gaitame.com Co. Improves WAN Data Transfer Rates by 20x Using F5's WANJet

### Industry:

Financial Futures

### Challenges:

- Slow WAN performance
- Slow access to Windows servers
- Slow distribution of large file data (15 minutes) between Tokyo and Okinawa

### Solution:

F5 WANJet

### Benefits:

- Data transfer rates increased by 20x
- ROI of WAN lines improved
- WAN file sharing environment now performing equal to LAN environment



### Overview

Gaitame.com Co. LTD. is a financial futures transaction firm specializing in on-line services for individual investors. The company deals with eight currencies and provides users with real-time information on the world's exchange markets as well as transaction services. It built a disaster recovery site in Okinawa, and established a system where the main database servers in Tokyo are synchronized with databases in Okinawa. To minimize delays caused by long-range communications and attain high-speed database synchronization, Gaitame.com Co. LTD installed WANJet from F5 Networks, enabling high-speed synchronization and improved performance.

To maintain its non-stop 24-hour service, the firm expressed considerable interest in disaster recovery. In August, 2005, Gaitame decided to form a branch in Okinawa, where the rate of occurrence of disaster, specifically resulting from an earthquake, is statistically low. The branch was expected to become a call center as well as a backup site in case of disaster.

### Challenge

**Proven accomplishments in supporting the core components of networks, critical for financial services.**

In building a backup site, Gaitame.com installed database servers (originally located in the data center in Tokyo) in the data center in Okinawa. The firm secured main lines at 100Mbps and backup lines at 20Mbps. As for synchronization with servers in Tokyo, the firm used log management functions of SQL servers, which enabled differences between databases in Tokyo and Okinawa to be written in files every 15 minutes. The changes were reflected in databases in Okinawa.

Unfortunately, Gaitame.com achieved throughputs of only 2-3 Mbps, owing to the communication delay between Tokyo and Okinawa. Mr. Kazuaki Oshima of the System Department at Gaitame said about the situation at the time:

“Before data transfer was finished, the next time of synchronization



would arrive. Therefore, in order to build a rapid backup system, we needed high-speed WAN technology to improve data transfer efficiency.”

## Solution

### Response is now comparable to LAN response.

To solve the problem, Gaitame.com began the process of selecting a high-speed WAN solution. The firm evaluated four different high-speed WAN products, including WANJet from F5 Networks. Next, the firm selected two products from which communication speed was improved markedly. And finally, tests on connecting networks between Tokyo and Okinawa under the actual environment were carried out.

Mr. Norisuke Konno of the System Department noted the firm had used F5 products before, including the BIG-IP Local Traffic Manager, and was impressed by F5 product reliability.

“Additionally,” he said, “we received fast support from Tokyo Electron, which had supported us previously [with F5 products], so we decided to install WANJet.”

WANJet functions as a substitute for clients and servers locally to make a request/response between them. Therefore, traffic via the WAN is reduced and the data transfer rate is improved. Furthermore, WANJet, linked to compression functions running intelligently according to the condition of the bandwidth or type of application, enables a drastic increase in the speed of file sharing or data backup. Also, specialized technology for CIFS is included in WANJet, making it the clear leader for Gaitame.

### Throughput increased by up to 20x. Improved speed and full utilization of existing bandwidth results in a dramatic increase of the line's ROI.

After installation of WANJet, the effect was clear to everyone involved at Gaitame.com. Data throughput has improved by up to 20-times. As a result, files in the database that previously took up to 15 minutes to send can now be sent in seconds. Access to the shared file server in Tokyo from Okinawa was made easier. Business performance has drastically improved in the Okinawa

branch. Operation of a version control system as a source file, which was previously “useless”, has also improved dramatically.

The WANJet system first met conditions required of a recovery site, and is now starting to provide other benefits. Mr. Kohei Makino of the System Department noted that “several GBs of transactions occur at the time of maintenance over the weekend. However, we couldn't send them at the previous communication speed because efficiency was poor. In fact, we had to take turns to bring the files stored in tape media to Okinawa every week. Now we don't need to do that any longer, as WANJet enables high-speed database backup.”

WANJet also allows the firm to make maximum use of its bandwidth, improving productivity. In short, WANJet now provides Gaitame.com with a high-speed and highly-reliable network environment that improves all of their service offerings.

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