



Matsui Securities Rated #1* for Site Stability and Reliability, Thanks in Part to F5's BIG-IP v9 Local Traffic Manager

“We considered hardware-only systems for SSL processing, but the speed of SSL processing on the BIG-IP Series is faster than that of ordinary dedicated machines. In addition, F5 Networks [products] have proven reliability.”

Kunihiko Sato
General Manager of System Planning

Matsui Securities Co., Ltd.

Industry:

Securities

Challenges:

- Establish reliable, non-stop online services which can recover immediately in case of failure
- Construct a network with sufficient capacity which can easily respond to the peak traffic

Solution:

BIG-IP® 6400 Local Traffic Manager

Benefits:

- High fault-tolerance and load distribution
- Efficient SSL processing
- High traffic throughput and reliability

*Ranked Number One for “the stability and reliability of the site” in Gomez’s ranking of online brokers (as of March, 2006).

Overview

Matsui Securities, Co. Ltd., the first securities broker in Japan to specialize in online transactions, started NET-STOCK, the first full-scale Internet-based transaction service in Japan, in 1998. Since then, the entire staff of the company has been dedicated to more user-friendly and stable services. The online services function as contact points for customers and are critical for the success of Matsui Securities’ business. For the core of their critical online services, Matsui selected F5 Networks’ BIG-IP v9 Local Traffic Manager for load distribution and SSL processing.

Challenge

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

At Matsui, every order is basically received or placed online. Therefore, the network constitutes the basis of their business. On the significance of stable and reliable networks, Mr. Kunihiko Sato, General Manager of System Planning said, “Just as other companies try to foster excellent sales teams, a broker house of online transactions needs to foster excellent online services. It is no exaggeration to say that responsiveness and stability of

services are our life. We are dedicated to stable system operation throughout the company.”

As a key part of the network built to meet this purpose, Matsui Securities selected the BIG-IP Series from F5 Networks.

Matsui Securities, Co. Ltd. first bought F5’s BIG-IP Series products in 2002. Matsui selected the BIG-IP Series not only because several other firms in the financial industry had already installed them, but also because BIG-IP products had a good reputation in the industry.

In 2005, an upgrade was talked about. The number of online transactions had increased from some 20,000 in 2002 to 150,000 - 200,000 in 2005. In addition, traffic continued to increase, and the previous system was approaching the limit of its capacity. There was also a possibility that the number of transactions could increase rapidly when new information was released by Matsui. New requirements included a processing speed exceeding 1Gbps, a product that fully responded to traffic at peak times, and system stability. Matsui chose the BIG-IP Series v9 from F5 to meet these and other demands.



Solution

Dual redundancy to address the needs of high availability and the scalability to support an ever-growing site.

The BIG-IP v9 Series installed in Matsui Securities, Co. Ltd. is composed of two BIG-IP 6400 Local Traffic Managers and four BIG-IP 1500 Local Traffic Managers. The BIG-IP 6400 products are configured for load distribution in an active-standby configuration, and the BIG-IP 1500 systems are used as SSL accelerators.

Mr. Sato said, "Of course, we considered hardware-only systems for SSL processing, but the speed of SSL processing on the BIG-IP Series is faster than that of ordinary dedicated machines. In addition, F5 Networks [products] have proven reliability."

As Mr. Sato stated that SSL processing of the BIG-IP 1500 v9 Series is performed at very high speed, up to 2,000 TPS (Transactions Per Second). Eleven formerly-used SSL accelerators were replaced with four BIG-IP 1500 Series systems. In addition, one BIG-IP 6400 Series system enables SSL processing of up to 15,000 TPS.

BIG-IP easily scales to rapid increases in the number of users, or as traffic changes at peak times.

Satisfied with BIG-IP stability and high speed; expectation for future development.

The new BIG-IP v9 products at Matsui have been going strong since April, 2006. Matsui finds that space for hardware performance in the new system has drastically increased. In addition, increasing the number of connections under the new system doesn't lead to high CPU load, resulting in increased stability.

"Thanks to the kindness of our partners [like F5], we are happy to get high evaluation [marks] on service reliability," concluded Mr. Sato. "We'll continue to improve services so as not to betray customers' confidence we already have attained through our previous efforts."

F5 Networks, Inc.
Corporate Headquarters
 401 Elliott Avenue West
 Seattle, WA 98119
 (206) 272-5555 Voice
 (888) 88BIGIP Toll-Free
 (206) 272-5556 Fax
www.f5.com
info@f5.com

F5 Networks
Asia-Pacific
 +65-6533-6103 Voice
 +65-6533-6103 Fax
info.asia@f5.com

F5 Networks, Ltd
Europe/Middle-East/Africa
 +44 (0)1932 582 000 Voice
 +44 (0)1932 582 001 Fax
emeainfo@f5.com

F5 Networks
Japan K.K.
 +81-3-5114-3200 Voice
 +81-3-5114-3201 Fax
info@f5networks.co.jp