F5 Networks and Microsoft

PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW

Key benefits

- Decrease costs of deploying and managing applications
- Improve business continuity
- Optimize user experience

Unlock the Power of Virtualization with F5 and Microsoft Solutions

Giving users seamless access to applications despite spikes in demand is critical to business success. But to work productively, and to maximize the use of all available hardware capacity and share it across applications, virtualized environments need more than just the basic infrastructure of Microsoft's Windows Server 2008 R2 for effective server consolidation.

> "[F5 and Microsoft] joint customers will benefit from F5's new management capabilities that allow them to better understand and meet the needs of end users that rely on specific applications."
>
> Dai Vu, Director, Virtualization Solutions Marketing, Microsoft

With F5 and Microsoft's tightly coupled integration efforts, unleashing your applications' full capacity has never been more powerful or accessible. The joint virtualization solution works to provide a comprehensive and dynamic infrastructure so you get the agility to adapt to varying business demands.

The result: you experience lower costs and improved performance, all without losing the manageability and familiarity of your current IT environment.

Decrease the Costs of Deploying and Managing Applications

All the benefits of Application Delivery Controllers (ADC) apply whether deployed physically or virtually. By offloading CPU-intensive operations like SSL encryption from virtual machines, F5 solutions help you free up server resources to achieve maximum utilization and consolidation.

Improve Business Continuity

The health of your virtualized environment is ensured through button click or IT policy implementation, enabling IT to efficiently utilize the best resources at any given time. With ADC network intelligence and management actions that correspond to virtual machine responses, IT administrators can make better decisions on actions for their applications.

Virtualization Features

· Seamless integration of F5 PRO-enabled Management Pack with Microsoft System Center Virtual Machine Manager 2008 R2

· Automatic configuration for virtualized environment and ADCs

· Load balancing for high availability and application performance

· Online migration of virtual machines

· Network spikes are turned into monitoring events displayed within the virtual machine monitor console

· Maintain optimization benefits while enjoying virtualization's reduced costs

Optimize User Experience

F5 solutions load balance traffic among multiple virtual machines, whether they're on the same or different physical servers, so users get the best possible performance regardless of the application, location, or context. Bottlenecks are eliminated before they happen, and business workflow is improved—all without user awareness of the back-end process. CPU-intensive operations are offloaded to F5 devices, allowing even more application functionality. As a result, more users are supported with no extra cost for new hardware or application response improvement.

Learn more

For more information about F5 and Microsoft virtualization solutions, use the search function on F5.com to find these resources.

Article

Microsoft Virtualization Meets F5

Video demo

F5 and Microsoft Virtualization Technology

Product overview

F5 PRO-enabled Management Pack for Microsoft System Center

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