High Availability for Windows NT/2000

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Defining Availability

Fault Tolerance

- Level deeper than HA
- Proprietary / Complex



- Utilize redundant system memory cache
- 0 downtime = VERY costly
- **High Availability**
 - Take advantage of software and hardware
 - Open Systems
 - 99.999% uptime at reasonable costs

How we lose information



Source: Ontrack Data International, Inc. April 1999

Costs of Information Loss

Lost Revenue Associated With Application Outages		
<u>Application</u>	<u>Cost Per Min</u>	
Call location	\$27,000	
Number portability	\$14,000	
Enterprise resource planning	\$13,000	
Supply chain mgmt	\$11,000	
Electronic commerce	\$10,000	
Internet banking	\$7,000	
Universal phone services	\$6,000	
Customer service center	\$3,700	
POS/EFT	\$3,500	
Messaging	\$1,000	

Cost of downtime is the easiest way to justify purchases

Target HA Customers:

- VEB / E-Commerce
- Firewall
- Financials Database
- Telco
- MFG

96.5% Uptime = 306.6 hours of downtime - Can your afford this?

* 96.5% uptime is average uptime w/o HA software.

IDC April '99

NT Downtime Report

Source and Methods Required to remedy NT Downtime			
Downtime Source	<u>Recovery Method</u>	<u>Average Outage Time</u>	
Scheduled maintenance	Restart	60-180 minutes (typically)	
Application failure	Reboot / Reload	15-60+ minutes	
Operator error	Reboot	15-60 minutes	
OS failure	Reload	30-90 minutes	
Blue Screen of Death	Restart / Reload	30-120 minutes	
Hardware failure	Diagnose / repair	1-3 hours	
Power / environmental	Third party repair	1-5 days	
Natural disaster	Relocate / Restart	1-3- days	

Pub. Windows NT MSCS - Richard Lee

Enterprise Storage Needs on Windows / NT

"Mission-Critical" on Windows / NT

Application	Deployed	Mission-Critical
Internet/Web	80%	47%
MS SQL Server	69%	55%
Exchange	59%	77%
Lotus Notes	43%	70%
V ERP	16%	72%

Comprehensive Availability



Sample Configuration

Storage Management

Comprehensive disk and array management

- Common management across OS/storage platforms
- Flexible online management
- Better data redundancy/protection
- Increased performance
- No (or minimal) downtime for planned maintenance/change
- Ensure optimal use of on-line storage resources
- Storage virtualization in a SAN environment



Host-based RAID

Software/ Host-based RAID



RAID 0 or Striping:

Stripes data across all drives. No Redundancy.

RAID 0 + 1 or Mirrored Stripes:

Stripes data across all drives. Mirror with another RAID 0 column. Redundancy with Full Performance.

HA through Storage Management

Minimize downtime for scheduled maintenance

- Grow volumes online
- Migrate data from one array to another
 - Upgrade arrays
 - Change array vendors
 - Growing storage outside 1 array
- Reconfigure storage while applications remain available
- Migrate data from one server to another
 - Upgrade server
 - Upgrade OS



HA through Storage Management

Protect against array failure

- Mirror between arrays
 - Controller failure
 - Power failure...

Mirror over fiber for campus-wide availability



Performance = Availability

No performance

- users complain that system is not available
- users go somewhere else (competition)
- some applications are sensitive to performance

Achieve high performance by:

- Striping across multiple disks and/or arrays to maximize I/O throughput
- Load balancing among multiple mirrors to accelerate read performance
- Load balancing across multiple paths between arrays to accelerate read and write performance
- Online relocation to eliminate performance bottlenecks
- Striping/Load balancing across arrays

Storage Performance Tuning

Online Performance Tuning

- Hot spot detection
 - Identify high I/O activity disk

Online subdisk move

 Relocate a high I/O activity subdisk region to another low I/O activity disk to smooth out the I/O bottleneck



Storage Management & Clustering

Easy failover of data

- Disks are logically grouped by their application
- This group of disks can be moved by a admin command or automatically by clustering software



File System & HA - Wish List

- Has scalable performance
- Allows management and reconfiguration of file system on-line
- Recovers quickly from system failure
- Provides file system data integrity
- Limits impact of partial system failure
- Can be backed up without interrupting user access



What Is Replication?



Clustering for NT

Choose the clustering solution which is:

- Easy to install, configure and manage
- Application level cascading failover
- Fast node to node communication & failover
- 3rd party support for your storage
- Agent support for your software or an easy way to create agents
- Scalable
- Integrates easily with your environment



High Availability Planning

- Down time objectives (7 x 24? or 5 x 9?)
- Application availability Exchange? Database?
- Data growth expectancies
- Mergers / Acquisitions
 Administration
- **User expectations**
 - Training & Support
 - Accessibility



An untested plan is not a plan!!!! Understand the evolution of your business

Thank you
