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E550si Network Product of the Year nomination

Network Computing Awards voting now open



The newest edition to the Equalizer load balancing family, the Coyote Point E550si, has been nominated for the “**Network Infrastructure Product of the Year**” award. The awards, hosted by Network Computing magazine, celebrate the great successes of 2007 - a title that the E550si is certainly worthy of.

Nominated by Network Computing readers, the candidates for the “Network Infrastructure of the Year” award will be selected by public vote. As of January 21st, voting has been opened to the public, and will be carried out online. The voting closes

Network Computing AWARDS 2008

on March 3rd, with the awards ceremony taking place in London on March 13th. At the 2007 awards, votes were received from over 4000 readers.

Make your vote count at:
www.networkcomputingawards.co.uk

Coyote Point Equalizer E550si quick facts

Released last year, the E550si layer 4-7 Equalizer is a cost effective approach to intelligent, application based load balancing.

E550si features:

- Up to 100,000 Layer 4 connections per second
- Up to 100,000 Layer 7 requests per second
- Boasts the highest gigabit port density of any load-balancing product
- Extensive real-time and historical reporting
- Hardware accelerated SSL and compression
- Enterprise-class SNMP management

ipcortex context



Rob Pickering
Director

Server acceleration has come a long way since I saw the first **Coyote Point** Load Balancer in 1999. Back then, **Coyote Point** were one of a couple of vendors defining this new marketplace with innovative products that allowed server administrators to improve service reliability and get the best value from their hardware investment. From day one they have been a leader in making server acceleration products cost-effective and simple to use, whilst providing class leading performance.

This focus has paid off and they have since gone on to ship over 6500 units worldwide. A decent proportion of those have come to our customers in the UK and Europe, **Coyote Point** being our longest standing vendor relationship. In that time new competitors have entered the market, quite often only to leave again after being swallowed up by larger networking vendors and losing focus.

What hasn't changed, though, is the pace of **Coyote Point's** market defining innovation. This is probably why some of our earliest customers are now on their third generation of hardware purchase after nearly a decade of scaling their businesses flawlessly on Equalizer products.

Continuing this innovation, exciting developments in the early part of this year include the arrival of the **Express** compression card which is now shipping, and the new 8.0 software which will be arriving shortly and delivers a step change in usability as well as a raft of new features.

You can get a flavour of all of these developments in this issue of essentials, and if that whets your appetite please do get in touch for a more detail and perhaps a product demo. Just drop an e-mail to **rob@ipcortex.co.uk**, or call me on my direct dial, **01908 276651**.

Delivering reliable voice and data...

Coyote Point revs V8 engine Equalizer software version 8.0 unveiled



Version 8.0 focuses on delivering an intuitive user experience

Coyote Point have unveiled the latest revision to their **Equalizer** platform - the milestone marker of Version 8.0.

"Equalizer has always offered a very strong feature set and high performance when compared to other vendors in the load balancing and traffic acceleration space, especially for the small to mid-size market segment," commented Bill Kish, Coyote Point CEO.

"Our challenge for Equalizer V8.0 was to refine and simplify the user experience and make advanced features, such as HTTP compression, function in an intuitive way."

V8 will boast a number of changes, which have largely been achieved through a redesign of the user interface. Coyote Point have redeveloped

the admin portal to deliver intuitive features with added functionality, aiming to further reduce the time spent configuring and maintaining the **Equalizer** range. Version 8.0 also brings compatibility for the Express compression card, and steps to increase availability and scalability.

ipcortex Systems and Support Manager Steve Davies said, "V8.0 represents a huge improvement in terms of usability and convenience, through innovative enhancements to the set up and management process".

When released, version 8.0 will be available to all compatible **Equalizer** units that are on a current support contract. For more information on **Coyote Point** upgrade and support services, please contact us.

High availability... illustrating the value of peace of mind

As organisations become ever more reliant on their networks, the true cost and risk associated with network failure increases. The expenses incurred as a result of unexpected outages are rising, in terms of lost business, damage done to brand identity and the costs of emergency technical assistance to restore lost services.

High availability has gone from being an esoteric and expensive concept applicable only to the very largest organisations to a "must have" for any serious business deployment no matter what size. This is of particular importance for Internet based services, where users expect access 24 hours a day. It is in this environment that the resilient, simple to configure redundancy features of the **Coyote Point Equalizer** range are most relevant.

The ability to deploy **Coyote Point** units in a redundant configuration is a standard feature on all **Equalizer** models. Units can be paired in an active/passive failover arrangement with a primary

unit handling traffic, carefully monitored by the back-up unit. Should the primary unit or any of its network connections fail, this second unit will then step in and resume operations. This model of deployment allows a fully redundant infrastructure, eliminating any one "single point of failure".

Of course, server clustering itself provides a high level of redundancy in that when any server within the cluster fails, the **Equalizer** will transparently direct traffic to other available servers. Advanced features such as Active Content Verification (ACV) allow the **Equalizer** to verify not just that each of the servers is responding, but that they are giving the correct response to test requests. This allows servers that are technically responding to requests, but have a subtle failure mode causing damaged or truncated responses to be eliminated from the pool of active servers - ensuring that the end user will only see applications that are 100% functional, with no disruption to service.

While the advantages of high availability during unexpected outages are clear, planned maintenance can also reap the benefits. Servers can be isolated from a cluster and withdrawn from service for planned maintenance whilst the live application continues to run on other cluster members. With **Equalizer** provided high availability, you can make network and application changes without suffering from service downtime. This means a less risky maintenance period and, importantly, no more midnight upgrades.

The network has become a critical part of business, facilitating internal and external communication, the sales process and more. **Coyote Point's Equalizer** has proven invaluable for our customers implementing resilient networks that can deliver services without disruption.

For more information on how easy it is to implement high availability using **Equalizers**, please contact us.

Delivering reliable voice and data...

Express yourself

The newly released Express card extends Equalizer network impact, web page performance and availability

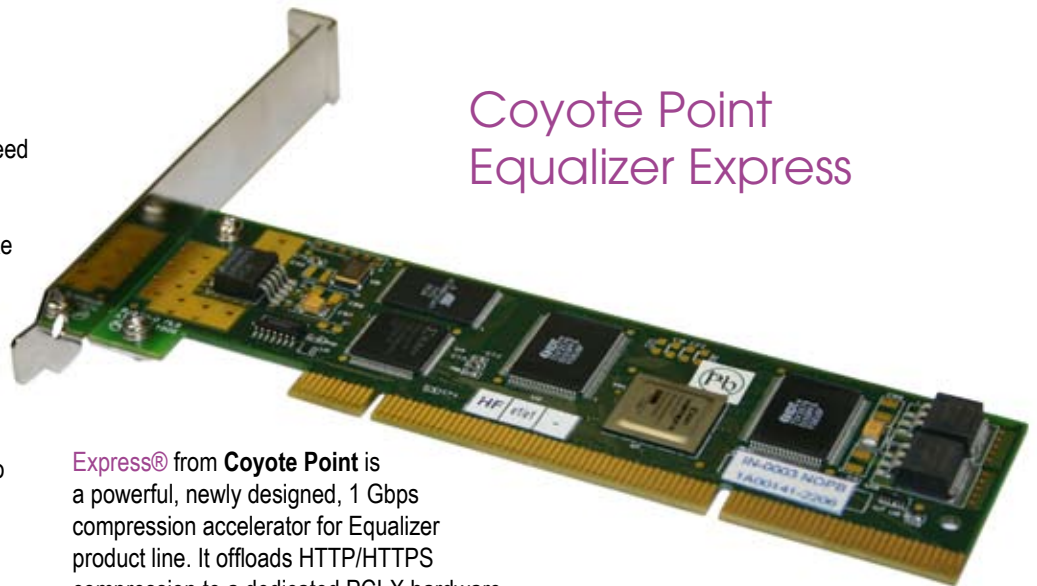
The Challenge

A key issue for website operators is the need to offer fast response time to site visitors. Over time, with more sophistication, web page size has increased. Web servers take longer to process requests, encryption (SSL) and TCP/IP processing times are higher, and more real-time bandwidth is needed to transmit the pages. All this is worsening download times for the site's users who typically abandon sites if pages take more than 8 seconds to download.

Coyote Point responds to the challenge Web sites are offering by adding web acceleration devices such as **Coyote Point** load balancers, SSL acceleration engines, TCP/IP off-load engines, and by making massive investments in Content Delivery Networks (CDNs). However, CDNs accelerate downloads of static-pages but do not provide a solution to dynamically generated content, which is the backbone of all web-based applications, services and personalized pages.

The Solution

Compression remains the only method to expedite the download of dynamically generated content. Simultaneously, it also increases the throughput of web acceleration devices such as SSL accelerators and speeds up TCP/IP processing. As compressed data travels over the Internet and reaches the requesting client, the browser automatically decompresses the data and displays it.



Coyote Point Equalizer Express

Express® from **Coyote Point** is a powerful, newly designed, 1 Gbps compression accelerator for Equalizer product line. It offloads HTTP/HTTPS compression to a dedicated PCI-X hardware card, freeing **Equalizer's** CPU to perform its primary tasks.

Flexible and Consistent

Express contains two compression engines in a single card. A built-in load distributor ensures even usage of the two engines. Installed in an **Equalizer**, Express compresses web pages that use HTML, JavaScript, Cascaded Style Sheets and other text-based languages by a factor of 2x-6x.

Benefits

Real-time compression offers several major advantages.

Faster Page Downloads

Compressing static and dynamic HTML pages enables faster page downloads by an overall factor of 2x-6x, depending on the data compression ratio achieved and the page composition.

Reduced Bandwidth Costs

The total data volume transmitted is reduced. Compressing 1Gbps of traffic down to approx. 250 Mbps of traffic lowers both the peak and the average bandwidth requirement by a factor of four. This reduces bandwidth costs proportionately and the investment pays for itself in a matter of weeks.

Low CPU Utilization

Express performs the compression entirely in hardware. With less data to transmit, the TCP/IP processing burden on the **Equalizer** is also reduced. This saves expensive CPU cycles, which can be a significant issue in high traffic situations.

Compatibility

The Equalizer Express card can be plugged into the Coyote Point E350si, E450si, and E550si.

Delivering reliable voice and data...

Express occupies one PCI slot and requires Equalizer software 7.2.4 or higher.

Express summary Benefits

- Compresses Web traffic without changing clients or servers
- Uses hardware-based acceleration
- Improves download speeds up to 5x
- Predictable, reliable and consistent
- Improves end user experience significantly
- Reduces bandwidth costs
- Accelerates existing applications without any changes

Data Compressed

- HTML
- JavaScript
- Office Document
- Executables (.Exe)
- XML
- CSS
- PDF

Performance

Compression throughput: 1 Gb/s

Express is now available to users in the UK. If you have an Xcel SSL card in use then please contact **ipcortex** for more information on compatibility. For more information on Express, please contact us or visit the website - www.ipcortex.co.uk



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About ipcortex

ipcortex is a specialist provider of converged network products and expertise. Based at historic Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes, we have decades of collected experience in converged networking and VoIP systems, priding ourselves on our ability to provide the most appropriate configurations for every organisation.

For most organisations the internal network is now the critical conduit for all their important transactions. Everything from ensuring that information can be quickly accessed on its external website, to reliably and flexibly routing network requests to the most appropriate servers are now the difference between business success or failure.

ipcortex helps its customers to take full advantage of and protect the investment they regularly make to their information and communication infrastructure. Focussing on simplicity and reliability, the ipcortex range of products and services are all designed to improve day to day communications

operations requirements with a no fuss, cost-effective outlook.

Our active direct customers range from major UK e-tailers, government, NHS bodies and EU organisations each with hundreds or thousands of employees through to much smaller organisations. With experience in providing products and services to such a wide variety of businesses, **ipcortex** can provide you with a solution that is both appropriate and cost effective.

Our advanced support structure ensures that as a reseller you can guarantee that when you call us you will have immediate access to our expert team who are able to offer in-depth technical advice and guidance.

Knowing that our team is built on experience, knowledge and a passion for the industry, you can rely on an **ipcortex** solution to fulfil your clients' business networking and communications needs.

