

Equalizer functionality spotlight on... high availability



non-stop availability for all

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.

high availability as a tool

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 Servers can be isolated from a cluster and withdrawn from service for planned maintenance whilst the live application continues to run on other cluster members.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 by calling 01908 276650, or email info@ipcortex.co.uk.



Every model in the Equalizer range facilitates High Availability