

Re: Zoning in ESS(2105-800) world

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/AIX-L/2006-11/msg00019.html>

- *From:* "Barnhart, Troy" <TBarnhart@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 3 Nov 2006 11:26:00 -0700
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Although we have several DS4000's & McData Switches/Directors, I'd assume the concepts are the same...

So, I guess it would depend on which catastrophe you were planning.

- Bad Switch Port - Host
- Bad Switch Port - Interconnect (ISL)
- Bad Switch
- Bad HBA
- Bad Controller

But, I assume the Best-Practice would be based on the following items.

- Shortest hops per zone. (K-I-S-S principle)
- most likely failure: probably the GBIC's in the switch.

(I'm assuming you're running AIX?)

So, I'd say with AIX-RDAC-Failover and then only 2 zones for server-to-disk, I'd go with zoning by following your wiring:

Zone 1: Host HBA 1 -> Switch 1 -> ESS-HA 1
Zone 2: Host HBA 2 -> Switch 2 -> ESS-HA 2

NOT...

Zone 1: Host HBA 1 -> Switch 1 -> Switch 2 -> ESS-HA 2
Zone 2: Host HBA 2 -> Switch 2 -> Switch 1 -> ESS-HA 1

Does that make sense what I'm trying to describe without a Visio?

Now, with "true" RDAC you can create several zones beyond the basic two...

Zone 1: Host HBA 1 -> Switch 1 -> ESS-HA 1
Zone 2: Host HBA 2 -> Switch 2 -> ESS-HA 2
Zone 3: Host HBA 1 -> Switch 2 -> ESS-HA 2
Zone 4: Host HBA 2 -> Switch 1 -> ESS-HA 1

That may be overkill, but we've had an instance or two where it has saved on a couple of windows servers...

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Regards,
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Sent: Friday, November 03, 2006 10:41 AM
To: aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: Zoning in ESS(2105-800) world

I know this is somewhat off topic, if there is a better place to ask the question please advise.

For those of you with pSeries boxes and an ESS attached to a SAN switch can you tell me how you zone between the pSeries HBA and the ESS?

I have one Host Adapter in each bay of the ESS. HAs in bays 1 and 3 are attached to Switch 1, and HAs in bays 2 and 4 are attached to Switch 2.

Switch 1 and 2 each have a connection from an HBA in the Server...

So does it matter which ESS-HA is in the zone with the Server HBA?
i.e. does it need to zones, one for Each HA, or ???
what is the decision process?

Thanks.

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