

RE: Clustering: switches reliability/redundancy

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.vms/2005-12/msg00708.html>

- *From:* "Main, Kerry" <Kerry.Main@xxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 14 Dec 2005 17:35:34 -0500
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> -----Original Message-----

> From: JF Mezei [<mailto:jfmezei.spamnot@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>]

> Sent: December 14, 2005 3:44 PM

> To: Info-VAX@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> Subject: Clustering: switches reliability/redundancy

>

> In the very old days, one depended on the AUI to Thickwire device for
> each node. Failure would break the connection of one node and possibly
> jeopardize quorum.

>

> Then came thinwire which was totally inert and as long as
> nobody touched
> the wire, it was not a point of failure.

>

> (although many would argue otherwise in practice, but in theory there
> was nothing to fail).

>

> Then comes along twister pair with the hub and later
> switches. Hubs and
> switches are powered.

>

>

> Are there considerations if a cluster nodes are all connected via the
> same switch/hub ? If the later fails, the whole cluster hangs and
> becomes inaccessible.

>

> Are hubs/switches considered "fault tolerant" ? If not, what possible
> steps would a good site planner take to ensure a cluster isn't
> jeopardized by some \$50 switch/hub ?

>

> Are hubs considered more "fault tolerant" than switches ?

>

> Is it just a simple case of reserving spare ports on a backup
> switch so

> that cluster ethernet connections can be moved one by one before the
> main switch/hub is powered off for maintenance etc ?

>

RE: Clustering: switches reliability/redundancy

JF,

Simple solution is to establish VLAN between 2 trunked switch/routers and use separate NIC connections to each from each server. This causes the switch to appear as a logical unit or virtual cluster interconnect box. Entire switch/rtr fails and OpenVMS cluster keeps running i.e. not even any application failover issues.

With the right IP failover config's in place, you would not even lose a telnet connection.

OpenVMS will load balance SCS across all configured and available connections. By configured I mean not disabled with the SCACP utility.

Regards

Kerry Main
Senior Consultant
HP Services Canada
Voice: 613-592-4660
Fax: 613-591-4477
kerryDOTmainAThpDOTcom
(remove the DOT's and AT)

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