

Re: Clustering – how can I.....

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- *From:* johnwallace4@xxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* Sat, 17 May 2008 08:55:26 -0700 (PDT)
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On May 17, 3:29 pm, FrankS <sapie...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On May 17, 8:58 am, Bob Gezelter <gezel...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

To achieve load balancing on www servers, you would need to use:

- a router that supported multiple external addresses each mapping to a different internal IP address
- DNS entries that distribute the translation results over the different external addresses.

That's not really load balancing.

Round-robin DNS just gives out a different address for each translation request. It doesn't take into account the actual load on the system(s), nor does it account for DNS caching on the client. Caching would prevent repetitive requests for the same translation, thereby putting an unbalanced load on the target hosts because the same IP address would be used until the TTL expired.

DNS load balancing is about as simple as you can get, but is often too simple to be much use, as you point out.

I can't comment on this subject from recent personal experience, but The Fine Manual referred to earlier in the thread talks about a "load broker", which if it works as usually intended, would seem to be at least as adequate as LAT-style load balancing ever was. Active load balancing at connect time rather than on a per-request basis can have a few snags, which can make it not worth the effort, but...

Anybody out there got real-life experience of the load broker and care to share it?

regards
John

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