

## Re: remote access KVM switch

**Source:** <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.sys.sun.admin/2003-08/0586.html>

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**From:** Douglas O'Neal (*doneal24\_at\_comcast.net*)

**Date:** 08/22/03

Date: Fri, 22 Aug 2003 11:41:16 -0400

Rich Teer wrote:

-> On Tue, 19 Aug 2003, jd wrote:

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-> Please don't top post.

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->>Yes, you're correct. Apparently I'm just thinking in KVM mode because I have

->>seen so many Lightwave KVM switches around in server rooms. The serial

->>console server is essentially a terminal server in reverse, yes? I

assume it

->>would have connections to the tty port on the Sun machines and I would

->>telnet to the serial console server from wherever I might be and somehow

->>pick the port going to the Sun machine I want to access.

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-> Yes, that's correct. Some console servers even allow ssh access.

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-> Here, I use an el-cheapo Livingston Portmaster 2E. Not

-> very sophisticated, but it has 30 serial ports, telnet

-> access, and does the job.

I've had good experiences with a Rocketport multiport serial card installed in a Linux system. Up to 32 RJ45 or DB25 serial ports on a card and few problems connecting to Sun, SGI, or third party RAID console ports. I had a couple of ports set up to perl scripts that monitored serial port outputs (on the raid boxes). I could sit at the linux console and work or SSH in to the linux server securely and then connect to the console. The only problem I had was one sun system was a Sun Enterprise 1 and if the linux system crashed then the console sent a break to the SE1 and the system halted. This can be worked around but I never got the time to do it properly.

Doug