

Re: SOHO SUN Server – I'm giving up

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.sys.sun.hardware/2006-03/msg00220.html>

- *From:* "Dave (from the UK)" <see-my-signature@xx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 29 Mar 2006 12:50:28 +0100
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Ilothar wrote:

I tried to setup a small office server that controls an automated software build system (compilation on 5 different computers and 18 OS combinations), maintains business datas in a postgresql database, works as subversion server and as the staging server for the main website.

Everything is so complicated on SUN hardware. I purchased a Ultra 10 put it 10 GB but was not able to add a hardware IDE RAID or control the power supply (programmed switch on/off).

Switch-off is easy

```
# init 5
```

You could do that via cron or at.

You are using quite old hardware – the Ultra 5 *never* was designed as a server. There are more modern machines with lights out management (LOM) that would be more suitable. I have a Netra T1 here that might be more suitable, although I have hardly switched it on (I got it for £0.00).

I'm not sure what options exist for hardware raid, but I done think you have not picked an ideal machine. (In fact I know you have not).

Whilst not a fully automated system, I created a few shell scripts that allowed me to build atlc

<http://atlc.sourceforge.net/>

in at least a semi-automated way. The .tar.gz file was copied via scp to remote machines, ssh used to compile it on those remote machine, 'make test' (make check?) run, and scp used to copy the results from 'make test' back to the original "server". (I actually used a Sun Ultra 80 workstation, but that is a lot more capable than the Ultra 5).

However, the number of operating systems (about 6~10) did not exceed the number of computers, which is what you are doing (18 OS on 5 computers). So I did not need to dual boot any of them.

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I'm now moving to a 733 Mhz PIII with 512 MB running Linux and Hardware RAID 1 for the main 80 GB and 2 external Firewire Backup Disk.

You have gone up somewhat in hardware.

I spend
to much time trying to setup the Sparc System, and it seems to have no
value for such a small low traffic system.

So it seems pretty clear to me why SUN is lossing ground in the
sma