

Re: [SLE] connection redundancy

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/SuSE/2005-04/2672.html>

From: James Wright (jwright_at_blackriverproduce.com)

Date: 04/26/05

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To: suse-linux-e@suse.com

>>Problem is, when the 64k line goes down, the mail server still tries to
>>reply via the usual gateway, which is the router just this side of the
>>line. In other words it doesn't know that the line has gone down,
>>because it's own gateway is still up.
>>
>>Is it possible to set a timeout to all traffic to the default gateway,
>>and have it try a backup gateway?

This may help you. It is a simple setup, that I copied from a web article at <http://enterprise.linux.com/article.pl?sid=05/04/10/2132252>

It is a basic setup that may need some tweaking. Good luck!

– James W.

By: Rohit Girhotra

Today, it's hard to imagine an organization operating without taking advantage of the vast resources and opportunities that the Internet provides. The Internet's role has become so significant that no organization can afford to have its Net connection going down for too long. Consequently, most organizations have some form of a secondary or backup connection ready (such as a leased line) in case their primary Net connection fails. However, the process of switching over from the primary to the backup connection, if done manually by the system administrator, can take some time, depending upon how ready the backup setup is and on the availability of the administrator at the right moment. The process can even become a costly affair if the organization must buy dedicated routers for the purpose of automatic switchover. But there is an easy and cost-effective alternative — setting up a Linux failover router.

In this article we will look at setting up an existing Linux machine as a failover router to provide quick and automatic switchover from a dead Internet connection (the primary connection) to one that is operational (the secondary connection).

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To begin, you'll need a PC with any recent GNU/Linux distro installed. You'll also need three network cards to put into this Linux box. Two of the three network cards, say eth0 and eth1, will connect to the Internet routers/gateways of your primary ISP (say ISP1) and secondary ISP (say ISP2). The third network card, say eth2, will connect to your internal LAN.

Setting up the network

Begin by setting up your network based on the configuration information available to you.