ppi Service Solutions

ServerSwitch

Backup Solution for Server Failure

However good your hardware seems to be, the risk of server failure can never be completely ruled out. So it is reassuring to know that software is available for activating a backup server as soon as the primary computer breaks down. The solution is called ServerSwitch: it can be used to bypass technical faults even in a heterogeneous computer environment, in which only the platforms have to be identical, without any appreciable loss of data or time.

Operating principle

To achieve maximum fault tolerance, your production environment is clustered to ensure high availability (HA). ServerSwitch is not started automatically; your administrator triggers it. It has been intentionally designed to allow manual and not automatic intervention, because in an emergency your administrator will know best how to assess the extent of damage before taking the appropriate measures. After all, it's important whether just one of the hard disks or the entire server has failed. In either case, easy configuration and handling of the ServerSwitch programs enable any administrator to respond appropriately to emergencies after only a very short training period.

Two HA solutions

ServerSwitch supports both symmetrical and asymmetrical HA solutions, although the hardware profile and capacity of the servers do not have to be identical.
In a symmetrical solution, the services are distributed to both servers, i.e. two services (generally file system and database services) are created that run on the same node. If one server fails, the other takes over all of its functions.
The asymmetrical solution is based on master/slave architecture in which only one of the servers is active and the standby device is kept in reserve for emergencies.
Both configurations ensure that after a failover they can switch over smoothly to normal operation again.

System requirements

- **Hardware**

Different suppliers, but the platforms must be identical.

- **Platforms**

* Solaris 10
* Linux SLES 10 and 11

- **Cluster**

* Two-node cluster

- **Network**

* Any number of network cards per server (floating IPs)
* IPMP support
* Interface priority
* Different hardware for each server (e.g. hme0/ge0)

- **Volume managers (e.g.)**

* Solstice Disk Suite
* Veritas Volume Manager

Basically, disk management can also be carried out without a volume manager.

ServerSwitch_en_2012

ppi Media GmbH
Hindenburgstraße 49
22297 Hamburg
Deutschland

Tel: +49 40 22 74 33-60
Fax: +49 40 22 74 33-666
info@ppimedia.de
www.ppimedia.de

ppi Media US, Inc.
Chicago, IL

USA

Phone: +1 855 828 0008

ussales@ppimedia.com
www.ppimedia.com