BIG-IP Global Traffic Manager

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

"BIG-IP GTM has had an immediate and profound effect on our reliability. If a server ever goes down, it reduces our downtime from 8-10 minutes to a couple of milliseconds."

Don Wood, Director of Technology, DNSstuff.com

Optimize Application Delivery Across Your Globally Distributed Data Centers

Key benefits

- Ensure application availability across multiple data centers
- Secure your DNS infrastructure
- Improve application performance by directing users based on site and network metrics
- Route traffic based on business needs
- Manage your complex distributed network simply and efficiently

Deploying multiple data centers is a big step toward protecting your business from site outages and improving application performance. But to fully achieve these goals, your organization needs an efficient way to monitor infrastructure and application health, and to control this distributed infrastructure according to your business needs.

BIG-IP® Global Traffic Manager™ (GTM) provides a more intelligent way to respond to DNS queries than simple load balancing among multiple data centers. BIG-IP GTM distributes end-user application requests based on business policies, data center conditions, network conditions, user location, and application performance. This gives you holistic control of your global traffic to ensure high availability and maximum performance for applications running across multiple dispersed data centers. The result is better application performance, less downtime, and simplified management.

Ensure application availability

BIG-IP GTM helps you create a strong disaster recovery and business continuity plan by ensuring that users are always connected to a site where the application is available. In addition to performing comprehensive health checking of the entire infrastructure, BIG-IP GTM minimizes downtime and improves the user experience by determining health at the application layer for every user. Automatic failover as well as one-click manual failover give you the tools to seamlessly redirect users if issues occur or during planned maintenance.

Gain control of global application delivery

Every application and business is different. Using F5's iRules™ scripting language, you can customize the dynamic distribution of global traffic to route users based on business requirements as well as performance and availability of the application. BIG-IP GTM integrates with SNMP agents and third-party devices using the F5 iControl® API so you can manage the system easily as part of your entire infrastructure. And by providing protection against DNS-based attacks, BIG-IP GTM can add an extra layer of security for your applications.

Improve application performance

Rather than simply sending a user to an available site, BIG-IP GTM enables you to send users to the site that will give them the best application experience. It uses a range of different load balancing methods and intelligent monitoring for each specific application and each user. Traffic is routed according to your organization's business policies and current network and user conditions. BIG-IP GTM includes an accurate, granular geolocation database, giving you control of traffic distribution based on the user's location. By providing persistence for stateful applications, BIG-IP GTM helps you eliminate broken sessions and corrupted data.

Simplify management

The BIG-IP GTM web-based user interface gives you complete visibility and a single point of control for all of your resources across multiple, globally distributed sites. A powerful, tree-based command line interface includes integrated search and context-sensitive help. BIG-IP GTM also helps you reduce DNS risks and administrative overhead with ZoneRunner,™ an integrated zone file management tool that streamlines DNS zone file management.

BIG-IP GTM features

- Global traffic distribution
  - Automatic site-to-site failover
  - One-click manual failover
  - Dynamic data center load balancing
  - Geographic distribution
  - Global persistence
  - IPv6 support
- Comprehensive monitors
  - Internet performance
  - Device performance
  - Application-specific
  - Composite QoS
- Simplified management
  - Distributed application management
  - Configuration synchronization
  - DNS zone file management
  - iRules scripting language
  - iControl API

Optional feature

- DNSSEC

Learn more about BIG-IP GTM

For more information about BIG-IP GTM, use the search function on F5.com to find these resources.

Datasheet

BIG-IP Global Traffic Manager

White papers

Disaster Recovery: Not Just Planning for the Worst

Keeping Up with Multi-Service Applications

Case study

DNSstuff.com Drops Downtime from Minutes to Milliseconds

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