DRBD® Enables Redundant VoIP PBX Services

BACKGROUND Clear Voice Telecom provides businesses of all sizes with high quality hosted IP PBX solutions that dramatically reduce startup costs, upgrade costs, and total cost of ownership.

Its slogan: "Eliminate the need for on-site hardware and take the burden off your IT staff. Let the experts at Clear Voice Telecom handle your telecommunication needs."

BUSINESS CHALLENGE In 2007, Clear Voice Telecom began investigating High Availability clustering to ensure minimum downtime and high performance of their hosted PBX solutions.

Sun Cluster turned out to be more complex than expected; combined with its high entry barrier and cost for maintenance, Clear Voice started looking elsewhere.

SOLUTION When Peter Petroff, Sr. Network Engineer at Clear Voice, tried out DRBD® for the first time he was hooked and knew it was the right solution, "Plain and simple. It was my first try, it worked, I went with it." Clear Voice chose the DRBD® solution to provide High Availability for Asterisk PBX, MySQL, and LAMP-based Web services. With two commodity 1U servers containing 12 GB of RAM, four 250 GB SATA disks in RAID5, and CentOS Linux, DRBD® provided reliable and consistent data replication for these critical applications.

Combined with Linux-HA services such as Heartbeat and Pacemaker, the Open Source solution enabled Clear Voice to configure their cluster quickly and painlessly with well documented reference configurations and examples.

"Not knowing how to do any of it, and finding all the right parts, was the biggest challenge we faced. When I started my research, I could not believe how many people did not get what I was saying. I do believe that the whole depends on DRBD® and everyone must recognize its place in the core of services to be deployed."

PETER PETROFF

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