Zetafax Failover

A Zetafax failover server provides an additional level of server reliability, and minimizes the impact of system or fax device failure.

If you need to maintain a 'high dependency' policy for your fax server, Zetafax failover ensures system continuity for your organization's faxing environment. Typically, your administrator configures two Zetafax servers, one primary and one back-up. If one server fails, the back-up server takes over the processing of fax messages with no loss of data and no requirement for human intervention. This helps ensure that your employees do not miss or fail to send important correspondence.

The back-up Zetafax server will detect issues with your primary server, and activate itself on failure. This enables your administrator to deal with problems such as system crashes and hardware failures, and to carry out system upgrades without interrupting the use of Zetafax.

Routine system maintenance

Using Zetafax failover enables your administrator to maintain a very high percentage of up-time of the Zetafax server while performing essential routine maintenance tasks. Should there be a requirement to upgrade your primary fax server, add fax hardware or if there is the need to perform maintenance on the host machine, a failover server enables manual switching across to the back-up server. Switching back to the original configuration is then simply a case of restarting both the primary server and the back-up.

Enable automatic switchover

With your fax servers configured in a failover scenario, if the main server fails for any unknown reason, the back-up server will automatically take over the process of sending and receiving messages. Failover can be set to monitor activity on the main server and will switch over when there is no activity, and faxes that are already in transmission will not be lost.

Line configurations and devices

If you are using an analogue line, failover can be set up using either a 'Y' configuration line splitter or separate phone lines. When using separate phone lines you can simply switch the phone line over to the back-up server machine.

If you are using a digital line, either basic rate interface (BRI) or primary rate interface (PRI), each server is set up using a separate phone line. The back-up line can then become active automatically when the back-up server becomes active. However, this does require you to set up a process with your telecoms provider to enable automatic switchover via your PBX.

Zetafax failover at a glance

• Ensures the sending and receiving of messages should a Zetafax server computer fail

• Automatically switches primary server to back-up if the primary computer fails

• Option for manual switchover between computers for planned maintenance

• Supports different fax devices on each of the two servers

• Supports independent phone lines to each computer

Zetafax failover server operates as a completely independent server, and will therefore support different fax hardware set up on each of the servers. You may for example use an older, lower specification fax board on your back up server.

Next steps

For further information contact Equisys or speak to your reseller. Alternatively visit www.equisys.com to find out more.
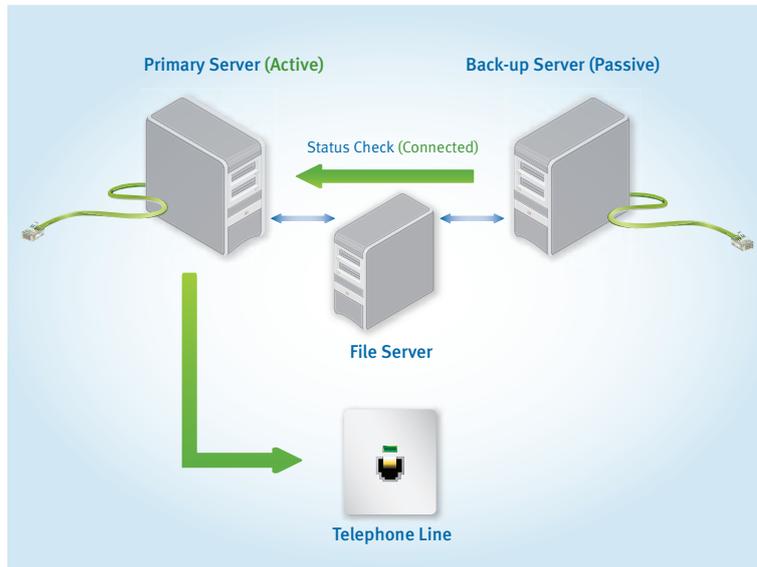
How Zetafax failover works

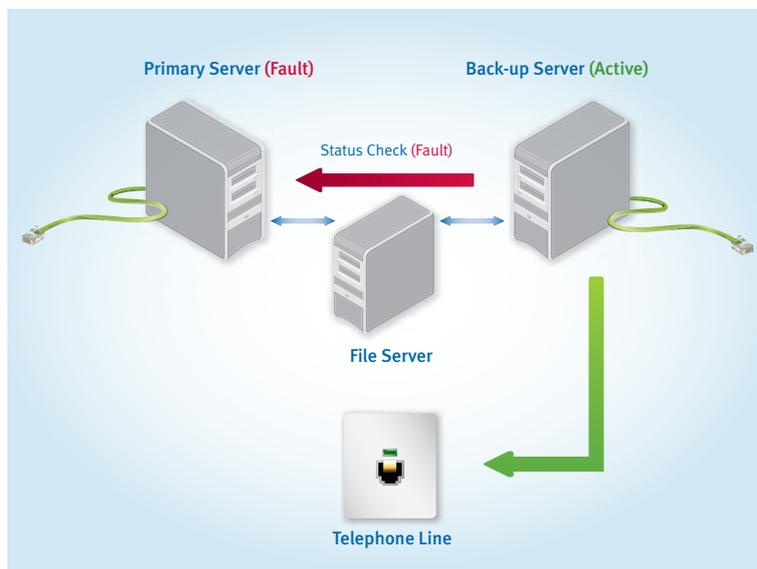### 1. Primary server in operation

The passive server monitors the status of the active server by monitoring the file which records the date and time.

2. Secondary server in operation

When this file is not updated for a fixed time period, the secondary server will terminate the primary server processes and then initialise, bring fax devices on line and begin processing faxes.

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