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– REDiSAFE™ NEWSLETTER –

MAXIMUM OVERDRIVE

Getting Faster Speed

REDiSAFE is equipped for data backup and recovery.

The REDiSAFE server comes with one of the fastest Intel processors available in the market, optimal amount of RAM, high speed SATA hard disks in a hardware RAID 5 configuration and a Gigabit network port. It's application is written in a way to accept multiple users login concurrently. So, what then, are the factors that could prevent your users from getting faster transfer speeds?

There are many factors affecting transfer speed. The first factor most users think of is the server. The server is only 1 factor amongst many. The factors can be categorized into 3 major areas: namely the server, the network and the client machine.

The Server

As mentioned above, the server is already a high end machine that enables high speed transfer.

The Network

The network consists of numerous elements like the backbone infrastructure, the switches, routers, hubs, the network ports, the number of users on the network and the network bandwidth utilization.

Most networks these days should run in at least 100 megabits per second range. If they don't, you will then experience a bottleneck straight away. What does running in 100 megabits mean? The backbone, the switches, routers, hubs, network ports should all be qualified for 100 mb/s transfer.

As network bandwidth is shared between all users, huge numbers of users using the network concurrently would thus reduce the likeliness to achieve high transfer speed. Please note that concurrent usage includes checking of email, surfing the internet, downloading files from external websites or internal file servers.

Even if there are only a few users, there could be a particular server on the network that is utilizing a huge amount of bandwidth. Typical examples are mail servers and web servers. All these factors should be considered when judging transfer speed.

The Client Machine

This is the least thought of factor , yet this is where the bottleneck lies most often. The client machines are often not of the high end breed. More often than not, they are the products of the previous technological generation. Another factor would be the hard disk. What user does not realize is that to backup data to server, their client machine must first read the data off their own hard disk. This brings the speed of their hard disk into play. Modern hard disk spins at a few different speeds. Normal hard disk spins at 5400 rpm (round per minutes) or 7200 rpm, obviously, hard disks that spin at 5400 rpm will be slower. Notebook hard disk usually spins at 4200 rpm and 5400 rpm. High end server hard disk can spin at up to 10k rpm and 15k rpm. This effectively limits the data a client machine can send out and is usually where the bottleneck is.

Text by Wen Zhuan

Thought of the week

As the usage of computers increases, so does the importance of making regular backups of your key data. How effective would you be if your email, word processing documents and contact databases were wiped out? How many painful hours would it take to rebuild that information from scratch?

Backing up your data regularly is vital insurance against a "data catastrophe." Unfortunately, this is a lesson that most people learn only from bitter experience. Developing a solid backup plan requires some investment of time and money, but the cost is far less than the often-impossible task of recreating data for which no backup exists!

Time being the crucial factor for all businesses is what REDiSAFE values. REDiSAFE is capable of transferring 2GB of data in merely 4mins. We believe that a faster and more effective solution will allow our customers to perform their duties more efficiently. Thus the speed of data transfer is of a great importance.

Text by Justin Foo