PeerLink

powered by DFSR+

Enterprise Class File Collaboration for Distributed Teams

MAIN FEATURES

- Real-time file synchronization and file locking between Windows and NetApp systems.

- Choose which folders you want to share and with whom on a folder by folder basis. Shared folders will automatically replicate to only those file servers you designate.

- Shared folders will have real-time replication, so changes made anywhere will propagate to all other locations.

- Files being edited at any location will propagate a file lock (to prevent version conflicts) at all other locations.

- All file transfers are secure and encrypted via SSL.

- Only changed portions of a file are replicated.

- Sync Office files to the target systems while the source file is still open.

- Supported Platforms: Microsoft Windows Server 2000, 2003, 2003 R2, 2008, 2008 R2, NetApp Data ONTAP v7.3.5 and higher, 8.x (7-Mode)

NetApp®

Advantage Alliance Partner

The Challenge

Studies find that two out of every three projects completely fail, are late, over budget or missing critical features. One factor that contributes to these failures is the distance among project team members. Today, project teams rarely have the luxury of working together in a single location and often lack even the assurance of having a stable team for the life of the project. As organizations expand and open remote office locations or work with partner firms and outsourced subcontractors, teams must find ways to work together across both geographic and organizational boundaries. Adding to this complexity is the growing size of project files, which require a local copy of files be kept at each office for file access performance.

Historically, providing project files to every team member was done through email attachments, uploading documents to an FTP site for retrieval, using a document management solution as a centralized data repository, and more recently, through document sharing services offered on the web. However, each of these solutions has its own limitations.

- How do you ensure that when one person is updating a file, another person is not simultaneously making changes and creating version conflicts?

- How do you know that team members are working on the most up to date files, regardless of where they are?

- How do you manage file access performance for large files stored on the web or through a slow WAN connection and do it securely?

Introducing PeerLink

PeerLink was created to facilitate fast and efficient business file sharing and collaboration for geographically dispersed project teams.

Based on Peer's DFSR+ technology, PeerLink enables real-time file replication and version conflict prevention across Windows and NetApp storage environments, is easy to install, powerful to use, and seamless to end-users.

- Real-time replication ensures the same data exists on all participating servers regardless of where changes occur.

- Distributed file locking technology prevents users at different office locations from accessing a file that is already in use by a user at another location.

Optimized for Windows and NetApp Data ONTAP

The adoption of feature-rich network storage appliances has grown to meet the increasing demand for manageable and scalable storage systems. NetApp has emerged as a leading vendor in this space, but given the natural storage evolution most enterprises start with Windows storage and then migrate larger offices to NetApp solutions. Consequently, a mixed environment of NetApp and Windows has become common across the enterprise while the requirement for file collaboration remains strong.

To meet this challenge, PeerLink utilizes DFSR+ technology that works in concert with the NetApp ONTAP API to enable real-time file replication and version conflict prevention, which allows organizations to eliminate reliance on less optimal file collaboration methods such as email or WAN accelerators.

Main Features:

Centralized Management and Monitoring
Centralized management console allows IT administrators to efficiently configure and monitor collaboration jobs between participating servers.

Real-time Event Detection and Mirroring
Real-time event detection allows file events (file add, delete, modify, open, lock) to be mirrored to participating servers immediately.

Multi-platform Support
Allows collaboration between Windows-to-Windows, Window-to-NetApp, as well as NetApp-to-NetApp environments.

Smart Data Seeding™
Set a filter on last modification or access date to define which data will be initially copied to your target systems.

Intelligent File Conflict Resolution
File conflicts created during connectivity outages are managed by a File Quarantine and Alerting process.

Multi-threaded Performance
Enterprise level parallel processing takes advantage of multi-core processors for fast replication of file events to handle high server activity loads.

Unicode Compliant
Works with files and folders in any language (Western and Asian character sets).

File Deletion Protection
Accidental deletions are protected by moving the deleted file into a temporary folder for easy recovery.

File Revision Protection
Store the last "x" previous versions of a document as changed to enable easy rollback capabilities to a previous version.

Byte-level Replication
Only the changed portions of a file are replicated for bandwidth savings.

Security Protection
File and folder permissions (ACLs) are automatically synchronized to all servers.

Intelligent Connection Check
Momentary connection breaks are handled gracefully. Upon connectivity being re-established, the agent will be reconnected into the collaboration session.

Multiple Connectivity Options
Servers can be connected through a LAN/WAN or through secure TCP/IP (Support for Cross Domain / AD replication)

Sync-On-Save™
Sync files (MS Office) to the target systems while the source file is still open.

Emailed Alerts
Receive automated alerts for file activity replication issues as well as server and connectivity outages.

Peer Software File Collaboration Solutions:

	PeerLock	PeerSync Collaboration Edition	PeerLink
Supported OS	Windows	Windows	**Windows, Data ONTAP**
Replication Engine	Microsoft DFSR	PeerSync	**PeerLink**
File Locking Solution	PeerLock	PeerLock	**PeerLink**
Central Monitoring Console	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	**YES**
File Locking During Transfer	NO	YES	**YES**
Supported Network Latency	<150 ms	<150ms	**>150ms**
Replication Topology	Full Mesh	Full Mesh	**Hub & Spoke**
Recommended Sites	3 [*1]	5 [*1]	**2 - 100**
Cross Domain	NO	YES	**YES**
Cross AD's	NO	NO	**YES**
Collaboration Class	BASIC	STANDARD	**ENTERPRISE**

[*1] - These numbers assume a FULL MESH replication architecture. A STAR TOPOLOGY architecture can support a higher number of sites.

More information

PEER™