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About Failover

Cisco Unified MeetingPlace Release 7.1 uses database replication to ensure redundancy of the Application Server. In a system with failover, the Cisco Unified MeetingPlace system has two Application Servers-an active and a standby-and each has an Informix database that contains information about users, groups, and meetings. The system uses the Informix Enterprise Replication (ER) feature to allow changes in one Application Server's database to be automatically carried over to the other database.

Restrictions for Using Failover

- The time must be synchronized between the two Application Servers. This is required to resolve conflicts when the same piece of data is modified simultaneously in both Application Servers.
- The Informix database runs on the same machine as the Application Server. Port 2008 is configured in the Application Servers for database replication purposes.
- Determine the following host names and IP addresses:
  - Node 1 eth0 and Node 2 eth0 -- Use the same hostname and IP address for the eth0 network interface on both Node 1 and Node 2. Example: meetings.example.com, 10.0.0.1
  - Node 1 eth0:0 -- Use a unique hostname and IP address for this virtual network interface. Example: meetings1.example.com, 10.0.0.2
  - Node 2 eth0:0 -- Use a unique hostname and IP address for this virtual network interface. Example: meetings2.example.com, 10.0.0.3
- Make sure that the Domain Name System (DNS) server is configured for all three hostname-IP address pairs.
- If the primary and failover Application Servers share a common set of Audio and Video Blades, you must add all the Audio Blades to both Applications Servers. Be sure to use exactly the same passwords and SNMP community names on the two systems or the failover mechanism will not work.
- Do not leave a standby server out of production for a long time, as that can cause the primary server to fail. If the standby server must be brought down for days or weeks at a time, disable replication during this time.

How to Set Up Application Server Failover

To configure your Cisco Unified MeetingPlace system to use failover for the Application Servers, do the following:

1. Read About Failover Options for the Application Server to learn about the failover deployment options.
2. Install a second Application Server. Follow the procedures in the Installing the Cisco Unified MeetingPlace Application Server.

   Note: If you already have an existing Application Server and want to configure it for failover, then see Setting Up Failover for One Existing Application Server and One Newly Installed Application Server in the "How to Configure Application Server Failover" module in the *Cisco Unified MeetingPlace Release 7.1 Configuration Guide* at http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/ps5664/ps5669/products_installation_and_configuration_guides
3. Configure your Cisco Unified MeetingPlace system for failover. See the "Configuring Application Server Failover for Cisco Unified MeetingPlace" module in the *Cisco Unified MeetingPlace Release 7.1 Configuration Guide* at http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/ps5664/ps5669/products_installation_and_configuration_guides_list.htm for information on using the CLI to configure failover.