

hp
high availability
success story



viaccess ■
a France Telecom company



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Gilles Merle, IP Product Technical Manager



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The secure access solutions expert, Viaccess S.A. has developed a full architecture secured by ProLiant clusters for its Internet and digital television customers

Viaccess, a France Telecom company, is a leading provider of conditional access systems for digital pay television. Offering the widest choice of set-top boxes in the industry, Viaccess enables the largest installed base of multi-channel TV providers (more than 50 worldwide), and supports smart card deployment for over 7 millions viewers. From pay television to Internet and tomorrow's broadband technology, Viaccess shapes the state-of-the-art with secure access control solutions for convergent digital technology.

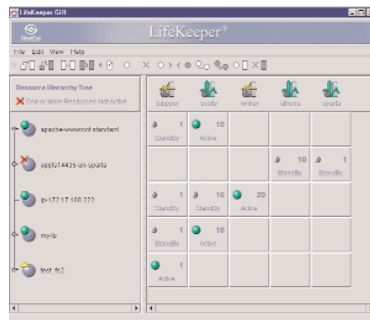
Viaccess S.A. has worked with HP for a number of years. *"Most of the equipment used by our operators functions on HP. We rely entirely on ProLiant systems, from its low-range model to its multiprocessors with redundant disks,"* explains Gilles Merle, IP Product Technical Manager *"We chose this manufacturer because of its size and durability. What is more, all our equipment works on Unix for performance reasons, and we wanted a hardware solution that wasn't tied to a proprietary operating system."*

Today Viaccess S.A. has decided to adapt its products to IP protocol. This is the objective of the new range of Viaccess-Net products. What they do

is scramble content protected by a key and then transport that key in a secure manner, associating access conditions corresponding to the operator's marketing means (subscription, impulse purchase, anticipated purchase...). The rights are registered on the subscriber's smart card, which also serves to unscramble the content again.

"Viaccess-Net enables monitoring of access to IP flow in multicast mode ("one-to-many"), protection of video and audio streaming, file downloading, and diffusion of Web pages," explains Gilles Merle. To that end, Viaccess S.A. has developed tools for managing rights, monitoring access and scrambling that are adapted to the IP environment and, more particularly, to distribution by ADSL, satellite and cable.

"We looked for the best redundancy solution for Linux," says Gilles Merle. HP's Linux cluster architecture based on ProLiant guarantees high availability of the service and, in case of hardware or logical anomaly, it enables you to move automatically from one machine to another. To develop this architecture, Viaccess S.A. turned to the company Non Stop Systems, which provided the clustering software solution LifeKeeper by the California-based company SteelEye. Non Stop Systems also aided in integrating the LifeKeeper software on the gateway for IP Scrambler, one of the tools composing the Viaccess-Net solution.



www.hp.com/servers/proliant/highavailability



For the Viaccess-Net solution, Viaccess has chosen **Non Stop Systems**, a service provider specialized in the integration and support of high availability and high downtime tolerant systems for Intel-based servers. NSS is the distributor of SteelEye Technology in France and has been working over the past 3 years with the major market players on defining new architectures to meet the needs of companies. Its expertise in high availability cluster systems allows NSS to offer customers tailor-made solutions for continuity of service based on market standards.



SteelEye Technology is a company specialized in high availability cluster solutions. LifeKeeper is a product that allows companies of all sizes to ensure continuous operation of their servers, data, and critical applications. LifeKeeper is a multi-node cluster that is easy to install and manage. It supports a very large number of applications, servers, and operating systems, including Linux, Windows NT, and Windows 2000.

Customer Benefits

- A single supplier of hardware, which translates to true simplicity in terms of installation, training, and maintenance
- A clustering hardware offer constituting the best redundancy solution
- Monitoring of access to multicast IP flow

Hardware

- Technologies:
- HP ProLiant CL380 clusters, Pentium III, 1 GHz, 512 Mb
 - Storage: SCSI connector, 3 Raid 5 disks
 - Reader: DAT

- Operating Systems:
- Linux RedHat
- Software:
- LifeKeeper from SteelEye, distributed by Non Stop Systems
 - Viaccess-Net from Viaccess S.A.