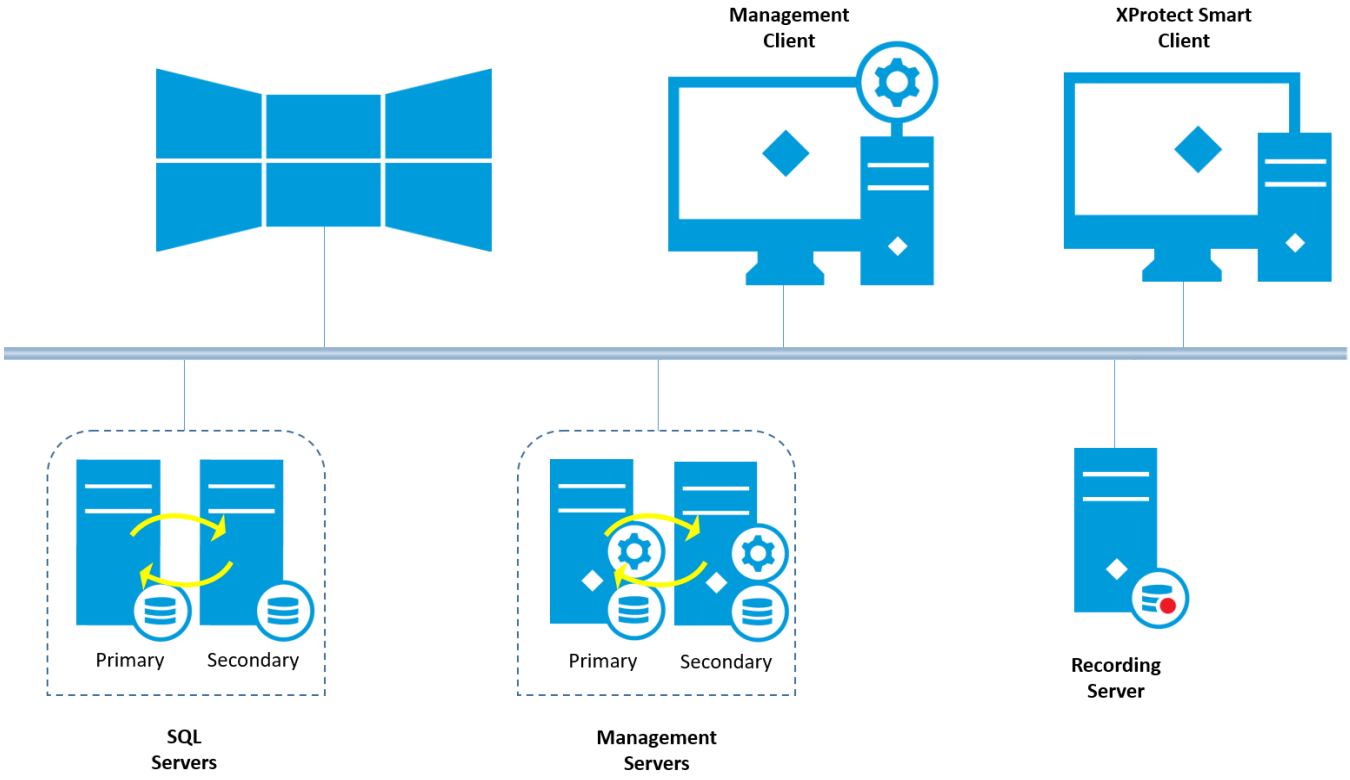
Centaur®



Centaurs are mythical creatures with the upper body of a human and the lower body of a horse. They were considered unique and fascinating creatures with an important role in Greek mythology. The centaur has a primary and secondary heart to pump blood through its hybrid system. 6SS Centaur® is a standalone application that was developed by 6SS lead Software Engineers in order to provide an automatic failover mechanism for both Milestone Management Server and SQL Server including SQL Server Express without the need to use Windows Clustering feature which requires advanced IT competency, a domain environment and shared storage. It is fully integrated with Milestone System Event Server and Alarm Manager in order to allow the operators to be notified once a physical server or service goes down.

Functionality

6SS Centaur® is an application that groups two Milestone Management Servers, or two SQL Servers into a virtual entity. It allows logical devices to work separately from physical devices. The primary server and the secondary server will each have its own physical IP address and they will be combined together to form a virtual server with its own separate virtual IP address. All the Management Server entities including the Event Server and the Alarm Manager in addition to the SQL Server or SQL Server Express will be configured to use the Virtual IP Address in all system communications and 6SS Centaur® will make sure to forward the data to the primary server. Real-time data replication and synchronization will assure that the secondary server will take over in case the primary server goes down with no downtime or system interruption. An alarm will be triggered in the Smart Client in case of a faulty server. 6SS Centaur® does not require a dedicated server, it can be installed on the secondary server and thus reducing IT infrastructure cost.

7725 Bryant Ave N - Brooklyn Park - MN 55444 USA | Tel: +1-651-233-0977 | E-mail: info@6ss.co | Web: www.6ss.co

Key Features

- Seamless Management Server Failover
- Seamless SQL Server Failover
- Support SQL Express, Standard and Enterprise edition
- Server status monitoring
- Real-time data synchronization between primary and secondary servers
- Automatic switching between primary and secondary servers with no data loss
- No system downtime
- Alarm generation in case of any failure on the main server
- Support Milestone XProtect Corporate, XProtect Expert, XProtect Professional + & XProtect Express+
- Fully integrated with Milestone Alarm Manager and Event Server
- Does not require dedicated storage
- Does not require advanced IT skills
- Does not depend on proprietary clustering technologies
- Does not require a dedicated server
- Fast configuration and deployment

Benefits

- Cost effective
- Simplified configuration
- Maximized system uptime
- Increased network visibility
- Increased redundancy
- Increased reliability
- Reduced configuration time
- Reduced IT Manpower and competency
- Reduced IT resources including dedicated storage
- Development team is always available to add customer-tailored features in case needed

Disadvantages of Server Clustering

- Requires experienced network administrators
- Proprietary technology
- Hard to set up
- Hard to maintain
- Hard to troubleshoot
- Takes long to configure
- High probability of configuration errors
- Expensive
- No built-in alerts when a failover occurs
- Does not integrate with Milestone
- Requires dedicated storage

Business Value

As security surveillance networks rapidly develop and applications become diversified, demands for network infrastructure reliability are increasing, especially in nonstop network transmission applications. By allowing Milestone System to have automatic failover feature on the Management Server and the SQL Server levels without the need to use proprietary clustering mechanisms and without the need of dedicated storage and advanced IT personnel skills, 6SS Centaur® will contribute in increased security by maximizing system uptime and eliminating single point of failure in addition to decreasing the deployment cost and the most important thing is that it only takes less than a minute to be configured.

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