

DiDIRECWAY®

DIRECWAY® is a family of broadband satellite solutions brought to you by Hughes Network Systems, Inc. (HNS), the global market leader in providing satellite products and services to enterprises and consumers. DIRECWAY satisfies the increasing demand for bandwidth by offering a variety of high-speed multimedia hardware, software, and service solutions.

Driven to save operational expenses and better enable their remote teleworkers, enterprises around the world have implemented virtual private networks or VPNs. Using VPNs, enterprises allow their teleworkers to securely and cost-effectively access important corporate applications over the public Internet. VPN solutions using IPSec technology are often considered the “gold standard” in the VPN industry.

With IPSec, not only is the user’s data encrypted, but so is the overall TCP packet. As a result, HNS’ state-of-the-art acceleration techniques were not as effective—until now!

DIRECWAY VPN Accelerator is HNS’ new VPN acceleration product that overcomes the inherent performance penalty that IPSec VPNs typically cause standard satellite solutions.

Providers such as Nortel, Cisco, and Check Point have provided the enterprise market with trusted IPSec-based server/client VPN solutions for years. A VPN server/client implementation typically requires the enterprise to deploy a VPN concentrator/server at the corporate data center and for the remote teleworker to run a VPN client on his or her computer. The VPN concentrator/server terminates ‘n’ number of remote IPSec tunnels over the Internet.

Using the VPN Accelerator product with DIRECWAY’s standard Business Internet service plans provides an ideal solution for companies to securely connect their remote teleworkers or branch offices to corporate intranet applications. Unlike DSL and cable, DIRECWAY is available everywhere, offering the corporate IT department one simple, cost-effective, and unified solution.

With VPN Accelerator, enterprises now have a secure, simple-to-use, fast, and reliable communications solution available anywhere.

DIRECWAY VPN Accelerator is made up of two components:

- VPN Accelerator Client software—a free, self-executable client that loads in tandem with the existing VPN client, automatically detecting the existence of the satellite link;
- VPN Accelerator Server hardware and software—an easy-to-manage server pre-loaded to accelerate ‘n’ number of simultaneous user sessions. The server resides at the corporate data center on the intranet behind the existing VPN server, typically behind the corporate firewall.

Faster VPN performance over satellite

On a DIRECWAY Internet connection, the VPN Accelerator product can dramatically improve the performance of the intranet applications being accessed, often three to five times faster depending upon the application—web access, FTPs, or e-mail.

Accelerates existing VPN network

DIRECWAY VPN Accelerator maintains the existing VPN investment and adheres to existing corporate security policies, since the DIRECWAY VPN Accelerator is added after the selected VPN solution is in place. The existing enterprise VPN solution is not modified. The end-to-end IPSec VPN tunnels are maintained as before. The VPN Accelerator is an easy add-on that does not interfere with the VPN security already adopted by the enterprise.

Scalable solution

The VPN Accelerator server is configured with a license to accelerate ‘n’ number of simultaneous user sessions. Expanding that number is as easy as entering a new server key provided by HNS or a certified channel partner. A single VPN Accelerator server supports up to 800 simultaneous VPN connections and up to 10 Mbps total throughput. Multiple VPN Accelerator servers may be deployed in a server farm configuration for greater capacity and redundancy.

No single point of failure

In the unlikely event the VPN Accelerator server were to fail at the corporate data center, the existing VPN network traffic would continue to successfully pass. There would be no impact on non-satellite remote users; however, DIRECWAY satellite users would experience slower performance since they would no longer benefit from the VPN Accelerator.

Load balancing

The VPN Accelerator supports load balancing when using multiple VPN Accelerator servers and distributes traffic efficiently so that no individual server is overburdened. Redundancy is achieved by the VPN Accelerator client re-establishing a connection with any other operating server in the farm.

Easy configuration and management

The VPN Accelerator server provides a GUI (graphical user interface) for installation, configuration, and status monitoring via a Web interface. The VPN Accelerator also supports an expanded SNMP agent for automated network management.

The VPN Accelerator server and client provide advanced log-in capabilities that can be used for diagnostic trouble shooting purposes.

Key Benefits

- Low-cost solution ideal for remote corporate teleworkers
- Faster VPN performance for corporate web, FTP, and e-mail
- Compatible with market leading VPN server/client solutions
- Seamlessly integrates with existing VPN network
- Server load balancing and redundancy with no single point of failure
- Scalable solution
- Easy configuration and management

Low cost

The VPN Accelerator client is provided free of charge. The only additional costs associated with enabling the corporate data center with VPN Accelerator are; the VPN Accelerator server hardware and software license, professional installation, and annual maintenance.

In addition, there is a new 'VPN Accelerator' option added to the standard DIRECWAY Business Internet plans to support VPN access over DIRECWAY.

VPN Accelerator Client Properties

- Free, self-executable client that loads in tandem with the existing Nortel Contivity (version 4.86 or higher) or other supported VPN clients (Cisco and Check Point).
- Includes an easy-to-use graphical interface for status monitoring. VPN logon, DHCP, and other startup functions occur independently of the client.
- Automatically detects the presence of the VPN Accelerator server and the satellite link.
- If the user connects over a non-satellite connection, e.g. cable, DSL, or dial-up, the client goes inactive and no acceleration takes place.

VPN Accelerator Client System Requirements

- Operating System: Windows® 2000 Professional, Windows® XP Home, Windows® XP Professional
- CPU: Pentium II® or higher
- Hard Disk Space: 2 Mb
- VPN Accelerator File Size: 6 Mb

VPN Accelerator Server Technical Specification

- CPU: 2.4 GHz
- Memory: 1GB RAM
- Hard Drive: 40GB
- Interfaces: Dual 10/100 Ethernet NIC
CDROM drive
- Operating System: Windows® 2003 Server
- Power: 325-watt power supply
- Dimensions: 1 unit, rack-mountable
- Enterprise-class server: HNS or certified channel partner installed

