ADC

Application Delivery Controllers

Buyer's Guide and Reviews

July 2018

IT Central Station

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Top Application Delivery Controllers Solutions

Over 281,996 professionals have used IT Central Station research. Here are the top Application Delivery Controllers vendors based on product reviews, ratings, and comparisons. All reviews and ratings are from real users, validated by our triple authentication process.

Chart Key

● **Views**

Number of views

● **Comparisons**

Number of times compared to another product

● **Reviews**

Total number of reviews on IT Central Station

● **Followers**

Number of followers on IT Central Station

● **Average Rating**

Average rating based on reviews

Bar length

The total ranking of a product, represented by the bar length, is based on a weighted aggregate score. The score is calculated as follows: The product with the highest count in each area gets the highest available score. (20 points for **Reviews**; 16 points for **Views**, **Comparisons**, and **Followers**.) Every other product gets assigned points based on its total in proportion to the #1 product in that area. For example, if a product has 80% of the number of reviews compared to the product with the most reviews then the product's score for reviews would be 20% (weighting factor) * 80% = 16. For **Average Rating**, the maximum score is 32 points awarded linearly based on our rating scale of 1-10. If a product has fewer than ten reviews, the point contribution for Average Rating is reduced (one-third reduction in points for products with 5-9 reviews; two-thirds reduction for products with fewer than five reviews). Reviews that are more than 24 months old, as well as those written by resellers, are completely excluded from the ranking algorithm.

1 F5 BIG-IP

30,348 views   **22,761** comparisons   **18** reviews   **573** followers   **7.9** average rating

2 Citrix NetScaler ADC

11,662 views   **7,332** comparisons   **15** reviews   **380** followers   **8.7** average rating

3 HAProxy

6,255 views   **4,171** comparisons   **20** reviews   **80** followers   **9.0** average rating

4 NGINX

5,880 views   **4,791** comparisons   **9** reviews   **333** followers   **9.6** average rating

5 Loadbalancer.org

631 views   **262** comparisons   **10** reviews   **46** followers   **9.5** average rating

To read more reviews about Application Delivery Controllers, please visit:
http://www.itcentralstation.com/category/application-delivery-controllers

6   KEMP LoadMaster

6,757 views   **4,736** comparisons   **7** reviews   **253** followers   **8.7** average rating

7   A10 Networks Thunder ADC

5,992 views   **4,953** comparisons   **1** reviews   **299** followers   **10.0** average rating

8   Radware Alteon

4,018 views   **3,398** comparisons   **3** reviews   **321** followers   **7.7** average rating

9   Barracuda Web Application Firewall

2,407 views   **1,958** comparisons   **1** reviews   **93** followers   **10.0** average rating

10   FortiADC

1,674 views   **1,487** comparisons   **2** reviews   **55** followers   **7.5** average rating

Top Solutions by Ranking Factor

● Views

SOLUTION		VIEWS
1	F5 BIG-IP	30,348
2	Citrix NetScaler ADC	11,662
3	KEMP LoadMaster	6,757
4	HAProxy	6,255
5	A10 Networks Thunder ADC	5,992

● Reviews

SOLUTION		REVIEWS
1	HAProxy	20
2	F5 BIG-IP	18
3	Citrix NetScaler ADC	15
4	Loadbalancer.org	10
5	NGINX	9

● Followers

SOLUTION		FOLLOWERS
1	F5 BIG-IP	573
2	Citrix NetScaler ADC	380
3	NGINX	333
4	Radware Alteon	321
5	A10 Networks Thunder ADC	299

To read more reviews about Application Delivery Controllers, please visit:
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F5 BIG-IP   See 19 reviews >>

Overview

The BIG-IP family of products offers the application intelligence that network managers need to ensure applications are fast, secure, and available. All BIG-IP products share a common underlying architecture, F5's Traffic Management Operating System (TMOS), which provides unified intelligence, flexibility, and programmability. Together, BIG-IP's powerful platforms, advanced modules, and centralized management system make up the most comprehensive set of application delivery tools in the industry.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Riken, TransUnion, Tepco Systems Administration, Daejeon University, G&T Bank, Danamon, CyberAgent Inc.

TOP COMPARISONS

Citrix NetScaler ADC vs. F5 BIG-IP ... Compared 14% of the time [See comparison]
A10 Networks Thunder ADC vs. F5 BIG-IP ... Compared 13% of the time [See comparison]
Radware Alteon vs. F5 BIG-IP ... Compared 10% of the time [See comparison]

REVIEWERS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Financial Services Firm ... 26%
Comms Service Provider ... 12%
University ... 8%
Manufacturing Company ... 8%

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 17%
201-1000 Employees ... 19%
1001+ Employees ... 64%

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Comms Service Provider ... 33%
Financial Services Firm ... 25%
Insurance Company ... 8%
Energy/Utilities Company ... 8%

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 9%
201-1000 Employees ... 18%
1001+ Employees ... 73%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

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F5 BIG-IP

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

Rehan Ghayyur Khan

It has so many features. First of all, it has a full proxy architecture, it has multiple modules. The best feature is the WAF, the web application firewall module. It also has cashing type capabilities. It has all kinds of load-balancing algorithms based on your IT requirements. So the WAF and load balancing. Both are core features of BIG-IP. In every environment, you have a Web application firewall, you have internet firewalls. Then, traffic comes into your datacenter so that you have datacenter firewalls. F5 has everything. It provides first-tier ... [Full Review]

Nathan Tlou

The most valuable feature is the F5 LTM most organisations will be using most. It provides the core functionality to be able to load balance services and the means and the intelligence to be able to load balance based on advanced logic, e.g., TCL scripting. The F5 GTM/BIGIP DNS (Global Traffic Manager) is another valuable feature. This feature allows for DNS load balancing, which means that high availability and load sharing can be done across services locally, as well as across datacenters with advanced capabilities. [Full Review]

ProductSpec 1492

iRule: It's a great feature that helped us multiple times have an advantage over competition Appliance Performance: One of the main advantages we always have over competition is in hardware performance, where the smallest F5 appliances compete with competitors' medium to high-end appliances, while high-end devices can sit in the datacenter without risking performance degradation. [Full Review]

applicatc42 d

We like the capability to combine the content switching with the intrusion prevention and adding the security roles, so we can expose certain sub-pieces outside without exposing everything. Another feature that we like is how they integrate nicely with the Oracle PeopleSoft application, and since that's one of my main focuses, I really like that they have the built-in integration. [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

Rehan Ghayyur Khan

It has multi-tenancy features, like hardware clustering. It has software partitioning so that you can partition F5. For example, in my recent deployments, I deployed F5 in a bank where they had two load balancers. One was Cisco Ace and the other was Citrix Netscaler. We created two instances, two vCMP Virtual Clustered Multiprocessing, two hardware partitions in F5, one for Ace and one for Citrix. We migrated all applications which were on Ace to the Ace partition, and we migrated all applications which were on Citrix to the Citrix partition. Furthe... [Full Review]

Nathan Tlou

It has enabled us to keep a sustainable and supported load balancing platform. This is partly due to Cisco withdrawing a large number of their load balancing products and also related to Microsoft Network Load Balancing not scaling enough to suit our needs. [Full Review]

NetworkE0d 45

Previously we had an IdP on a Linux server. However, this was a pain to configure. With the F5 this has become easy. Therefore, more and more of our applications are now transferred to SAML. [Full Review]
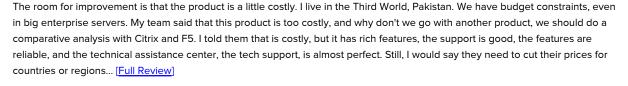
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F5 BIG-IP

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Rehan Ghayyur Khan

The room for improvement is that the product is a little costly. I live in the Third World, Pakistan. We have budget constraints, even in big enterprise servers. My team said that this product is too costly, and why don't we go with another product, we should do a comparative analysis with Citrix and F5. I told them that is costly, but it has rich features, the support is good, the features are reliable, and the technical assistance center, the tech support, is almost perfect. Still, I would say they need to cut their prices for countries or regions... [Full Review]

Nathan Tlou

I would like F5 to incorporate the ability to create your own custom roles and customised permissions within the product set. I have seen many customers wanting to give a certain level of access for the purposes of out-of-hours servicing to out-of-hours staff or teams that fulfill an operations type role. For example, I would like to see the ability to create roles within F5 where I can specify permissions instead of choosing from a set list that does not always fit my organisation's needs. The current roles available out-of-the-box do not allow for... [Full Review]

ProductSpec 1492

* Reporting: One of the negative things about F5 is there is no place to generate a summary/executive/detailed report about everything happening on the box, especially for WAF & APM events. The only way to get some kind of report is enable the AVR module, and manually export the data required into PDF/XLS documents. * GUI interface: F5 appliances lack a standard dashboard page, where it shows a summary for all events on the boxes. (This is usually available with firewalls & IPSs...) In the F5 GUI, we have to perform multiple steps to reach the requi... [Full Review]

applicatc42 d

I have been really happy with what they have been doing. They could improve the synchronization between their main site and the failover site. Sometimes, we run into issues where it does not sync well, so I would like to see that improved. The synchronization does works fairly well. However, if I were to make changes, I would make it easier to start the sync process. For example, once you get the changes pending you have to click inside to tell it to sync. It would be nice if it would offer a button to click on for the sync if it is only going one d... [Full Review]

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

Nathan Tlou

The licensing pricing seems relatively easy enough to get your head around. I would advise anyone to ensure that you have a conversation with an F5 consultant before purchasing, as you would with most products. An F5 consultant is the best placed to understand your needs and ensure that you purchase the correct licensing and products for your requirements. [Full Review]

Girish Vyas

This product is costly from a licensing perspective considering its competitors. This is why it lost a rating point from me. If your IT budget can support it, go for it. [Full Review]

Guojun Jin

Unless the price difference is large, this is not the primary concern for the product. The performance and product-related issues (secure for VPN, multi-function for network device, etc.) are the keys. [Full Review]

CITRIX **Citrix NetScaler ADC**   See 15 reviews >>

Overview

Citrix NetScaler is deployed in thousands of networks around the globe to optimize, secure and control the delivery of all enterprise and cloud services, and to maximize the end user experience for all users including mobile clients.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

ABB Schweiz, Aer Lingus, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Amnet Technology Solutions, Aramex International, Ascenty,   Atos, Autodesk

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. Citrix NetScaler ADC ... Compared 43% of the time [See comparison]
KEMP LoadMaster vs. Citrix NetScaler ADC ... Compared 14% of the time [See comparison]
A10 Networks Thunder ADC vs. Citrix NetScaler ADC ... Compared 11% of the time [See comparison]

REVIEWERS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Financial Services Firm ... 19%
Pharma/Biotech Company ... 12%
Energy/Utilities Company ... 11%
Comms Service Provider ... 10%

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 17%
201-1000 Employees ... 19%
1001+ Employees ... 64%

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Manufacturing Company ... 33%
Healthcare Company ... 22%
Financial Services Firm ... 22%
Insurance Company ... 11%

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 29%
201-1000 Employees ... 29%
1001+ Employees ... 41%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

CiTRIX **Citrix NetScaler ADC**

Top Reviews by Topic

💡 VALUABLE FEATURES

Richard Hussain

As an architect, I have deployed it in so many areas. Some like to use the SSL portion of it, others, they use the load-balancing. It does a lot more than what people use it for. The one feature that works really well is the SSL VPN. It's very easy to set up and you can go very granular with it. You can define what user groups get what kind of access and the management overhead is very low. [Full Review]

Vitor Arruda

* Load Balancing: Why? Availability/Performance: Those are the core features of the product and the main reason for the purchase of an ADC in my company. These features bring a lot of resources that improve the experience of the users. * NetScaler Gateway: Why? Availability/Security: We delivered more than 200 applications thru Xenapp. This feature give us the possibility to deliver the applications anywhere. Currently, 30% of access is made through our NetScaler Gateway (Internet connections). * Global Server Load Balancing: Why? Availability: Brin... [Full Review]

it_user173682

The features I find most useful are * Load Balancing * GSLB * Unified Gateway. I love being able to terminate connections to the boxes and look at all of the packet headers to determine which way I want to send the traffic next. GSLB provides amazing ability to do active/active or active/passive deployment of services. Unified Gateway allows me to provide secure external access to applications for suppliers and customers while requiring Multi-Factor Authentication. [Full Review]

João Almeida

There are a lot of them: * Load balancing in communications * Global load balancing between data centers * The management * Easy integration with other Citrix products. In the management topic, there are three levels: * 1st Level, most user-friendly, the GUI, in this level we can configures all the features and inclusive test the implementations. * 2nd Level Console, very helpful for easy access to all settings and troubleshooting problems, deep level in settings. * 3rd Level Shell, essential to troubleshooting. Direct access to all logging in the c... [Full Review]

📄 IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

Vitor Arruda

We are replacing the necessity of any kind of load balance software/components (like Microsoft NLB, SAP Web Dispatcher, DNS Round Robin) and begin to centralize all Load Balancing necessities in the same NetScaler Hardware. [Full Review]

it_user173682

The GSLB feature allows us to move services between data centers. We can do this in either a planned or unplanned manner. We have experienced service provider outages at our primary data center and GSLB will kick in to automatically modify DNS records to point to a secondary data center. We also make use of GeoIP information to point clients to the closest data center for accessing applications. [Full Review]

João Almeida

In the organization, we have three systems based in Citrix technology, so there was logic to add a solution which give us security and a focal point of access. With Netscaler, we have a solution divided in two data centers, a secure and unique point of access, and balanced traffic between all the critical components in the Citrix solutions. For the last, we have a mature, solid, and secure component to complete the Citrix environment. [Full Review]

Citrix NetScaler ADC

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Richard Hussain

The customization has always been a key area where some improvements are required. In the beginning, everything was for customizing the outer shell of it. You had to use the command-based utility and you had to do a lot of manual work. They have improved it a little bit and now there are some GUI-based functionalities that can be used. However, more can be done that doesn't require a lot of intervention. Right now there are some features, there are some customizations that can be done, but it's still very tedious, very cumbersome, a lot of work. So ... [Full Review]

Vitor Arruda

The product provides some templates to integrate with applications like MS Exchange, MS SharePoint, SAP Enterprise Portal, and others. However, the last update for these templates was 2013 (lots of applications are running on versions newer then 2013). [Full Review]

it_user173682

The main areas for improvement would be around documentation and support. If a feature can be used in two or three ways, show that feature being used in all of those ways. Documentation seems to only cover the primary use case and leaves you to either run through trial and error or consult the user community. In terms of support, I have never actually had them solve any of my issues. I have always solved them myself and then provided the resolution to support. [Full Review]

RakeshAnkam

There are some features which are missing. What I am looking for is something like OneDrive. We are facing an issue with OneDrive on the XenApp and XenDesktop. We can't use OneDrive with what we have. So, a fully, operational OneDrive support is what I am looking for. [Full Review]

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

Richard Hussain

It is true that it is a bit pricey compared to newer technologies coming to the market. For example, A10 is a load balancer that does everything that Citrix can and it does a lot more than what NetScaler does when it comes to the security space, and their prices are so cheap. Every box comes with its own license and support built into it. When you compare that with NetScaler, you have to buy licenses separately, you have to buy a support agreement that is going to be separate. A small NetScaler, even if it is a VPX which is a virtual server, could c... [Full Review]

HAProxy

Overview

HAProxy is the most widely used software load balancer and application delivery controller in the world. The core HAProxy application delivery engine is an open source project chiefly maintained by HAProxy Technologies and assisted by a thriving open source community. HAProxy Community Edition is available for free at haproxy.org. HAProxy Enterprise Edition is packaged with additional enterprise class features, services and premium support from HAProxy Technologies.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Booking.com, GitHub, Reddit, StackOverflow, Tumblr, Vimeo, Yelp

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. HAProxy ... Compared 53% of the time [See comparison]
NGINX vs. HAProxy ... Compared 15% of the time [See comparison]
KEMP LoadMaster vs. HAProxy ... Compared 12% of the time [See comparison]

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

TOP INDUSTRIES

Marketing Services Firm ... 25%
Financial Services Firm ... 25%
Retailer ... 25%
Non Profit ... 13%

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 24%
201-1000 Employees ... 53%
1001+ Employees ... 24%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

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HAProxy

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

Jared Bates

The ease of use of the configuration, and great documentation, are the most valuable features for us. The VRRP redundancy is also a mission-critical feature that works seamlessly. I can bring down a server live with minimal downtime because of this. [Full Review]

Thomas Pike

Carers ACT operates a Skype for Business based call centre, which requires the use of a load balancer and reverse proxy for HTTP traffic for the front-end pools. HAProxy is able to fulfill both of these requirements. In addition to these basic functions outlined above, Carers ACT also requires high availability and ease of configuration. HAProxy fulfills these additional requirements through providing high availability through VRRP and configuration synchronisation. [Full Review]

ShawnBrito

The most important features would be the load-balancing of HTTP and TCP requests, according to multiple LB algorithms (busyness, weighted-busyness, round robin, traffic, etc). Another important feature that we cannot live without is the username/passwd authentication for legacy systems that had none. [Full Review]

Haim Ari

* Reliability. HAProxy is the most reliable product I have ever used. * It is stable. Period. Will not fail unless you do something wrong. These features are why I give it a 10 out of 10. [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

Jared Bates

I estimate that this product has saved our company hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars in possible downtime from previous load balancers. We make a lot of our money from online sales, so it is critical to have 99.9% uptime. [Full Review]

Thomas Pike

One of the core services that Carers ACT provides carers within the ACT region is both an advisory and respite support telephone service. Carers use this service to be connected to services, access both advice and support, as well as accessing respite services to assist them in their caring role. The Carers ACT Skype for Business implementation is being progressively re-architected to remove single points of failure, of which the load balancing role was one. Carers ACT is also exploring innovative approaches to delivering services to carers who are ... [Full Review]

ShawnBrito

As our traffic began increasing nine years ago, we desperately needed to load-balance TCP requests (for DBs). We originally used round robin on an array[] which stored the IPs of half a dozen DBs. But with HAProxy, we didn't need to maintain such complexity. We later exploited many more features. [Full Review]

HAProxy

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

The only area that I can see needing improvement is the management interface, since it is pretty much all through the CLI or configuration. However, HAProxy does have another product that we evaluated called ALOHA, which has a web front-end, but we found it did not meet our needs. [Full Review]

Jared Bates

The web stats UI, which provides the status of the health and numbers, could greatly benefit from having a RESTful interface to control the load-balanced nodes. Although there is a hack around the UI (by issuing a POST request to HAProxy with parameters), a RESTful interface would greatly improve the automation process (through Chef and Ansible). [Full Review]

ShawnBrito

The GUI is clunky and the on-board metric viewing solution is poor. We ship metrics off the appliance to InfluxDB (using CollectIT, which is bundled with the appliance), to view them directly with Grafana. [Full Review]

Alex Davies

HAProxy running in multiple cores, for example one for HTTP and another for HTTPS, requires the use of "nbproc". So if nbproc = 2, you will have two processes of HAProxy running. However, the stats of HAProxy are not aggregated, meaning you don't really know the collective status in a single point of view. Each process has its own socket and it's up to you to aggregate them, and then your stats become less accurate. Also, having multiple HAProxy nodes in High Availability mode requires the use of clustering software such as Pacemaker and Corosync wh... [Full Review]

Haim Ari

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

The price is well worth it. HAProxy Enterprise Edition paid for itself within months, simply due to the resiliency it brings. It was a bit more expensive than we were originally interested in paying, but we are thankful we chose to go with HAProxy. [Full Review]

Jared Bates

Compared to the others in the market, such as Citrix and F5, the cost per performance for Aloha appliances is extremely low. In our experience, the performance and reliability is better. [Full Review]

Alex Davies

Very good value for the money. One of the simplest licensing schemes in this category of products. Test/lab virtual machines can be installed without a licence. They can't be used for performance testing but otherwise behave like production nodes. [Full Review]

François
Guillier

NGINX

Overview

NGINX Plus is the all-in-one application delivery platform for the modern web.

NGINX is the world's most popular open source web server and load balancer for high-traffic sites, powering over 200 million properties.

NGINX Plus adds enterprise-ready features for HTTP, TCP, and UDP load balancing, such as session persistence, health checks, advanced monitoring, and management to give you the freedom to innovate without being constrained by infrastructure.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Locaweb, AppNexus, Wix, Reliam, Montana Interactive, MuleSoft, Warpwire, Discovery Education, InkaBinka, WordPress.com, Gogo, GOV.UK, NASA

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. NGINX … Compared 21% of the time [See comparison]
IIS vs. NGINX … Compared 15% of the time [See comparison]
HAProxy vs. NGINX … Compared 12% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

NGINX

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

Andrii Stesin

NGINX is extremely efficient in terms of the connection rate to the CPU cycles ratio, and in terms of the bandwidth to CPU cycles. It is configurable enough so smart engineers (which team consists of) can configure virtually anything which a product manager (say "business") is able to imagine. Even more because business does not always know all the quirks of DevOps and operations. [Full Review]

Darren Whitfield

Our primary use for NGINX is as a Web server, so that's where we derive the most value. Recently, we've needed to deploy sites over a number of servers to balance the load, which was not only painless but also super valuable. [Full Review]

Derek DeJonghe

The most valuable features would be the following: * Reverse proxy routing * Authentication * Caching * The ability to manipulate requests and responses * Load balancing, etc. [Full Review]

Goran Parapid

Simplicity, stability, and modularity. Because, if you are familiar with Apache, you will know why my first reason is simplicity. Nginx is simple to configure, very stable in a highly utilized environment and very modular, allowing DevOps to create it's own modules for interactive use with Nginx. [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

Andrii Stesin

I have never seen a single case where programmatic tools can change an organization. Tools are not subjects. They are passive objects. Organizations and people are subjects. Tools are just reflections of the organisation and people. Tools mirror people's faces and habits, never vice versa. [Full Review]

Darren Whitfield

NGINX isn't itself a productivity tool, but rather a cog in the engine of a solid service stack. In a way, it's the same as adding RAM to a PC. While you don't necessarily feel the new improvement, you'll definitely know when it's gone. [Full Review]

JacquesGuerrero

Zero Downtime has always been a strength in recommending infrastructure web services. NGINX allows me to execute such infrastructure with less complications and the ability to switch from server to server easily. [Full Review]

NGINX

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Darren Whitfield

We used the standard tried-and-tested features of NGINX. Everything is done through the CLI over a secure connection and there have not been any issues or additions to our wish list. [Full Review]

Derek DeJonghe

I would say ModSecurity 3.0 for NGINX Core, but they just released that. The biggest room for improvement would be to allow NGINX Core machines to cluster for memory zones in some way with a Plug and Play module. [Full Review]

Goran Parapid

Only improvement needed that I would point to is scalability. With it, I mean clusterized organisation on a low level. At the moment, the best alternative is RHEL HA. [Full Review]

JacquesGue rrero

Make modules easier to enable or disable. The beauty and ugly side of the NGINX modules is you have to know how to compile the module. For beginners or non-very technical aspirant(s) going for NGINX, they have to learn how to compile the modules. [Full Review]

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

Andre Straccialano

NGINX is a free tool in Brazil. There are some companies which do support it. The price is the cost to contract support with a specialized company, usually during consulting hours. [Full Review]

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Loadbalancer.org   See 10 reviews >>

Overview

Loadbalancer.org leads the market in delivering high-performance load balancers and load balancing solutions to customers around the world. Customers who depend on the high-availability of business critical applications can take advantage of unparalleled versatility, affordable costs and instant access to the industry's most responsive 24/7 support — even during a free trial.

Founded in 2002, Loadbalancer.org has offices in the USA, Canada, Germany and headquarters in the UK. With thousands of physical, virtual & cloud-based appliances deployed across six continents, Loadbalancer.org ensures the uptime of e-commerce websites & mission critical applications globally, whilst also improving performance, security, scalability and providing a... [Read More]

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Vodafone, NASA, Mercedes, NBC, Siemens, AT&T, Barclays, Zurich, Penn State University, Fiserv, Canon, Toyota, University of Cambridge, US Army, US Navy, Ocean Spray, ASOS, Pfizer, BBC, Bacardi, Monsoon, River Island, U.S Air Force, King's College London, NHS, Ricoh, Philips, Santander, TATA Communications, Ericcson, Ross Video, Evertz, TalkTalk TV, Giacom, Rapid Host.

TOP COMPARISONS

KEMP LoadMaster vs. Loadbalancer.org ... Compared 45% of the time [See comparison]
F5 BIG-IP vs. Loadbalancer.org ... Compared 16% of the time [See comparison]
HAProxy vs. Loadbalancer.org ... Compared 13% of the time [See comparison]

VISITORS READING REVIEWS *

COMPANY SIZE

1-200 Employees ... 38%
201-1000 Employees ... 13%
1001+ Employees ... 50%

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

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http://www.itcentralstation.com/category/application-delivery-controllers

Loadbalancer.org

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

reviewer830
994

The most important feature is the fact it was recommended by the supplier. The previous load balancers weren't a very good match for what we were trying to do. They work. It just keeps going. The vendor will set them up, and they've just been trouble-free. They've just worked. They just keep going. That's what the principal purpose of the load balancer is, to work around and be available when there's any outages with the cluster behind. They just keep going, which is exactly what we want them for. [Full Review]

reviewer817
080

First of all it's the reliability, what you create by load balancing, because you have more endpoints. That's for our web services that we provide. This is the only feature for us, and it's important because it makes our network more reliable. [Full Review]

SystemIn6a
a4

Ease of use and support. The user interface precludes need to be well versed with Linux IPVS command line. This make it easy for junior team members to participate in managing load balancing needs. The support especially helps us with quick remote fixes. With a remote fix, I can view the fix in real time and yet ease security concerns for my supervisor. We had a few issues and they responded immediately. They came in remotely and fixed them. Everything is really good from the customer service point of view, which is what we expected it to be. [Full Review]

Richard May

Most important for us that it makes sure that the load is distributed and that we always have access to the end-servers that they're connected to. We need that to make sure that we have a consistent, high level of service that the schools can rely on. [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

reviewer830
994

They balance a lot better than the last set that we had. The previous load balancers made some bad decisions with allocating the load, and they would basically overload one of the single nodes behind. These, from loadbalancer.org, tend to balance it on a much better basis. The two factors, or the two features, you want in a load balancer, mostly, are high-availability and balancing the load. The last ones and these ones are both high-availability, but these ones balance a lot better than the last ones did. [Full Review]

reviewer817
080

We can more easily set up a test environment, because you can easily configure your forms. It makes it more flexible for us to convert our test environment to a production environment, without having to change DNSs on the outside. You just configure the forms on the inside. So without changing the actual endpoint for the end user, we can create completely different networks in the background. So that's really flexible for us. [Full Review]

SystemIn6a
a4

It has relieved the load on our team so we can focus on other aspects of the operation. When we do load balancing, the customer does not know that this particular node is down because the load balancing hides it from them. So, from a customer point of view, they have what I would call an unbreakable service. The service is continuous. Now, on our end, because of the load balancer, we can actually hide it from them, move to another server and bring the bad server offline. So it does improve our SLA with the customer. [Full Review]

Loadbalancer.org

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

reviewer830 994

They're mostly designed to balance a particular type of traffic. I wanted to load balance DNS, and they just don't do it the way that we wanted to. So they're not used as DNS load balancers, whereas the previous ones were. In terms of balancing other traffic, that they don't already balance, that would be a useful thing. I actually logged a call with their support, because I needed to try and work out how we were going to do it. That's when they came back and told me, "No, we don't actually do that." But it's something they're planning to do in the ... [Full Review]

reviewer817 080

We are only using the basic features, and for us it's good. We're not yet using the SSL certificate offloading because we are still using an older software version. But I already know that in the new versions they have, it's built in. That would be a feature that I would like. But that's already there in the newer versions. As I said, we're still using an older one and it still works fine for us. [Full Review]

SystemIn6a a4

It would be great if there was a way to gain access to the graphing data, to create custom reports. If we had a way to use the graphing data, to somehow extract the data and chart it for this appliance, we could use it to present certain information to our client, such as the uptime status for their service. Right now, there's no way for us to extract the data. So from that point of view, we can see it on the user interface but we cannot extract out the chart or the data. [Full Review]

Mike Isaac

At the moment, I can't think of anything. For what we use it for, it does everything we need it to. It does it well and it doesn't have any trouble, so I can't think of anything that I would change. [Full Review]

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

reviewer830 994

I have no idea, because I don't have anything to do with pricing. It was basically, "We need these, we need these," and then that's what happened. We got them. I had nothing to do with the negotiation on the price. Basically you've got load balancers in the front and then you've got a number of machines that sit behind it that actually do the work. The load balancers just allocate out the work. So the people that manage the system behind the load balancers, this is their preferred solution. They managed to get us them for a very good price. [Full Review]

reviewer817 080

It's worth the cost. It's not cheap, but it's a good solution. If you're looking for a good solution, this is a good solution. Is it cheap? No. Is it worth the money? Yes, I think it is. [Full Review]

SystemIn6a a4

You can start with the base appliance R20 first and upgrade to the MAX version if necessary. Their pricing is good. We are looking at it from a customer point of view. Customer downtime costs us money. So the pricing is is fair. They have good service and I recommend the company. [Full Review]

KEMP LoadMaster   See 7 reviews >>

Overview

KEMP LoadMaster provides High Availability, Scalability and Security for Application Delivery. Optimized load balancers for Hybrid Cloud and Public Cloud deployments. Available for Microsoft Azure and Amazon AWS.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Kent County Council, KEMP, SMA Solar Technology AG, RTⒺ Player , Victrix (Quebec, Canada), Texas A&M, Macmillan Cancer Support, Cisco, Austin Bank

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. KEMP LoadMaster ... Compared 26% of the time [See comparison]
Citrix NetScaler ADC vs. KEMP LoadMaster ... Compared 21% of the time [See comparison]
Barracuda Load Balancer vs. KEMP LoadMaster ... Compared 11% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

KEMP LoadMaster

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

[See more Valuable Features >>](#)

Jakob Kvistgaard

Kemp products are extremely stable and meet most of my customers' needs for an ADC solution. My customers appreciate the attractive pricing, stability. and user-friendly interface. The more advanced features such as WAF are rarely required by our customers. Their virtual products are easy to install and easy to configure. [Full Review]

Alex Coffey

Easy of Deployment. Application Delivery Controllers are not my company's strong suite. We needed a Microsoft Threat Management Gateway server replacement solution for a customer and were impressed with the simplified deployment of the Kemp LoadMasters. [Full Review]

Kai Stenberg

* Skype for Business * Reverse proxy * Web application firewall * Multi-factor authentication There is a Forefront TMG replacement together with Skype for Business which even Microsoft recommends for DNS LB. However, customers require uptime, and my tests show that DNS for external users will have quite long time downtimes versus HLB. [Full Review]

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

[See more Improvements To My Organization >>](#)

Jakob Kvistgaard

Kemp Loadmaster gives our customers an easy and cheap way of load-balancing their workloads and adding reverse proxy for added security. With Kemp 360 Central, they get a nice overview of their Kemp products and an easy way to upgrade firmware on all devices from a single interface. [Full Review]

Alex Coffey

I am small business and cannot afford dedicated consultants for one specific technology. I am able to leverage existing skillsets to deploy and configure the Kemp LoadMasters. [Full Review]

AtherHasan

For Skype for Business, we were using Microsoft TMG which is now end-of-support. Then we tried to use IIS as a reverse proxy but that feature was not suitable, especially on video calls where there were many issues. When we started using KEMP, we didn't face a single connectivity or delay issue on Skype for Business. Previously, when we had maintenance on Exchange Servers, we had to take downtime. Also, whenever there was a glitch in the network our cluster got shifted to the secondary node. With KEMP, we don't have to take any downtime for maintena... [Full Review]

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KEMP LoadMaster

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

I do not feel we have enough experience with the product to talk to areas improvement or recommended features release. Some of the support documentation seems to make assumptions that the person installing or configuring is experienced with the product or concepts. Further research got us through the installation and configuration without any issues. [Full Review]

Alex Coffey

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

I have control on the licensing and all the prices since I work for a partner. KEMP gives away free trials for 30 days. This can be stretched if you want. During the test, you will have access to KEMP support. [Full Review]

Kai
Stenberg

A10 **A10 Networks Thunder ADC**   <u>See 1 review >></u>

Overview

A10 Networks' application networking, load balancing and DDoS protection solutions accelerate and secure data center applications and networks of thousands of the world's largest enterprises, service providers, and hyper scale web providers.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

123inkt.nl, Bentley University, Box, Brainshark, Buienradar, Capgemini, CGN/LSN & NAT64, Chengdu Telecom, Club One, Code Ready, CRC Health Group, Cyso, Deutsche Telekom, Earth Class Mail, Excite, FFF Enterprises, Florence County, Framingham State University, From30

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. A10 Networks Thunder ADC ... Compared 59% of the time [See comparison]

Citrix NetScaler ADC vs. A10 Networks Thunder ADC ... Compared 16% of the time [See comparison]

KEMP LoadMaster vs. A10 Networks Thunder ADC ... Compared 7% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

Radware Alteon   See 3 reviews >>

Overview

Radware Alteon application delivery controller (ADC) and the load balancer that with application SLA. It provides advanced, end-to-end local and global load balancing capabilities for all Web, cloud and mobile-based applications. Alteon load balancer combines best-of-breed application delivery capabilities, market-leading SSL performance that supports all of the latest encryption protocols, and advanced services to companies with ongoing application lifecycle management challenges that impact the performance of web applications (such as heavier, more complex web content); mobility, and the migration to the cloud.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Convergys

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. Radware Alteon ... Compared 65% of the time [See comparison]
Citrix NetScaler ADC vs. Radware Alteon ... Compared 13% of the time [See comparison]
A10 Networks Thunder ADC vs. Radware Alteon ... Compared 8% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

Radware Alteon

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

See more Valuable Features >>

I am finding SSL-TLS acceleration the most valuable function, with certificate management. It is easy to generate certificates and assign them to services. The support is really good, the training offered is also valuable. [Full Review]

Dusan
Vignjevic

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

See more Improvements To My Organization >>

* Eliminates complexity * Reduces deployment time * Increases efficiency * Improves performance * Enhances productivity * Simplifies access * Enables consistent security, deployment automation, single sign–on, any-IP support, mobility [Full Review]

Ritesh Tiwari

This product has helped us manage TLS and SSL traffic as a load balancer with security features. Radware Alteon provides the majority of popular HTTP/S features which are really helpful for managing Web services. [Full Review]

Dusan
Vignjevic

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

See more Room For Improvement >>

* Needs to improve in automation, surge protection, DNS automation. * There are no options to name basic configurations. * SMS alerts, reporting alerts require some automation. * Improvement is needed for live traffic monitoring in dashboard, live traffic tracking. * It needs automated traffic capture and performance tasks, as per script. [Full Review]

Ritesh Tiwari

The ease of use is a must for improvement, some areas are way too complicated without need, and they are confusing users. Also, sometimes updates to trending vulnerabilities are a bit late. [Full Review]

Dusan
Vignjevic

Barracuda Web Application Firewall   See 1 review >>

Overview

Barracuda Web Application Firewall is the ideal solution for organizations looking to protect web applications from data breaches and defacement. With the Barracuda Web Application Firewall, administrators do not need to wait for clean code or even know how an application works to secure their applications. Organizations can ensure robust security with a Barracuda Web Application Firewall hardware or virtual appliance, deployed either on-premises or in the cloud.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Oracle, CBS, Pioneer, Hyundai, Publix, Barnes Noble, Calzedonia, Nordstrom, Samsung, Nascar

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. Barracuda Web Application Firewall ... Compared 27% of the time [See comparison]
Citrix NetScaler ADC vs. Barracuda Web Application Firewall ... Compared 26% of the time [See comparison]
KEMP LoadMaster vs. Barracuda Web Application Firewall ... Compared 13% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

Barracuda Web Application Firewall

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

See more Valuable Features >>

There is no one special feature, but the WAF itself is valuable: user-friendly protection against web attacks etc., authentication, reporting, accountability, alerting, and hardened OS. [Full Review]

Mohamed
Othman

IMPROVEMENTS TO MY ORGANIZATION

See more Improvements To My Organization >>

This product gives us visibility into what is going on in two servers, including connections and sessions, real-time alerts, very good reporting, and KPIs. It makes managing security of a critical server very easy with a friendly GUI. [Full Review]

Mohamed
Othman

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

See more Room For Improvement >>

This product could easily progress to be among the industry leaders. I think they need to improve enterprise level automation. It integrates with a small number of vulnerability scanners, so report results should be imported manually; same for SIEM integration. [Full Review]

Mohamed
Othman

PRICING, SETUP COST AND LICENSING

See more Pricing, Setup Cost And Licensing >>

Very good price compared to other products. Some products, like Fortinet, give you good performance as well, and their price is probably lower than Barracuda, but you should pay attention to renewal prices and options. The BWAF license includes everything, even cloud control, which requires a license in other products. OPEX/CAPEX should be looked at closely. [Full Review]

Mohamed
Othman

FortiADC   See 3 reviews >>

Overview

With bandwidth demand growing faster than budgets and cyber attacks constantly on the rise, it can be challenging to securely and efficiently deliver applications at the speed your users expect. Fortinet ADC appliances optimize the availability, user experience, and scalability of enterprise application delivery. They deliver fast, secure, and intelligent acceleration and distribution of even the most demanding enterprise applications.

SAMPLE CUSTOMERS

Black Gold Regional Schools, Amadeus Hospitality, Jefferson County, Chunghwa Telecom, City of Boroondara, Dimension Data

TOP COMPARISONS

F5 BIG-IP vs. FortiADC ... Compared 33% of the time [See comparison]
Fortinet FortiWeb vs. FortiADC ... Compared 29% of the time [See comparison]
KEMP LoadMaster vs. FortiADC ... Compared 12% of the time [See comparison]

* Data is based on the aggregate profiles of IT Central Station Users reviewing and researching this solution.

FortiADC

Top Reviews by Topic

VALUABLE FEATURES

See more Valuable Features >>

TechWritbdcb

Of course the troubleshooting tools. I think the troubleshooting command is easy and useful. Because ADC is the intermediary between the servers and the end-user application, it gives thorough information about the traffic, what the problem is. [Full Review]

Hartato Hartato

The main feature that we use is GSLB (Global Server Load Balancing). GSLB makes the customer's network more reliable by scaling applications across multiple datacenters. GSLB as a disaster recovery solution can direct traffic based on site availability. [Full Review]

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

See more Room For Improvement >>

TechWritbdcb

The L7 Persistent load-balancing algorithm has not worked for me after having tested it many times with my customer's in-house application. I'd like to suggest that the company make sure that all load-balancing algorithms work properly with most applications, even those that are in-house apps, because this is the main requirement of ADC. After I created a virtual server, the servers are still reachable from the client side by a Ping command. That did not happen with F5. I have to work around it by setting up a traffic policy. I did not test the SSL ... [Full Review]

About this report

This report is comprised of a list of enterprise level Application Delivery Controllers vendors. We have also included several real user reviews posted on ITCentralStation.com. The reviewers of these products have been validated as real users based on their LinkedIn profiles to ensure that they provide reliable opinions and not those of product vendors.

About IT Central Station

The Internet has completely changed the way we make buying decisions. We now use ratings and review sites to see what other real users think before we buy electronics, book a hotel, visit a doctor or choose a restaurant. But in the world of enterprise technology, most of the information online and in your inbox comes from vendors but what you really want is objective information from other users.

We created IT Central Station to provide technology professionals like you with a community platform to share information about enterprise software, applications, hardware and services.

We commit to offering user-contributed information that is valuable, objective and relevant. We protect your privacy by providing an environment where you can post anonymously and freely express your views. As a result, the community becomes a valuable resource, ensuring you get access to the right information and connect to the right people, whenever you need it.

IT Central Station helps tech professionals by providing:

- A list of enterprise level Application Delivery Controllers vendors
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- Specific information to help you choose the best vendor for your needs

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