



Frank Hill
Director, SAP Alliance
Stratus Technologies

A Perfect Server for the Perfect Plant

Stratus's Fault-Tolerant Server Offers Continuous Availability

Perfect plant applications require continuous availability because downtime quickly undermines sought-after productivity improvements.

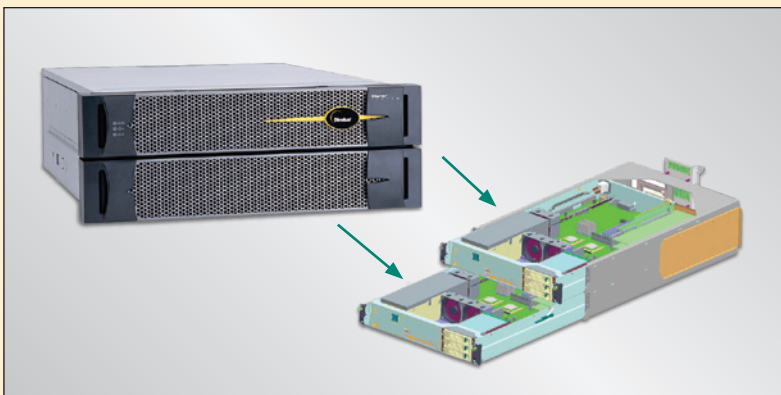
Traditional IT approaches, such as clustering, can only offer high availability – and they often add complexity and financial burden to already strained plant resources. Combining over 99.999% uptime with the operational simplicity of a standard server, the Stratus ftServer platform is an ideal choice.

Fault-Tolerant Servers Provide the Solution

Stratus Technologies, an SAP global technology partner, builds fault-tolerant servers that deliver over 99.999% uptime to SAP customers. The Stratus ftServer platform uses patented lockstep technology and duplicated hardware components that can simultaneously process the same instructions, working in tandem to perform the same actions independently of each other (see **Figure 1**). This way, business can continue to run smoothly, even when a server component fails.

The ftServer platform leverages industry-standard components – such as Intel Xeon processors – and runs standard operating systems – such as Microsoft Windows Server and Red Hat Enterprise Linux. The platform offers the simplicity of managing a standard x86 server, but delivers uptime beyond that of traditional recovery solutions like clusters.

FIGURE 1 ▼ The Stratus ftServer platform's duplicated components work in tandem to provide continuous availability



Benefits of Fault-Tolerant Platforms

Applications that are implemented at the plant rather than in the data center often carry a high cost of downtime since they can directly affect production, quality, and regulatory compliance. The ftServer platform provides the availability and operational simplicity required when deploying these applications to remote facilities.

The benefits of Stratus's fault-tolerant server include:

- **Continuous application availability:** The ftServer platform provides continuous availability to ensure that your perfect plant applications are always running.
- **Operational simplicity:** No scripting or complicated setup is necessary. You can manage the platform like a standard, single-image x86 server.
- **Standard operating systems:** Run standard operating systems such as Microsoft Windows Server, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, or VMware vSphere.
- **Seamless deployment into existing environments:** The ftServer platform supports standard third-party management and backup tools.
- **Significant ROI:** Users have reported realizing significant ROI, with payback in less than 90 days.
- **A risk-free test drive:** Request an ftServer platform to try out at your site.

Continuous Availability Is a Necessity

The risk and cost of service interruptions increase as more applications are integrated into real-time manufacturing operations. Relying on proven fault-tolerant servers from Stratus Technologies can help you achieve the advantages you seek today without compromising the performance of your mission-critical applications.

For more information, or to request a test drive of the ftServer platform, visit www.stratus.com/sap or email us at test.drive@stratus.com. ■