

# ***Running Web & Mail Servers***

## **eCS as a Web & Messaging Platform**

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# ***Who Am I?***

- Principal, Rosenthal & Rosenthal, LLC
- Network consultant since 1987
- Novell certified since 1998
- Certifications include CNA, CLE, and CLP
- Web & mail server admin since 2004
- Presented at Warpstock 2003-2008

# ***So, you wanna be a web host, huh?***

- Responsibility
- Cost
- Broadband availability
- Platform choices
- Application choices
- Thankless job (usually)

# ***Prerequisites: Platform Independent***

- Broadband (xDSL, xDSL2, cable, fiber, sat)
- Failover broadband
- DNS provider (or run your own)
- Server (minimum of one)
- Router (robust NAT firewall recommended)
- Power protection
- Understanding of technology standards

# *Why eCS?*

- Familiar OS & interface
- Security through obscurity
- Quite Linux-like (vs Windows-like)
- Availability of current applications
- Not hardware intensive
- Supported on broad range of servers

# *Why not eCS?*

- Clustering difficult (does not scale well)
- Apache web server & ancillary apps ported from Linux (why not just use Linux?)
- Backup issues (file locking)
- Essentially a single-user system
- No IPv6-aware TCP/IP stack
- No 64-bit kernel (possible upgrade problem)

# ***Applications: Closed or Open Source?***

## **Closed Source**

- **Vendor/developer dependence for upgrades & support**
- **Possibly not standards-compliant (e.g., IIS)**

## **Open Source**

- **Community developed**
- **Support is questionable**
- **Roll-your-own builds possible**
- **Usually standards-compliant**
- **Well known; broad range of platform support**

# ***Why Apache Web Server?***

- Most popular web server on the planet
- Supports hundreds of virtual hosts per server
- Highly extensible via modules
- Multi-threaded & SMP-aware



# *Apache 1.3*

- Stable
- Maintained by Brian Havard
- IP-based virtual hosts (need separate addresses for each hosted domain)
- Not multi-threaded; SMP-agnostic
- SSL is statically linked, requiring an SSL build of httpd.exe
- Still current updates by ASF

# *Apache 2.0*

- Stable
- Maintained by Paul Smedley (unofficially)
- Maintained by Brian Havard (officially)
- Name-based virtual hosts
- Multi-threaded; SMP-aware
- SSL is supported by a loadable module
- Still current updates by ASF

# *Apache 2.2*

- Latest production branch (2.3 is in development)
- Maintained by Paul Smedley (unofficially)
- Name-based virtual hosts
- Multi-threaded; SMP-aware
- SSL is supported by a loadable module
- Improved caching, proxy, and other modules
- Large file support; other scalability enhancements

# *Getting & Installing Apache 2.2 Web Server*

- Current build available for eCS (thanks to Paul Smedley!)
- Obtain latest from <http://smedley.info>
- Unzip
- Edit paths, etc. in startup.cmd as necessary
- Edit conf\httpd.conf & possibly others under conf\extra (mpm.conf, vhosts.conf, etc.)
- Run startup.cmd

# ***CommuniGate Pro vs Weasel***

## **CommuniGate Pro**

- **Closed source; commercial**
- **Highly standards-compliant**
- **Feature rich; carrier-class:  
IMAP, POP3, SMTP,  
XMPP, SIP, HTTP**
- **Cluster-enabled**
- **High cost; annual license  
renewal for  
support/upgrades**

## **Weasel**

- **Closed source;  
shareware/commercial**
- **Standards-compliant**
- **Standard license supports  
single domain; POP3,  
SMTP**
- **Pro license supports  
multiple domains; adds  
IMAP**
- **No webmail**
- **Extremely affordable**

# *Getting & Installing Communigate Pro*

- Download from <http://www.communigate.com>
- Unzip
- Edit startup.cmd as necessary (paths)
- Run startup.cmd; wait several minutes for initialization
- Open browser to <http://localhost:8010> & follow guide

# *Other Services*

- PHP – popular web scripting framework
- Perl – popular scripting language
- MySQL – popular light-duty database
- Postgres – popular medium-duty database
- FTP – grand daddy of file servers
- Telnet – command session
- SSH – secure shell (better than Telnet)
- More...

***QUESTIONS?***