DALSA Implements Astrocom Powerlink Pro100 **to Support a Growing business and to Provide Reliable WAN Services to Employees**

DALSA Corporation is an international high performance semiconductor and electronics company that designs, develops, manufactures and markets digital imaging products and solutions, in addition to providing specialized wafer foundry services. DALSA's core competencies are in specialized integrated circuit and electronics technology, image processing hardware and software, and highly engineered semiconductor wafer processing. Products include image sensor components; electronic digital cameras; vision processing hardware components; image processing software algorithms; and semiconductor wafer foundry services for use in MEMS, high-voltage semiconductors, image sensors, and mixed-signal CMOS chips.

DALSA was founded in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada in 1980. Originally the company concentrated in developing and generating technology in the area of Charge Coupled Device (CCD) image sensors. The company was capitalized in November 1984 and went public on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: DSA) in May 1996. The company has grown into an industry leader in digital imaging and semiconductor technology, employing approximately 1000 people world-wide with sales revenue of more than $168 Million. Sales offices across North America as well as in Germany and Japan support an international distribution network serving more than 40 countries.

Tremendous pressure from sales, engineering and customers has forced DALSA's IT department to implement a reliable WAN load balancing solution.

Challenge

- Redundant and fast Internet connection to communicate with customers and engineers.
- Failover for incoming connections achieved by control of the primary and secondary DNS servers.
- Reliable hardware failover eliminating a single point of failure.
- Ease of maintenance and implementation.

Solution

- A cluster of Astrocom Powerlink Pro 100 appliances which offers a quick and seamless integration with the existing network infrastructure.
- DNS server hosting a multitude of domains is integrated with the Pro 100 making inbound failover possible and reliable.

Benefits

- Rapid ROI – slashes costs of the network outages and lost business.
- Provides full control over primary and secondary DNS server, reduces time needed to make changes to the domain records.
- Aggregates bandwidth of two dissimilar ISPs.
- Web based GUI makes administration easy.

Astrocom's Solution Overview

DALSA had T1 and fiber optic connections in place. Both connections were linked to an existing load balancing appliance. The existing solution worked well for about two years. However, when it came time to renew manufacturer support, the manufacturer had been purchased by a company overseas and was no longer reachable. DALSA began actively looking for a new solution that

could provide at least the same level of functionality as their existing WAN balancer. DALSA researched and piloted a plethora of technologies from the leading manufacturers including; Stonesoft, FatPipe, Radware and f5. They were looking at such parameters as throughput, ease of management, on board DNS, hardware failover, and ease of installation and management, without loosing their focus on price.

Almost immediately after the pilot rollout provided by **eDrivium** of Toronto, DALSA decided that the Pro100 met and in many cases exceeded all their technical criteria at an unparalleled price point. **eDrivium**, as Astrocom's Authorized reseller partner, went on to provide additional network design, installation and hardware failover consulting to put the finishing touched on Dalsa's redundant Internet and load balancing application.

DALSA is very satisfied with their new load balancing solution, its ease of management and performance in particular. DALSA's network administrators appreciated the fact that no BGP programming was required to install Astrocom. They were very impressed by the ease of the DNS management and the fact that they now can setup new domains, email and web server records within seconds.