Disaster/Backup Internet Connectivity

Enterprises have begun to realize the tremendous potential of the Internet, which has become an integral component of many businesses. As these enterprises become more dependent on the Internet for day-to-day business transactions, fault tolerant connectivity becomes imperative. Many enterprises will see their businesses seriously impacted after relatively short periods of downtime, yet most companies today have only one connection to the Internet. To ensure continual fault tolerance, backup link services should a) come from a different service provider, and b) follow a separate cable route. In many cases the costs of installing secondary links may be a factor in neglecting backup services, but more often, IT directors recognize that both their primary and secondary links follow the same cable path at some point, and are therefore susceptible to backhoe cuts or other disruptions. The additional security provided by a secondary, wire-based backup link is therefore significantly limited and therefore, difficult to cost justify.

Solution

iDirect's breakthrough technology provides business class broadband IP solution that provides the speed, flexibility, reliability, and simplicity that enterprises demand. IP broadband satellite service from iDirect meets business requirements by a) providing a redundant link from a second service provider, and more importantly, b) taking a path that is immune to backhoe cuts or other wire-based

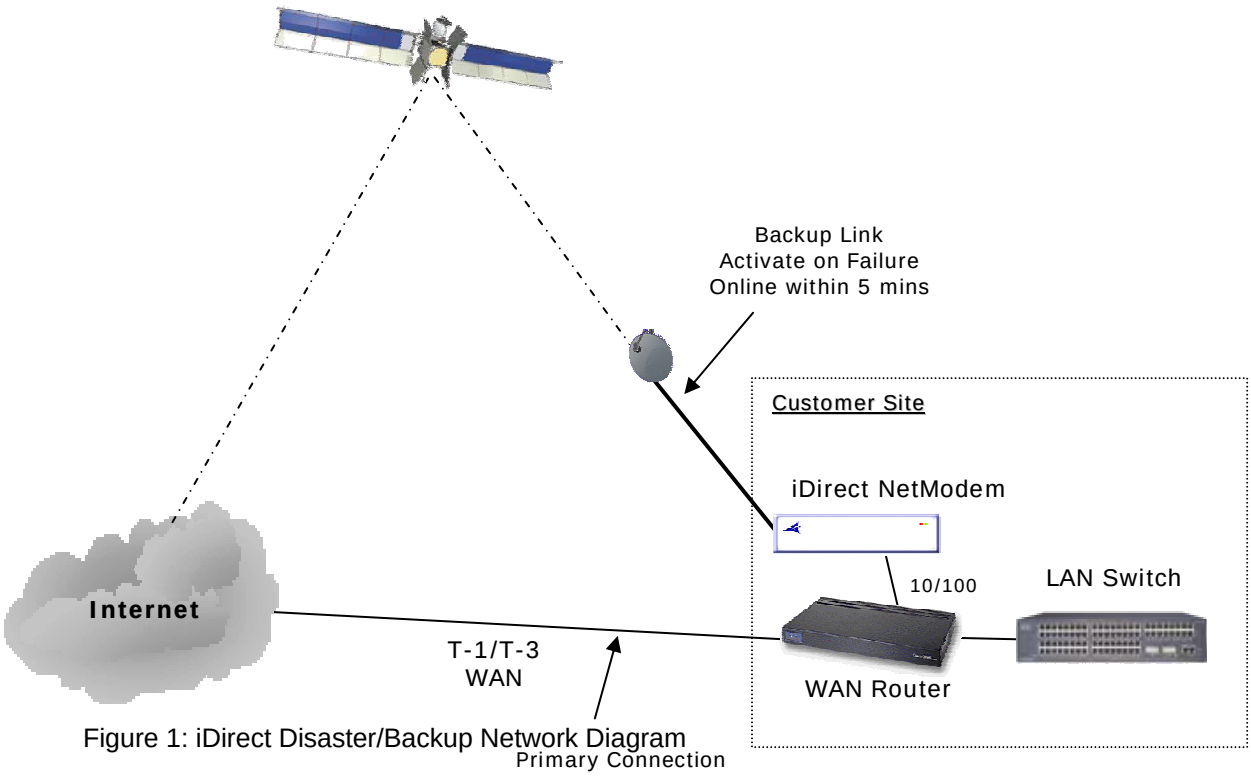

Figure 1: iDirect Disaster/Backup Network Diagram

circuit disruptions. **There are no backhoes in the sky!**

Figure 1, above, illustrates a typical network layout. Internet traffic is normally sent out on the terrestrial link to the Internet. When the primary service provider or their circuit fails, a phone call to iDirect will allow service to be restored over the redundant satellite link in as little as 5 minutes. This highly cost-effective service is offered at a low monthly price much like an inexpensive insurance policy. Per Diem charges are invoked once iDirect's Network Operations Center (NOC) enables full bandwidth. The iDirect link is "live" at all times, so IT directors can test it with "pings" to ensure availability. Full bandwidth is restricted until the NOC enables it. Unlike land-based circuits that may take weeks or months to deploy, iDirect's services can be delivered in a matter of a few days, and installed in mere hours.

An additional benefit of the iDirect redundant link service is the ability to use the readily available bandwidth for special occasions. As companies evaluate their travel, meeting and training policies, many are considering the use of content delivery and video conferencing to reduce costs and address security concerns. IDirect provides "on tap" bandwidth that can be used for these functions without impacting the primary corporate network.

Benefits

There are numerous benefits both from customer service and financial fronts, to an enterprise. Some of these benefits are:

- Back in business within minutes and not days
- Return on investment when used just once
- Rapid Installation
- Customer Satisfaction
- Very low monthly charge for "always on" connection
- Service restoration within minutes of disaster/backup activation
- High speed connection options

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