Dispelling The Myths Behind Remote Power Management
Best Practice Brief

Do you have geographically dispersed IT operations and equipment?
Do you need to accurately measure the power consumption of each circuit in your datacenter?
Are you interested in decreasing your reliance on 3rd party technicians to support IT resources?
Have you heard conflicting information about remote or "intelligent" power management technology?
Would you like to implement effective remote power management tools?

Remote Power Management

- Reliable, scalable, cost-effective solution

- Easily integrates with existing infrastructure

- Can be managed from a single centralized interface or console

- Accommodates 3-Phase Power

- Cost-effective and often provides strong ROI

Overview

Many organizations are turning to intelligent power technology to allow remote administrators to access and manage the power state of critical resources. These technologies provide the ability to remotely power cycle servers and devices, as well as troubleshoot problems, from any location in the world. In many environments, intelligent power solutions can provide numerous benefits, such as decreasing downtime, lowering operating costs, and centralizing datacenter control.

Below are some myths about intelligent power management that deserve debunking.

Myth #1: *Remote Power Can Impact Overall System Reliability*

Fact: Rest assured that if the "intelligence" in a remote power solution fails, in almost all cases, the product is going to continue to perform its primary function, which is to deliver power to vital resources. Depending on the type of failure, you may lose the ability to access or receive information from that device. However, all remote power products from reputable manufacturers are designed to maintain the state of each individual outlet, regardless of the 'intelligence'. Thus, the power remains in whatever state it was previously selected. Your outlets will not lose power unless they were previously designated in an "off" state.

Myth #2: *Remote Power Solutions Can't Integrate with Existing Management Tools*

Fact: Intelligent power solutions from most major manufacturers easily integrate with your existing infrastructure and can be managed from a single, centralized interface or console. These devices are designed to work in conjunction with existing management tools, including environmental monitoring, SNMP management tools, KVM over IP solutions, etc.

Myth #3: *Intelligent Power Doesn't Provide The Full Power Needs For My Datacenter*

Fact: Remote power solutions have evolved to accommodate the latest power requirements, resulting from blade centers, computing clusters, and high-density installations. Intelligent power solutions can accommodate three-phase power, which is becoming increasingly popular as densities continue to rise. Remote power solutions can manage dual, quad, or up to six or eight power supplies on a particular device, using a single interface to manage multiple circuits with a single mouse click. From a scalability perspective, just as these solutions have adapted to today's technology needs, they will continue to adapt to future needs and requirements.

Myth #4: *Intelligent Power Isn't Worth The Investment*

Fact: Many organizations find that these solutions are cost effective and provide a significant return on investment (ROI). For example, in a recent application, 42U worked with a multi-national business solutions provider and implemented a complete remote power management solution. Their investment of $30,000 provided a savings of more than $65,000 within one year, by allowing them to terminate a costly support agreement with a 3rd party service provider. This solution consisted of a variety of different form factor products, accommodating 120V, 208V, and 3-phase power requirements. In addition, this organization implemented a centralized software platform to provide a single interface for monitoring and control of all associated hardware devices. The solution allowed the company to more quickly mitigate and resolve issues as they occurred, increase worker productivity due to fewer distractions, and reduce equipment downtime.

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Visit http://www.42u.com/datacenter-solution-webinars.htm to view and listen to the 42U web seminar on the Myths Behind Remote Power.

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