Array NETWORKS

Microsoft AD RMS

APV Series Application Delivery Controllers: High availability and security for Active Directory Rights Management Services, efficiently and cost-effectively

AD RMS Overview

Active Directory Rights Management Services (AD RMS) is Microsoft's information protection solution, and it protects sensitive documents, emails, and files from unauthorized use. Unlike traditional protection methods, such as firewalls and ACLs, AD RMS protection is persistent; it remains with the information no matter where it goes or how it is transported. Content authors can determine which users are authorized to access a certain piece of protected content and also what they are authorized to do with that content. For example, a content author might dictate that a certain group can open, but cannot copy, edit, or print a sensitive document.

Integrated Solution Overview

Array APV Series application delivery controllers are high-performance platforms that ensure that the AD RMS solution performs at the highest level possible to ensure that your organization's sensitive information is accessible by authorized users while simultaneously remaining secure against unauthorized access and misuse. Array APV Series application delivery controllers help scale AD RMS deployments for large and small user communities while ensuring high availability, low latency, and data security.

Making AD RMS Highly Available

When end users cannot reach an AD RMS server, they lose access to some of the most critical information in the organization. In such an event, users lose productivity, increase the burden on the IT department, and they may be less inclined to protect sensitive information in the future – rendering your most precious corporate assets vulnerable.

Array APV Series application delivery controllers can help ensure that your AD RMS solution is load-balanced and highly available, even across geographic regions. APV 's load balancing can direct traffic away from failed data centers and intelligently distribute services between sites based on proximity, capacity, and load and response times for maximum performance and availability.

APV load balancing can also be used to help ensure that the supporting components of the AD RMS architecture, such as the AD RMS services, are made highly available. Downtime in the AD RMS services means new users cannot be inducted into the AD RMS platform, AD RMS servers cannot be restarted, and access to important logging and configuration data is unavailable.

Securing RMS Connections

Array APV Series application delivery controllers also guard against attack and data leakage by leveraging a reverse proxy architecture that enables users to connect to the AD RMS servers over a secured SSL connection. Your users can utilize this connection even over the Internet to securely access protected documents and emails from beyond the corporate network.

Highly Available, Secure AD FS 2.0

Organizations that are enhancing their AD RMS deployment by providing federated access to partners over the cloud or Internet will require highly available Active Directory Federation Services (AD FS 2.0) for identity management and secure authentication. Array APV Series can deliver high availability for ADFS 2.0 proxy servers that provide secure connections for external users to internal AD FS 2.0 servers and the AD FS 2.0 servers themselves in the internal networks.

APV Series can help ensure high availability and security for local and global AD FS services through rate limiting and load balancing, as well as the WebWall® suite of Web application security capabilities.
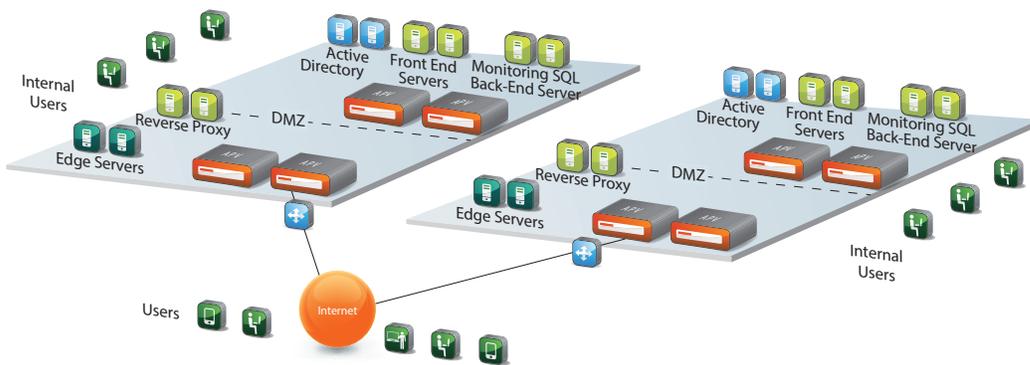

Figure 1: APV Series application delivery controllers in an AD RMS architecture

APV Series Benefits

> Achieve 99.999% high availability for AD RMS

> Lowest-cost L7 requests per second, lowest-cost L4 connections per second, lowest-cost SSL transactions per second and lowest-cost SSL Mbps

> Proven 6 month average time period to achieve ROI for enterprise, service provider and public sector organizations

AD RMS Benefits

> Safeguards your confidential information from unauthorized users

> Restricts user permission in a granular manner, such as rights to Print, Copy, or Save the content

> Persistent protection remains with the information, no matter where it goes or how it is transported

> Creates centrally managed protection policy templates

> Works together with other Microsoft products to automate the protection of sensitive information

> Protection options are integrated into Microsoft Office products for easy adoption by end users

For more information about how AD RMS can help protect your sensitive information against unauthorized access and misuse, visit us at synergyadvisors.biz or send us an email at info@synergyadvisors.biz. For more information about how Array Networks can help you build a highly available and secure AD RMS solution, visit us at arraynetworks.com or send us an email at sales-info@arraynetworks.com.

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