

## **Course Summary**

## **Description**

This course gives networking professionals a functional understanding of the BIG-IP DNS system as it is commonly used. The course covers configuration and ongoing management of the BIG-IP DNS system, and includes a combination of lecture, discussion, and hands-on labs.

## **Objectives**

After taking this course, students will be able to:

- Provision the BIG-IP system for operation
- Back up the BIG-IP system configuration for safekeeping
- Describe how the Domain Name System (DNS) resolves host names into IP addresses
- Describe how the BIG-IP DNS system can participate in the DNS resolution process
- Use DNS Express on the BIG-IP DNS system to accelerate DNS resolution
- Cache DNS query responses on BIG-IP
  DNS to accelerate DNS resolution
- Load balance DNS queries to a pool of DNS servers and monitor pool health
- Configure the key features of the BIG-IP DNS system to perform intelligent DNS resolution
- Describe the LDNS probes used by BIG-IP DNS to support path-based load balancing
- Configure a wide IP pool to use a path load balancing method
- View and confirm DNS resolution behavior using path load balancing methods
- Use static and dynamic load balancing methods to intelligently resolve DNS queries

- Use persistence to effectively return one or more clients to the same virtual server on each query
- Use manual resume to control certain load balancing behavior in the event of an outage
- Configure and use load balancing decision logs to fine-tune and troubleshoot DNS resolution
- Configure monitors on the BIG-IP DNS system in support of DNS resolution
- Configure BIG-IP DNS to participate in the DNSSEC chain of trust
- Configure limit settings on virtual servers, servers, and wide IP pools to temporarily direct client traffic away from resources that may not be performing at certain thresholds of efficiency
- Configure iRules on a wide IP to customize intelligent DNS resolution
- Describe the other wide IP types
  provided with BIG-IP DNS
- Configure a BIG-IP DNS sync group
- Apply all the principles learned throughout the course to configure a BIG-IP DNS system based on hypothetical specifications



## **Course Summary (cont.)**

## Topics

- Final Configuration Projects
- Introducing the Domain Name System (DNS) and BIG-IP DNS
- Accelerating DNS Resolution
- Implementing Intelligent DNS Resolutions
- Using LDNS Probes and Metrics

- Load Balancing Intelligent DNS Resolution
- Monitoring Intelligent DNS Resources
- Advanced BIG-IP DNS Topics
- Setting Up the BIG-IP System

## Audience

This course is intended for system and network administrators responsible for installation, setup, configuration, and administration of BIG-IP DNS systems.

### Prerequisite

Administering BIG-IP; TCP/IP Addressing and Routing, WAN/LAN elements; and Data Center Server redundancy concepts.

#### **Duration**

Two Days

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## **Course Outline**

- I. Setting Up the BIG-IP System
  - A. Introducing the BIG-IP System
  - B. Initially Setting Up the BIG-IP System
  - C. Archiving the BIG-IP Configuration
  - D. Leveraging F5 Support Resources and Tools
  - E. Provision the BIG-IP System and Confirm Network Configuration

### II. Introducing the Domain Name System (DNS) and BIG-IP DNS

- A. Understanding the Domain Name System (DNS)
- B. Reviewing the Name Resolution Process
- C. Implementing BIG-IP DNS
- D. Using DNS Resolution Diagnostic Tools

## III. Accelerating DNS Resolution

- A. Introducing DNS Resolution with BIG-IP DNS
- B. BIG-IP DNS Resolution Decision Flow
- C. Configuring BIG-IP DNS Listeners
- D. Resolving DNS Queries in the Labs (Lab Zone Records)
- E. Load Balancing Queries to a DNS Server Pool
- F. Accelerating DNS Resolution with DNS Cache
- G. Accelerating DNS Resolution with DNS Express
- H. Introducing Wide IPs
- I. Using Other Resolution Methods with BIG-IP DNS
- J. Integrating BIG-IP DNS into Existing DNS Environments

- IV. Implementing Intelligent DNS Resolutions
  - A. Introducing Intelligent DNS Resolution
  - B. Identifying Physical Network Components
  - C. Identifying Logical Network Components
  - D. Collecting Metrics for Intelligent Resolution
  - E. Configuring Data Centers
  - F. Configuring a BIG-IP DNS System as a Server
  - G. Configuring a BIG-IP LTM System as a Server
  - H. Establishing iQuery Communication between BIG-IP Systems
  - I. Configuring a Non-F5 Server
  - J. Defining Links and Routers
  - K. Configuring Wide IP Pools
  - L. Configuring Wide IPs
  - M. Managing Object Status
  - N. Using the Traffic Management Shell (TMSH)

## V. Using LDNS Probes and Metrics

- A. Introducing LDNS Probes and Metrics
- B. Types of LDNS Probes
- C. Excluding an LDNS from Probing
- D. Configuring Probe Metrics Collection

#### VI. Load Balancing Intelligent DNS Resolution

- A. Introducing Load Balancing on BIG-IP DNS
- B. Using Static Load Balancing Methods
- C. Round Robin
- D. Ratio
- E. Global Availability

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## **Course Outline (cont.)**

- F. Static Persist
- G. Other Static Load Balancing Methods
- H. Using Dynamic Load Balancing Methods
- I. Round Trip Time
- J. Completion Rate
- K. CPU
- L. Hops
- M. Least Connections
- N. Packet Rate
- O. Kilobytes per Second
- P. Other Dynamic Load Balancing Methods
- Q. Virtual Server Capacity
- R. Virtual Server Score
- S. Using Quality of Service Load Balancing
- T. Persisting DNS Query Responses
- U. Configuring GSLB Load Balancing Decision Logs
- V. Using Manual Resume
- W. Using Topology Load Balancing

## VII. Monitoring Intelligent DNS

#### Resources

- A. Exploring Monitors
- B. Configuring Monitors
- C. Assigning Monitors to Resources
- D. Monitoring Best Practices

## VIII. Advanced BIG-IP DNS Topics

- A. Implementing DNSSEC
- B. Setting Limits for Resource Availability
- C. Using iRules with Wide IPs
- D. Introducing Other Wide IP Types
- E. Implementing BIG-IP DNS Sync Groups
- IX. Final Configuration Projects