

# APACHE HTTPD – VIRTUAL HOSTS, CACHING, SECURING, CONNECTING TO EAP

Joel Tosi 02/03/2011

This technical whitepaper covers Apache HTTPD from installation to configuring it to be used with JBoss EAP. Topics include what is the Apache HTTPD; installing HTTPD from JBoss EWS; setting up virtual hosts; configuring caching; securing your environment; logging and debugging; setting up SSL; and various ways to connect Apache HTTPD to JBoss EAP. The paper wraps up with some recommendations on best practices.

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### 1. APACHE HTTPD

Apache HTTPD – also called Apache Web Server – is the most popular, web server on the Internet. It is a project of the Apache Software Foundation.



#### 2. APACHE HTTPD INCLUSION IN JBOSS EWS

Although JBoss does not require a web server running in front of it, for best performance and as best practice, a web server is recommended. The web server can serve a multitude of functions including serving up static content and caching content which will result in reduced load to your application server. Additionally a web server serves to further separate your application layer from the web, resulting in increased security. JBoss EWS includes a pre-built version of Apache HTTPD along with the Apache Tomcat connector (mod\_jk). A default configuration file is delivered as well. This configuration will need to be modified to meet your application needs, though the major points will be covered in the remainder of this document.

#### 3. LIMITATIONS OF APACHE HTTPD

Apache HTTPD is the leading web server in use today. However, it is limited to serving up static content and cannot host your Java applications. There are also limitations as to how many requests each web server can handle. This depends on your configuration as well as resources (memory, CPU) available to the web server. Scaling Apache HTTPD is outside the scope of this technical whitepaper.

#### 4. INSTALLING AND CONFIGURING APACHE HTTPD - COMMON PRACTICES

The steps listed below are not complete or wholistic. It is only intended to show common practices for front-ending JBoss with Apache .

#### 4.1 Installation (as rpm from JBoss)

The recommended approach for installing Apache HTTPD in a manner most supported by RedHat / Jboss is using the rpm. To download the rpm manually, execute the following steps:

1. Login to access.redhat.com with your customer account information

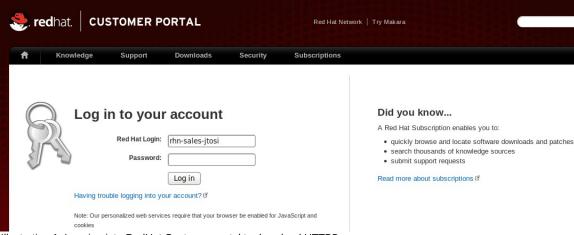


Illustration 1: Logging into RedHat Customer portal to download HTTPD



2. Switch the browser url from access.redhat.com to rhn.redhat.com. This will take you to the redhat network where rpms can be found.

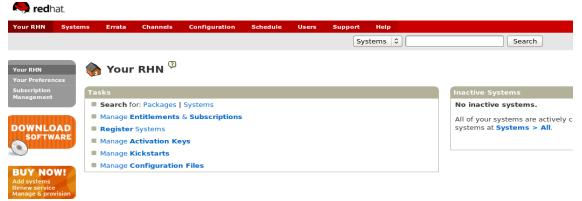


Illustration 2: Switching over to rhn.redhat.com

3. Click on the 'channels' tab

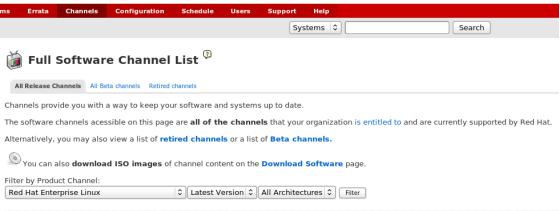


Illustration 3: Channels tab on rhn

4. Select 'Package' from the dropdown and enter the rpm name. Choose httpd22:



# Package Search <sup>?</sup>

Illustration 4: Select Package from dropdown and enter rpm name

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Illustration 5: Results for httpd rpm search

# 5. Download the appropriate version for your environment

Name	Channel
httpd22-2.2.14-11.jdk6.ep5.el4.x86_64	JBoss EWS for 4ES x86_64
httpd22-2.2.14-4.ep5.el4.x86_64	JBoss EWS for 4ES x86_64
httpd22-2.2.10-25.1.ep5.el4.x86_64	JBoss EWS for 4ES x86_64
httpd22-2.2.10-24.1.ep5.el4.x86_64	JBoss EWS for 4ES x86_64
httpd22-2.2.10-23.1.ep5.el4.x86_64	JBoss EWS for 4ES x86_64
httpd22-2.2.10-16.1.ep5.el4.x86_64	JBoss EWS for 4ES x86_64
httpd22-2.2.10-14.1.ep5.el4.x86_64	JBoss EWS for 4ES x86_64
httpd22-2.2.14-11.jdk6.ep5.el4.i386	JBoss EWS for 4ES i386
httpd22-2.2.14-4.ep5.el4.i386	JBoss EWS for 4ES i386
http://doi.org/10.0001.0000	ID FWC f 45C 120C

Illustration 6: HTTPD downloads available - different versions and chip architectures



Illustration 7: Downloading appropriate version for my environment



6. Install the rpm as root.



#### 4.2 Installation (as zip from JBoss EWS)

**NOTE** – If you already have an instance of Apache HTTPD installed and just want to configure it, please skip this section.

JBoss EWS comes with a version of Apache HTTPD web server. To install it, execute the following steps.

If you haven't done so already, download JBoss EWS from the customer support portal - <a href="https://access.redhat.com/jbossnetwork/restricted/listSoftware.html?">https://access.redhat.com/jbossnetwork/restricted/listSoftware.html?</a>
<a href="product=webserver&downloadType=distributions&productChanged=yes&version=5.0.2%20GA">https://access.redhat.com/jbossnetwork/restricted/listSoftware.html?</a>
<a href="product=webserver&downloadType=distributions&productChanged=yes&version=5.0.2%20GA">https://access.redhat.com/jbossnetwork/restricted/listSoftware.html?</a>

Unzip this download. For the sake of consistency we will refer to the location where you unzipped this file to as \$EWS\_HOME.

Copy recursively the httpd directory to the location on your filesystem where you want Apache HTTPD installed at. In this example we install to /var/local/httpd:

```
[root@jtosi local]# pwd
/var/local
[root@jtosi local]# cp -r /home/jtosi/jboss_ews/jboss-ews-1.0/httpd/ .
Illustration 9: Copying ews httpd download to a new directory
```

The version of Apache that ships with EWS comes ready with SSL. Because of this dependency, you will need to make sure that *distcache* and *pcre* are installed on your system (\*nix)

```
rpm -q distcache pcre
```

If you get a version number back, then you are fine. If either is not installed, then you will need to install them, for example

```
yum install distcache
```

Once installation is complete, run the following again to make sure you see both installed:



```
Complete!
[jtosi@jtosi jboss_ews]$ rpm -q distcache pcre
distcache-1.4.5-21.i686
pcre-7.8-3.fc12.i686
[jtosi@jtosi jboss_ews]$
```

Illustration 10: Verifying distcache and pcre are installed

If you see the above (or similar / higher version numbers) then continue on.

Go to the \$EWS\_HOME/httpd directory (in these examples it is /var/local/httpd)

Execute the postinstall script: (note you will need to have root access for this)

```
[jtosi@jtosi httpd]$ sudo ./.postinstall
[jtosi@jtosi httpd]$ 

### Illustration 11: Running postinstall script
```

If you do not see any errors, then the script has executed successfully. This script creates an SSL certificate to use when you first start up apache. **NOTE** – you will need to apply an enterprise level SSL certificate for proper use. The script also sets up some environment variables to be used as well as updates the configuration file with installation location information. The configuration file will be covered in upcoming sections:

```
# the options for httpd command
OPTIONS="-f /var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log"
# the library path
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/var/local/httpd/lib
Illustration 12: Inside the postinstall script, looking at what values are being set
```

At this point in time, we should verify that we can start up Apache HTTPD and that it starts without error.

```
[root@jtosi httpd]# sbin/apachectl start
[root@jtosi httpd]# [
```

Illustration 13: Start up Apache HTTPD

Go to the logs directory and make sure the following log files are present:

```
| [root@jtosi httpd]# cd logs
| [root@jtosi logs]# ls -l
| total 12
| -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Feb 4 15:25 access_log
| -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 804 Feb 4 15:26 error_log
| -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 265 Feb 4 15:23 httpd.log
| -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Feb 4 15:25 ssl_access_log
| -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 444 Feb 4 15:26 ssl_error_log
| -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Feb 4 15:25 ssl_request_log
```

Finally verify that you can access the web server through a browser by hitting <a href="http://localhost">http://localhost</a>. **NOTE** – you will get a 403 error because of the default HTTPD configuration shipped with EWS.



# Forbidden

You don't have permission to access / on this server.

Additionally, a 404 Not Found error was encountered while trying to use an ErrorDocument to handle the request.

Apache/2.2.14 (Red Hat) Server at 127.0.0.1 Port 80

Illustration 15: First time accessing HTTPD through a browser

If you have confirmed that your Apache HTTPD instance is up, stop the server now so we can finish configuring it. Do this by executing the following command:

[root@jtosi httpd]# sbin/apachectl stop Illustration 16: Stop Apache HTTPD

# 4.3 Setting up Virtual Hosts

Virtual Hosts allow your web server to respond to request from multiple domains. Using Virtual Hosts, you can have a smaller web server farm fronting a large and diverse application layer. Virtual Hosts can be setup in one of 2 different ways (or blended):

- Name based Allows you to respond to multiple domains with one IP address. With this approach, you define the domain that a configuration will apply to
- IP based Only one domain per IP address

To setup Virtual Hosts, we will modify the httpd.conf file located at \$EWS\_HOME/httpd/conf

Name based Example:

##Listen on all IPS, NameVirtualHost is required for name based
##virtual hosting

## NOTE IPv6 addresses must be in brackets:

## NameVirtualHost [2001:db8::a00:20ff:fea7:ccea]:80
NameVirtualHost \*:80

##If you only have one domain, you don't need a virtual host

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```
##As soon as you add a second, the original domain must be added as
      ##a virtual host
      ##First defined virtual host will be the default
      <VirtualHost *:80>
       ServerName <a href="www.jboss.org">www.jboss.org</a>
       ServerAlias jboss.org *.jboss.org
         DocumentRoot /www/jboss_org
      </VirtualHost>
      <VirtualHost *:80>
         ServerName www.jboss.com
         DocumentRoot /www/jboss_com
      </VirtualHost>
      2 IP based Example:
      ##If you only have one domain, you don't need a virtual host
      ##As soon as you add a second, the original domain must be added as
      ##a virtual host
      ##First defined virtual host will be the default
      <VirtualHost 127.0.0.1:80>
       ServerName <a href="https://www.jboss.org">www.jboss.org</a>
       ServerAlias jboss.org *.jboss.org
       DocumentRoot /www/jboss_org
      </VirtualHost>
      <VirtualHost 127.0.0.2:80>
       ServerName www.jboss.com
       DocumentRoot /www/jboss_com
      </VirtualHost>
In the example below, we modified $EWS_HOME/httpd/conf/httpd.conf with the following changes,
resulting in two different domains being served up from one server.
<VirtualHost 127.0.0.1>
  DocumentRoot /home/jtosi/website1
  ServerName www.site1.com
  ErrorLog logs/site1-error.log
  CustomLog logs/site1-access.log common
```

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```
<Directory "/home/jtosi/website1">
    Order allow, deny
    Allow from all
  </Directory>
</VirtualHost>
<VirtualHost 192.168.1.102>
  DocumentRoot /home/jtosi/website2
  ServerName www.site2.come
  ErrorLog logs/site2-error.log
  CustomLog logs/site2-access.log common
  <Directory "/home/jtosi/website2">
    Order allow, deny
    Allow from all
  </Directory>
</VirtualHost>
Hitting the first IP in a browser:
  127.0.0.1
 ← → ℃ ③ 127.0.0.1
This is
website 1
```

Illustration 17: Accessing first virtual host through a browser

Hitting the second IP:



Illustration 18: Accessing second virtual host through a browser

The rest of this paper will continue expanding on one VirtualHost.

### 4.4 Configuring Caching

Apache HTTPD can perform caching in two different ways – either by caching to disk the header and body of a response (mod\_cache\_disk) or by opening a file(s) at httpd start and saving that file handle in memory (mod\_file\_cache). Mod\_cache disk allows you to cache different request types, including ones with query strings whereas mod\_file\_cache will not allow this since it just is caching filehandles for quicker access. Most importantly, if you are not very careful with mod\_file\_cache, you can create a very large number of open file handles, resulting in an unresponsive system. Therefore most organizations choose to leverage mod cache disk.

In the example below, we do the following configuration with mod\_cache\_disk:

- 1) Wrap our configuration in an IfModule clause. We do this because we don't want the directives to attempt to be ran if the module isn't available. This way our configuration will be syntactically correct even if the module isn't available.
- 2) Define where on disk this cache should reside. **NOTE** this directory must be writable by the user that apache is running under, otherwise caching will not work.
- 3) Enable caching of type disk and configure what should be cached. This can be a complete file path (relative to domain root), wildcarded for extension types, or a regular expression. This directive can also be repeated.
- 4) Put bounds on the size of the cache in terms of the number of directories on disc as well as how large the directory names can be and finally the total size of the cache. If we want deep caches, we want a high value of CacheDirLevels and a low value for length. **NOTE** the product of CacheDirLevels and CacheDirLength cannot exceed 20.
- 5) Put upper and lower bounds on the size of the items to cache. Small items (like images that are just 1K) will not give you that much performance gain by caching and will also fill up your cache (think depth of tree)

with small items. On the flip side, large files that are cached won't boost performance much because the majority of the latency in performance would be do to transmission, not file I/O. Because of these reasons, reasonable upper and lower bounds should be set.

- 6) A default time for cached items to expire is set. This is applied if an expiry header is not created for the items that explicitly sets its time to live.
- 7) Logging is configured so we can get visibility into our cache hits and misses.
- 8) Finally, we explicitly disable caching for some volatile content.

##Best Practice - check module defined / available before using
##directives

<IfModule mod\_cache\_disk>

##Where on disk we are going to store the cache
CacheRoot /usr/apache/cacheroot

##Enabling caching to disk of all content start at root. Can also use ##wildcards to narrow down what is cached, i.e. CacheEnable disk /\*.css

CacheEnable disk /

## How many directories to have in cache
CacheDirLevels 5

##Length of directory names in the cache
CacheDirLength 3

## Put a cap on how much cache space we want to use in Kbytes CacheSize 2000000

## Only cache files between 64 and 64K bytes
CacheMinFileSize 64

#### CacheMaxFileSize 64000

## If an item doesn't have an expiry header, expire it from cache after
##1 day

CacheDefaultExpire 86400

##Setup logging so we can see cache hits, misses, and revalidate cache
##items

CustomLog cached-requests.log common env=cache-hit
CustomLog uncached-requests.log common env=cache-miss
CustomLog revalidated-requests.log common env=cache-revalidate
</IfModule>

## We don't want to cache highly volatile content
CacheDisable http://www.somedomain.com/real-time-stock-market-quotes/

To verify our cache, we will use Apache Benchmark (included with EWS at \$EWS\_HOME/sbin/ab). Apache Benchmark is a relatively robust tool that can handle authentication as well as posting data. However, for this example, we are simply looking at creating a large concurrent load. To do this, we will use ab with 2 flags:

- 1) -c for the number of concurrent users
- 2) -n for the number of requests to run

```
[root@jtosi httpd]# ./sbin/ab -c 1000 -n 15000 http://localhost/
This is ApacheBench, Version 2.3 <$Revision: 655654 $>
Copyright 1996 Adam Twiss, Zeus Technology Ltd, http://www.zeustech.net/
Licensed to The Apache Software Foundation, http://www.apache.org/
Benchmarking localhost (be patient)
Completed 1500 requests
Completed 3000 requests
Completed 4500 requests
Completed 6000 requests
Completed 7500 requests
Completed 9000 requests
Completed 10500 requests
Completed 12000 requests
Completed 13500 requests
Completed 15000 requests
Finished 15000 requests
```

Server Software: Apache/2.2.14 Server Hostname: localhost

Server Port:

Document Path:

Document Length: 49248 bytes

Concurrency Level: 1000

Time taken for tests: 6.300 seconds

Complete requests: 15000 Failed requests: 0 Θ Write errors:

Total transferred: 743869962 bytes
HTML transferred: 739754208 bytes
Requests per second: 2381.07 [#/sec] (mean)
Time per request: 419.978 [ms] (mean)
Time per request: 0.420 [ms] (mean, acrost 115313.14 [Kbytes/sec]

0.420 [ms] (mean, across all concurrent requests)

Transfer rate: 115313.14 [Kbytes/sec] received

# Illustration 19: Running Apache Benchmark against site without cache

First we run this without caching enabled. Below is the command with the output (mean times not shown). Note that when you run ab, you have to go against either a complete url to an asset or a complete domain with trailing slash: We can verify that no cache was used by checking our cache folder:

```
[root@jtosi cacheroot]# ls -ltr
total 0
Illustration 20: Checking cache folder
```

Next, we enable the caching with the directives we showed earlier and rerun the same test:

```
[root@jtosi httpd]# ./sbin/ab -c 1000 -n 15000 http://localhost/
This is ApacheBench, Version 2.3 <$Revision: 655654 $>
Copyright 1996 Adam Twiss, Zeus Technology Ltd, http://www.zeustech.net/
Licensed to The Apache Software Foundation, http://www.apache.org/
Benchmarking localhost (be patient)
Completed 1500 requests
Completed 3000 requests
Completed 4500 requests
Completed 6000 requests
Completed 7500 requests
Completed 9000 requests
Completed 10500 requests
Completed 12000 requests
Completed 13500 requests
Completed 15000 requests
Finished 15000 requests
Server Software:
                        Apache/2.2.14
Server Hostname:
                        localhost
Server Port:
Document Path:
Document Length:
                        49248 bytes
Concurrency Level:
                        1000
Time taken for tests: 3.067 seconds
Complete requests: 15000
Failed requests:
Write errors:
Total transferred: 743298794 bytes
HTML transferred: 739186054 bytes
Requests per second: 4890.04 [#/sec] (mean)
Time per request: 204.497 [ms] (mean)
                        0.204 [ms] (mean, across all concurrent requests)
Time per request:
Transfer rate:
                        236638.04 [Kbytes/sec] received
```

Illustration 21: Running Apache Benchmark with Caching enabled

We verify again our cache directory on disc to make sure items were being cached:

```
[root@jtosi apache]# cd sitelcacheroot/
[root@jtosi sitelcacheroot]# ls -ltr
total 64
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 vRp
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 fh8
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 FFR
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 pSB
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 L2g
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 9SG
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 8aG
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 6lX
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 cxP
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 M_H
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 aJb
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 iDZ
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 050
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 06i
drwx----- 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 15 12:47 AnK
```

Illustration 22: Checking cache folder, verifying that cache is populated

This confirms that we are caching our content. Also note that in our second load test the same amount of html was transferred, but our performance times were halved while our requests per second was doubled. We are getting significant gains with simple caching.

Other items to consider with caching:

- Static content as well as output from dynamic applications can be cache.
- When leveraging virtual includes in your pages or site, be sure to use 'include virtual' instead of
  'include file' to be able to take advantage of caching (since caching is URL based, not file reference
  based)
- Highly time-sensitive content should not be cached
- Only GET requests with a response code of 200, 203, 300, 301, or 410 can be cached

# 4.5 Securing your Environment

Apache should be installed and configured only by a root user or with sudo permissions. The thread that apache httpd runs under is defined by the User and Group directives. This user / group combination should not have access to any other system resources. If you do nothing else, be sure to do this.

#### User apache

```
apache
          8486 8485 0 10:42 ?
                                       00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
                                      00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
apache
          8487 8485 0 10:42 ?
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
apache
        8488 8485 0 10:42 ?
                                      00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
                                      00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
        8489 8485 0 10:42 ?
apache
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
                                      00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
apache 8490 8485 0 10:42 ?
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
         8491 8485 0 10:42 ?
                                      00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
apache
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
apache
         8492 8485 0 10:42 ?
                                      00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
          8493 8485 0 10:42 ?
                                      00:00:00 /var/local/httpd/sbin/httpd -f /
var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf -E /var/local/httpd/logs/httpd.log -k restart
Illustration 23: Observing the thread that HTTPD runs in for user and group ownership
Group apache
```

We can verify that the apache user is who the process is running under by looking at the httpd process (ps -ef | grep http)

Other items to do

1) Hide all sensitive information (version, build, etc). To do this, we use the ServerSignature and ServerTokens directives

## Turn off the signature of the server, as seen on default 404 pages

ServerSignature Off

## Limit information in the HTTP response header

ServerTokens Prod

Before these values are set:

Apache/2.2.14 (Red Hat) Server at localhost Port 80

Illustration 24: Exposing Server information

After the values are set:

# The requested URL /foo was not found on this server.

Illustration 25: Error page once server information is removed

**NOTE** – we could also do this test using curl or verify through various plugins in Firefox

2) To block traversal of files that were not meant to be accessible via the web, we need to have access to all files and directories removed by default. We then add back in only those as needed. We do this with the Order and Allow directives, applying them both at the default directory level and then in our VirtualHosts:

```
<Directory>
## Default deny all access
Order Deny, Allow
Deny from all
Options None
AllowOverride None
</Directory>
...
<Directory /website>
## Allow access only to 'website' directory and below
Order Allow, Deny
Allow from all
</Directory>
```

3) To avoid users of your website / application from being able to retrieve a listing of files in a directory, turn off the Indexes flag using the Option directive as follows:

Option -Indexes

Before the setting:



# Index of /overview



Illustration 26: With index listings enabled

After applying the setting:



# Forbidden

You don't have permission to access /overview/ on this server.

Illustration 27: After index listings are removed

- 4) Remove all unused modules. By default, JBoss EWS ships with quite a bit of modules enabled. Go through these modules and the ones that you aren't using, remove its 'LoadModule' directive. This will not only limit your exposure to potential security holes / flaws in modules, but also increase your performance by minimizing the footprint of Apache HTTPD.
- 5) DoS (Denial of Service) attacks are still prevalent in the web. To reduce the impact any potential DoS / DSoS attack may have on your site, lower the timeout value. This will free up threads quicker and thereby reduce the impact of 'long pull' attacks like DoS / DdoS. **NOTE** this does not remove your risk. You will still want monitoring around your services / requests, solid firewall rules, and possibly consider looking at mod\_security a module for apache that can dynamically apply rules and drop requests that have attack based signatures.

##Lower timeout value from default of 5 minutes to 30 seconds
Timeout 30

6) If your website / web application allows uploads, be sure to limit the size of these uploads. From a security perspective, the last thing you want is to provide the ability for someone to easily consume a thread / threads as well as bandwidth. Because of these reasons, we need to limit the size of large requests to our site. If you allow file uploads, set this value to the maximum reasonable value for your uploads – for example a maximum size for a resume might be 200Kb. If your site does not allow uploads set this as low as you feel comfortable with.

##Limit Request Body to ~1Mb
LimitRequestBody 1000000

7) Finally, as with all software, be sure to stay up to date with any security patches.

# 4.6 Logging and Debugging

There are three main log files you will interact with when debugging any issues that arise. These files are as follow:

1. Apache Access Log – this log shows all requests coming in to the web server. This is naturally the first log to look at. Here you will verify that the request is actually coming into the web server. This file is typically located at /logs/access.log but each Virtual Host can create its own access log. Because of that, it is best to get the location from the configuration of the domain you are debugging.

```
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:36:46 -0600] "GET /admin-console/index.seam HTTP/1
.1" 200 1881
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:36:46 -0600] "GET /admin-console/secure/summary.se
am HTTP/1.1" 302 -
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:36:46 -0600] "GET /admin-console/login.seam?conver
sationId=20 HTTP/1.1" 200 3991
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:38:15 -0600] "GET /admin-console HTTP/1.1" 302 -
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:38:15 -0600] "GET /admin-console/ HTTP/1.1" 200 11
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:38:15 -0600] "GET /admin-console/index.seam HTTP/1
.1" 200 1881
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:38:15 -0600] "GET /admin-console/secure/summary.se
am HTTP/1.1" 302 -
127.0.0.1 - - [18/Feb/2011:08:38:15 -0600] "GET /admin-console/login.seam?conver
sationId=22 HTTP/1.1" 200 3991
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Feb/2011:21:03:42 -0600] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 1421
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Feb/2011:21:03:43 -0600] "GET /css/jboss.css HTTP/1.1" 200 222
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Feb/2011:21:03:44 -0600] "GET /images/logo.gif HTTP/1.1" 200 1
815
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Feb/2011:21:03:45 -0600] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 200 1150
■27.0.0.1 - - [20/Feb/2011:21:03:52 -0600] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 1421
Illustration 28: Sample Apache access log
```

2. Apache Error Log – this log shows all errors that the web server is encountering. Errors typically are for artifacts (images, stylesheets, html pages) that could not be found. You will see other errors in here though if the web server is running low on resources which could be a sign of long-running threads or requests. Finally, you will also see more verbose debugging information here; for example information around ajp connections. This file is typically located at /logs/error.log but each Virtual Host can create its own access log. Because of that, it is best to get the location from the configuration of the domain you are debugging.

```
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy util.c(1825): proxy: worker proxy:rever
se already initialized
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [info] Server built: Jan 12 2010 13:37:07
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] prefork.c(1013): AcceptMutex: sysvsem (defaul
t: sysvsem)
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy util.c(1922): proxy: initialized single
connection worker 4 in child 25525 for (*)
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy util.c(1806): proxy: grabbed scoreboard
slot 4 in child 25526 for worker proxy:reverse
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy util.c(1825): proxy: worker proxy:rever
se already initialized
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy_util.c(1922): proxy: initialized single
connection worker 4 in child 25526 for (*)
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy_util.c(1806): proxy: grabbed scoreboard
slot 4 in child 25527 for worker proxy:reverse
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy util.c(1825): proxy: worker proxy:rever
se already initialized
[Sun Feb 20 21:01:43 2011] [debug] proxy util.c(1922): proxy: initialized single
connection worker 4 in child 25527 for (*)
Illustration 29: Sample Apache error log file
```

3. Mod\_jk / mod\_cluster / mod\_proxy.log – This log file will show all of the requests and responses over the connectors to JBoss including keepalive information or cluster information in the case of mod\_cluster. Look in this log to verify that requests are being sent to JBoss appropriately as well as to troubleshoot the expected translation and response from JBoss. This file is typically located at /logs/mod\_connector.log but each Virtual Host can create its own access log. Because of that, it is best to get the location from the configuration of the domain you are debugging.

Inside the httpd.config file, you can set the logging level of Apache using the LogLevel directive. The examples above are with LogLevel set to Debug to show more verbose samples.

```
# LogLevel: Control the number of messages logged to the error_log.
# Possible values include: debug, info, notice, warn, error, crit,
# alert, emerg.
#
LogLevel debug
|// lustration 30: LogLevel definition inside httpd.conf
```

The format of your log files is configurable. For the sake of this whitepaper, we will stick with the default logging configuration, but more information can be found here - <a href="http://httpd.apache.org/docs/current/logs.html">http://httpd.apache.org/docs/current/logs.html</a>

Finally, be sure to rotate your log files. As log file growth is directly dependent upon LogLevel as well as site requests, be sure to tune your scenario accordingly. In general, you always want to avoid log files getting to large. Most organizations are fine with a nightly log rotation and that is what the below example will cover (just note that your needs may vary).

The easiest way to set up nightly log rotation is to use the rotatelogs script that comes with Apache (located at *EWS\_HOME*/sbin/rotatelogs. To rotate our access log after 24 hours, we would add the following line:

CustomLog "|sbin/rotatelogs /var/local/httpd/logs/access.log 86400" common

There are a few items above that are of interest. Lets look at them individually

CustomLog - We are using the CustomLog directive to set up a custom logging structure. At the end of this line, we can see the 'common' parameter. This is telling CustomLog to use the common logging format and apply that to our CustomLog.

| (Pipe Character) - We start off the CustomLog by entering the pipe character. This tells apache to use piped logging. This way Apache does not keep a filehandle lock on the log file. If we didn't use piped logging, we could still rotate the files, but we would need to stop apache to release the lock before we could rotate.

sbin/rotatelogs - This is the relative path to the rotatelogs executable

/var/local/httpd/logs/access.log - This is the path to the log file we want to rotate. Note that for each log you want to rotate, you will want to add a CustomLog.

86400 - This is the number of seconds, offset from webserver start, when the log should be rotated. This could also be defined in filesize, i.e. 5M to rotate after 5Mb of logging.

common - Finally, we define that this log should use the common definition for log message formats.

Again, the above information shows the best approach for setting up log rotation. In the example above, we are rotating the access log file every 24 hours.

#### 4.7 Connecting to JBoss

There are three main ways to connecting Apache HTTPD to JBoss EAP.

1) Using mod\_proxy – mod\_proxy acts like just that – a proxy to your application server. With mod\_proxy, you simply tell apache that for certain request patterns, the request will be responded to by the application server. mod\_proxy can act as a regular forward proxy or as a reverse proxy. Mod\_proxy is simple to configure, supports SSL, but lacks a considerable amount of control that you will get with mod\_jk and mod\_cluster around how you will forward requests as well as information around application server availability.

- **2) Using mod\_jk** mod\_jk is the jakarta connector from Apache. Development on it has slowed down recently. Mod\_jk is nicer than mod\_proxy as it allows a tighter integration with the application server as well as a small communication channel (leveraging AJP) and more fine-grained control of how requests are forwarded (i.e. mod\_proxy forwards based on URLs, so typically a whole directory would be proxied. With mod\_jk, you could say for a given directory with a given extension type, forward those requests. This works well with virtual includes). However, mod\_jk does require a slightly more involved configuration and does not support an encrypted communication channel between web server and application server.
- 3) Using mod\_cluster mod\_cluster is the next generation connector from JBoss. Like the others, it serves to be the bridge between web server and application server. Like mod\_proxy, it can work with an encrypted channel and has a simple configuration. Like mod\_jk, mod\_cluster also allows fine-grained control of requests and configuration parameters. Unlike mod\_jk and mod\_proxy, mod\_cluster allows an application server to grow / shrink dynamically without needs for reconfiguration. Additionally, mod\_cluster leverages a second communication channel which allows it to have more robust load balancing options as well as being more than just application server aware it is also application aware meaning that it can detect scenarios where an application server is up but an application is not available and thereby not route traffic to it.

Now that we have provided a background on the 3 ways to connect Apache HTTPD to JBoss EAP, we will go through an exercise configuring these connectors.

In each example, we will do the following:

- 1) Send requests to websiteDomain/theboss to the admin-console of a cluster of JBoss EAP instances
- 2) We will configure these to communicate using AJP a performant, binary format used for communication between a web server and an application server
- 3) We will configure it such that the second instance will get 3 times the traffic as the first
- 4) Finally, we will configure our connector to use sticky session. This way once a user has established session on one application server instance, they will continue to go to that one as opposed to being load balanced between the two. This is ideal for a situation such as this where we are logging into an administration console.

# Setting up mod\_proxy

All of the changes in this example will be made to the httpd.conf file located at *EWS\_HOME*/conf. mod\_proxy is dependent upon the following modules, so be sure to have them loaded:

mod proxy

mod\_proxy\_balancer

mod proxy ajp / http / ftp (depending on your connecting protocol)

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Because we only want this forwarding applied to one domain, we will put these directives inside the VirtualHost definition. If we wanted the proxy applied globally, these directives can stand alone in the configuration file.

```
<VirtualHost>
##Identify the proxy
<Proxy balancer://jbossCluster>
##Setup the members for this proxy. 2 members, using ajp protocol (could also
##use http. 'loadfactor' tells the balancer that the second instance should get
##3 times the load of the first.
##Use ProxySet to establish sticky session
##ProxyPass defines the URL pattern to match to the balancer
BalancerMember ajp://127.0.0.1:8009 loadfactor=1
BalancerMember ajp://127.0.0.1:8109 loadfactor=3
ProxySet stickysession=JSESSIONID
</Proxy>
ProxyPass / balancer://jbossCluster
ProxyPassReverse / balancer://jbossCluster
. . .
</VirtualHost>
Here is what we see in a browser (note running over port 80)
```

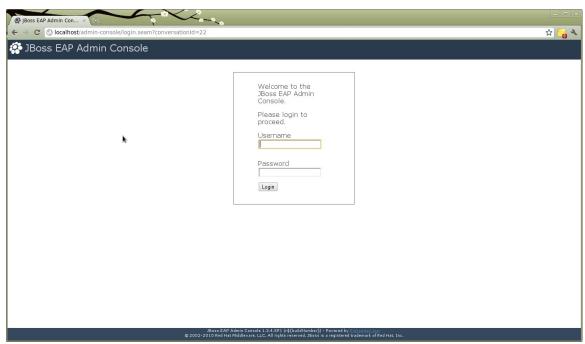


Illustration 31: Accessing JBoss through HTTPD front-end proxy, note the browser is accessing site over port 80

We could continue using the application as normal, all over port 80.

If you want to see the AJP communication, set your LogLevel to Debug and view the error log file:

```
File Edit View Terminal Help
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(599): ajp unmarshal response: He
ader[2] [Content-Type] = [text/html; charset=UTF-8;charset=UTF-8]
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(609): ajp unmarshal response: ap
 set content type done
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(687): ajp read header: ajp ilink
received 03
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(697): ajp parse type: got 03
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] mod cache.c(552): cache: /admin-console/login
.seam?conversationId=22 not cached. Reason: Query string present but no explicit
expiration time
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(687): ajp read header: ajp ilink
received 03
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(697): ajp parse type: got 03
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(687): ajp read header: ajp ilink
received 03
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(697): ajp parse type: got 03
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(687): ajp read header: ajp ilink
received 05
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] ajp header.c(697): ajp parse type: got 05
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] mod proxy ajp.c(562): proxy: got response fro
m 127.0.0.1:8109 (127.0.0.1)
[Fri Feb 18 08:38:15 2011] [debug] proxy util.c(2017): proxy: AJP: has released
connection for (127.0.0.1)
```

Illustration 32: Log files for information showing AJP connectivity

#### Setting up mod\_jk

We will be doing the same example as we did with mod\_proxy, except this time using mod\_jk. mod\_jk is only dependent on the mod\_jk module to be loaded. However, the configuration requires more directives and files. The section below covers the changes needed to send requests to a clustered JBoss EAP instance with a weighted load balancer, leveraging sticky sessions (same as with mod\_proxy exercise).

#### Modifications to httpd.conf

EWS ships with the mod\_jk module but not explicitly included in the httpd.conf file. The first thing we will need to do is add the mod\_jk module to be loaded. We do this by adding the following line at the end of the LoadModule block:

LoadModule jk\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_jk.so

Next, we need to define the location where our workers (application server instances that will respond to requests) are defined at. The common practice for this is to define this information in a file called workers.properties. We add this directive with the following:

JkWorkersFile /var/local/httpd/conf/workers.properties

Next we define the location of a shared memory file. This is used by the load balancer internal to mod\_jk for knowing where requests are at and where to direct traffic.

JkShmFile /var/local/httpd/mod\_jk.shm

Now we define where our logs for mod\_jk should go be written at, what logging level we want (error, debug, info), and the format of the logs.

JkLogFile /var/local/httpd/logs/mod\_jk.log
JkLogLevel info
JkLogStampFormat "[%a %b %d %H:%M:%S %Y] "

Finally, similar to what we did with mod\_proxy, we need to define which URLs are mapped over. We do this by defining the location for a URI mapping file (we look at the values of this file next). Since we only want this to affect one domain, we apply the following change inside our VirtualHost.

JkMountFile /var/local/httpd/conf/uriworkermap.properties

If we were to restart apache now, it would fail as the workers.properties file has not been created yet. Try it out, you should see something similar in the httpd log

Syntax error on line 959 of /var/local/httpd/conf/httpd.conf: JkWorkersFile: Can't find the workers file specified

Before we fix this error, lets address our uriworkermap.properties file and then we will create our workers.properties file.

The uriworkermap.properties file does not exist and you will need to create this file at the location you identified in the last step above. This file is very straightforward. We simply mount the servlet context that we want to be added as defined by a group (which we identify in workers.properties). Note that the servlet context will match the URL Apache HTTPD forwards over to JBoss. Here is the content of our uriworkermap.properties file:

# Mount the Servlet context to the ajp13 worker

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```
/admin-console=examplebalancer
/admin-console/*=examplebalancer
```

Finally, we identify our application servers in our workers.properties file.

Just like our uriworkermap.properties file, the workers.properties file does not exist and will need to be created at the location you defined in httpd.conf. The following exercise walks through creating a load balanced connection to 2 JBoss servers.

The first item to create in our workers.properties file is the listing of workers that will be available. We do this by using the workers.list directive like the following (notice how it matches our uriworkermap.properties definition):

worker.list=examplebalancer

With our worker list defined, we now go about identifying the servers that will make up our load balanced group. For the rest of the configuration, you will notice that the pattern is 'worker.' + workerName + property where workerName is how we are identifying the worker. There are quite a few configurable values here. This example will walk through the most critical values to set. These include the hostname where the JBoss instance resides, the type of worker this is, what the communication port should be, the load balancer weight, and finally how mod\_jk should check to ensure that the identified application server is up and responding (CPing). Lets look at the configuration:

```
# Define Node1
# modify the host as your host IP or DNS name.
worker.node1.port=8009
worker.node1.host=localhost
worker.node1.type=ajp13
worker.node1.ping_mode=A
worker.node1.lbfactor=1
```

In the example above, we are connecting to a JBoss instance on our local machine. We will be communicating using the ajp1.3 protocol, and JBoss is handling AJP on port 8009. We set a load balance factor of 1 (which makes more sense once we add our second node). Final, we set our ping\_mode to A. This means that we want mod jk to check all routes to verify that JBoss is up. This includes:

Check once after the initial connection to JBoss

Before each request is sent to JBoss

#### At a regular interval (heartbeat)

We set our second node (using the same parameters but updated for our second instance):

```
# Define Node2
# modify the host as your host IP or DNS name.
worker.node2.port=8109
worker.node2.host=localhost
worker.node2.type=ajp13
worker.node2.ping_mode=A
worker.node2.lbfactor=3
```

With our JBoss servers identified and configured, we wrap up the configuration by defining the loadbalancer aspects for the group and bind it to 'examplebalancer' which is what is defined in our uriworkermap.properties.

In the following example, we define the type of this worker as a loadbalancer(remember, named example balancer), what workers make up this load balancer, and we enable sticky sessions.

```
# Load-balancing behaviour
worker.examplebalancer.type=lb
worker.examplebalancer.balance_workers=node1,node2
worker.examplebalancer.sticky_session=1
```

Now that we have our uriworkermap.properties and worker.properties files defined, we restart Apache HTTPD and test it out. First thing we check after the restart is our mod\_jk.log. The following shows us that the mappings have all lined up and the backend servers are found and available:

```
[Tue Feb 22 20:35:21 2011] [6645:3078522736] [info] init_jk::mod_jk.c (3183): mod_jk /1.2.28 initialized
```

Illustration 33: Verifying mod\_jk is installed and configured through the mod\_jk.log

Any errors in here would tell us that a backend server isn't available or that we possibly have a type in our configurations.

And finally we verify that we can connect to our JBoss application server through Apache by testing through a browser over port 80:

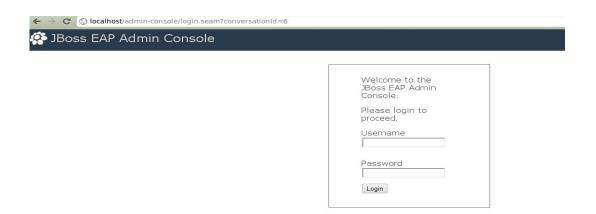


Illustration 34: Accessing JBoss through Apache HTTPD using mod\_jk

# Setting up mod\_cluster

Mod\_cluster requires modules to be added to Apache HTTPD as well as deploying a new application to your JBoss application instance. The following steps walk through getting these additional components, installing, and configuring them.

Similar to how you downloaded EWS, download the mod\_cluster modules from access.redhat.com (mod\_cluster-native)

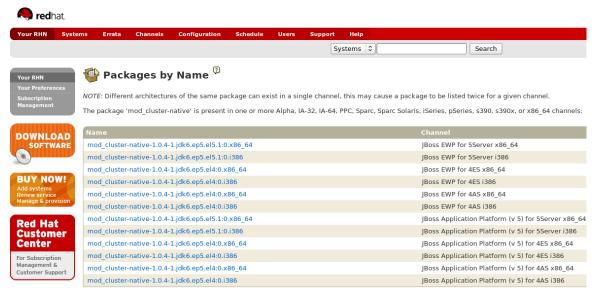


Illustration 35: Downloading mod\_cluster from rhn

Depending on your installation route for Apache HTTPD (rpm or from EWS zip) – downloading this rpm may update your httpd modules instance for you. What you need to make sure you have is the following modules inside your httpd modules directory:

```
mod_proxy.so
mod_proxy_ajp.so
mod_slotmem.so
mod_manager.so
mod_proxy_cluster.so
mod_advertise.so
```

Once these module are in the modules directory, we need to add the modules to our httpd.conf so that they are loaded when Apache starts up.

```
LoadModule proxy_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy.so

LoadModule proxy_ajp_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_ajp.so

LoadModule slotmem_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_slotmem.so

LoadModule manager_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_manager.so

LoadModule proxy_cluster_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_cluster.so

LoadModule advertise_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_advertise.so
```

With the modules added, we now show the minimal configuration needed to get mod\_cluster running. Notice how different this is as compared to mod\_proxy and mod\_jk – we are not defining any workers or contexts.

In the following example, we are setting up a new VirtualHost. The key here is to create a new socket for communication with the backend servers. We restrict access to a certain IP range (in this case, just local). Finally, we name our ManagerBalancer and tell it to advertise out, looking for backend connections.

```
Listen 127.0.0.1:6666

<VirtualHost 127.0.0.1:6666>

<Location />

Order deny,allow

Deny from all

Allow from 127.0.0.

</Location>
```

```
KeepAliveTimeout 60

MaxKeepAliveRequests 0

ManagerBalancerName mycluster
ServerAdvertise On

</VirtualHost>
```

We do one more step – that is setup the mod\_cluster manager so that we can verify mod\_cluster is functioning properly. We do this by adding the following to our httpd.conf:

```
<Location /mod_cluster-manager>
SetHandler mod_cluster-manager
Order deny,allow
Deny from all
Allow from 127.0.0.1
</Location>
```

The above section simply restricts access to the mod\_cluster-manager URI to only come from localhost. It defers handling of the requests to the mod\_cluster\_manager module.

No other httpd configuration is necessary. Remember – mod\_cluster dynamically (via the advertise channel) finds JBoss application servers as well as their context.

Next, we need to make some changes to our JBoss application server instances. These changes are necessary to that the instances know to broadcast to mod\_cluster. The changes are relatively simple and are easily repeatable. A best practice for dynamically adding instances to a cluster and having it picked up by mod\_cluster would be to simply have these changes as part of your core JBoss instance that you create (copy) others from.

# Setting up JBoss for mod\_cluster

In the following steps, we will be making the necessary changes to a JBoss instance to make mod\_cluster aware of it and vice versa. Only one server is shown, for subsequent instances, the changes are the same.

First copy the mod\_cluster.sar file from the earlier download to the 'deploy' directory of your JBoss instance. In the example below, an instance named 'node1' was created so we are copying mod\_cluster.sar to <code>Jboss\_HOME/jboss\_as/server/node1/deploy</code>. This application is what will do the communication with Apache HTTPD.

```
[jtosi@jtosi deploy]$ pwd
/home/jtosi/JBossPlatforms/jboss-eap-5.1/jboss-as/server/node1/deploy
[jtosi@jtosi deploy]$ ls -ltr *cluster*
:luster:
total 48
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 1391 Jan 6 10:47 timestamps-jboss-beans.xml
!rwxr-xr-x 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Jan 6 10:47 jgroups-channelfactory.sar
drwxr-xr-x 3 jtosi jtosi 4096 Jan 6 10:47 jboss-cache-manager.sar
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 1167 Jan 6 10:47 jbossweb-cluster.aop
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 3650 Jan 6 10:47 hapartition-jboss-beans.xml
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 6380 Jan 6 10:47 ha-legacy-jboss-beans.xml
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 5489 Jan 6 10:47 hajndi-jboss-beans.xml
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 763 Jan 6 10:47 farm-deployment-jboss-beans.xml
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 7500 Jan 6 10:47 deploy-hasingleton-jboss-beans.xml
nod-cluster.sar:
total 168
-rw-r--r-- 1 jtosi jtosi 165132 Jan 12 21:25 mod-cluster-1.0.4.GA.jar
irwxr-xr-x 2 jtosi jtosi 4096 Feb 22 22:27 META-INF
Illustration 36: Installing mod_cluster application into JBoss EAP
```

Now that we have the application installed, we need to do some configuration. The first configuration we will do is located at mod\_cluster.sar/META-INF/mod\_cluster-jboss-beans.xml. In this file we will be completing the information for the location to where mod\_cluster is running (the VirtualHost we set up in httpd.conf a few steps back). We will also add some domain information.

Edit this file, and add the following to achieve this (changes highlighted):

The next file we need to modify is located at node1/deploy/jbossweb.sar/server.xml

In this file, we need to make 2 changes. The first change is to add another listener to our web instance. This will make our mod\_cluster service initialized when JBoss starts up. Your change will look like the highlighted area below:

Illustration 38: Modifications to <config>/deploy/jbossweb.sar/server.xml

And the second change we need to add is a jvmRoute. This is needed for identifying the server to apache and mod cluster for load balancing as well as for sticky sessions.

```
<!-- SSL/TLS Connector configuration using the admin devl guide keystore
<Connector protocol="HTTP/1.1" SSLEnabled="true"
    port="8443" address="${jboss.bind.address}"
    scheme="https" secure="true" clientAuth="false"
    keystoreFile="${jboss.server.home.dir}/conf/chap8.keystore"
    keystorePass="rmi+ssl" sslProtocol = "TLS" />
    -->

<Engine name="jboss.web" defaultHost="localhost" jvmRoute="${jboss.jvmRoute}

*!-- The JAAS based authentication and authorization realm implementation
n
*!-- The JAAS based authentication and authorization realm implementation
n
*!-- The JAAS based server.xml file as in Illustration 38</pre>
```

Note that we are defining the jvmRoute as jboss.jvmRoute. This flags it as a dynamic property and we will be passing in during server startup. Save and close this file.

The final file we need to modify is located at node1/deploy/jbossweb.sar/META-INF/jboss-beans.xml. In this file, we need to let jbossweb know that our webserver is dependent upon the HAModClusterService bean that is defined in our mod\_cluster.sar (defined for us). Your changes to this file will look like the following:

Illustration 40: Modifying <config>/deploy/jbossweb.sar/META-INF/jboss-beans.xml. Save this file and close it.

With that all of our changes are complete. To reiterate – while there were 3 files we needed to modify and the changes seemed maybe not the most intuitive, the best practice is to make these changes once and then just copy the JBoss instance around as a foundation for other instances. With that approach, the only time you would need to modify any fields is if the HTTPD server configuration needed to change because the JBoss instance would have a new / different HTTPD front-ending it.

To add a second instance to the JBoss cluster, just copy the 'node1' directory recursively to a new directory, say name 2. Add more instances in the same manner.

With all of our changes complete, we start up our JBoss instance:

```
[jtosi@jtosi bin]$ ./run.sh -c nodel -g ClusterGroup -u 239.255.100.100 -b 127.0-0.1 -Djboss.messaging.ServerPeerID=1 -Djboss.Domain=ModClusterExample -Djboss.jvmRoute="nodel" | Illustration 41: Starting up our JBoss EAP instance
```

Please refer to the **JBoss Clustering Considerations** whitepaper in the Red Hat Customer portal. The only items we interacted with in this example are the last 2 parameters – the domain and the jvmRoute.

For sake of seeing a cluster in action, here is the same command, just starting a second JBoss instance (will come in handy when we look at mod\_cluster-manager). DO NOT START UP YOUR SECOND INSTANCE JUST YET!:

[jtosi@jtosi bin]\$ ./run.sh -c node2 -g ClusterGroup -u 239.255.100.100 -b 127.0 .0.1 -Djboss.messaging.ServerPeerID=2 -Djboss.service.binding.set=ports-01 -Djbo ss.Domain=ModClusterExample -Djboss.jvmRoute="node2"

Illustration 42: Starting up our second JBoss EAP instance

If Apache HTTPD is not up and running, be sure to start it up now.

To verify that mod cluster in Apache has discovered your JBoss instance (node1), point your browser to domain/mod cluster-manager. You should see the following:

← ⇒ C © 127.0.0.1/mod\_cluster-manager?nonce=868d5f3e-e746-4024-b56e-68341017ab34&refresh=10

Click to go back, hold to see history

THOU CIUSTEI / 1.1.X

Auto Refresh show DUMP output show INFO output

# LBGroup ModClusterExample: Enable Nodes Disable Nodes

# Node node1 (ajp://127.0.0.1:8009):

Enable Contexts Disable Contexts

Balancer mycluster, LB Group: ModCluster Example, Flushpackets: Off, Flushwait: 10000, Ping: 10000000, Smax: 1, Td: 60000000, Status: OK, Elected: 0, Read: 0, Transferred: 0, Connected: 0, Load: 92

### Virtual Host 1:

## Contexts:

/seam-excel, Status: ENABLED Request: O Disable

### Aliases:

localhost

Illustration 43: Verifying mod\_cluster using mod\_cluster-manager - http://127.0.0.1/mod\_cluster-manager. Note only one server is visible as we haven't started our second instance yet.

Now start up your second instance of JBoss. Once it is up, you will see in mod cluster-manager that mod cluster has discovered your new instance:

# mod cluster/1.1.x

Auto Refresh show DUMP output show INFO output

## LBGroup ModClusterExample: Enable Nodes Disable Nodes

# Node node1 (ajp://127.0.0.1:8009):

Enable Contexts Disable Contexts
Balancer: mycluster, LBGroup: ModClusterExample, Flushpackets: Off, Flushwait: 10000, Ping: 10000000, Smax 1, Td: 60000000, Status: OK, Elected: 0, Read: 0, Transferred: 0, Connected: 0, Load: 93

### Virtual Host 1:

#### Contexts:

/seam-excel, Status: ENABLED Request: O Disable

#### Aliases:

## Node node2 (ajp://127.0.0.1:8109):

Enable Contexts Disable Contexts

Balancer mycluster\_LBGroup: ModClusterExample\_Flushpackets: Off;Flushwait: 10000,Ping: 10000000,Smax 1,Ttl: 60000000,Status: OK\_Elected: 0,Read: 0,Transferred: 0,Connected: 0,Load: 100

### Virtual Host 1:

#### Contexts:

/seam-excel, Status: ENABLED Request: O Disable

Illustration 44: Mod\_cluster-manager after our second JBoss EAP instance was started. Note that no change to apache was needed

At this point, we have verified that mod cluster knows about our JBoss instances. What about the applications? We never defined them in httpd.conf...but we can see them in the mod\_cluster-manager console.

In your browser, now simply point to that context in your domain – in our example we are using localhost:



Microsoft® Excel® Export examples

Export ajax searchable Richfaces table

Search Clear

Export xhtml file, use-extension enabled. Export as Excel® spreadsheet

Export as comma separated file

Repeat and inline value

(Shows that you can use ui:repeat inside a cell.)

Export as Excel® spreadsheet

Illustration 45: Accessing an application through Apache HTTPD setup with mod\_cluster. Note that applications were never identified explicitly to Apache HTTPD like we have to do with mod\_jk

From this you can see that our apache web server is now sending these requests down to our application servers. As we add new applications or even new application servers to our environment, we don't need to make any changes to our webserver – mod\_cluster discovers all of this.

To wrap up this section, we went through the 3 main ways of connecting Apache HTTPD to our JBoss instances – using mod\_proxy, mod\_jk, and mod\_cluster. The recommended approach is using mod\_cluster as it is the most robust solution, providing better user experiences and ease of environment management.

# 4.8 Putting it all Together

The exercises covered in this whitepaper are now complete. Below is a complete reference of the httpd.conf, workers.properties, and uriworkermap.properties files used in this whitepaper. Note that some areas are commented out (depending on connection strategy) and general comments are removed for brevity.

## Httpd.conf:

### Section 1: Global Environment # ServerTokens Prod ServerRoot "/var/local/httpd/" PidFile run/httpd.pid Timeout 120 KeepAlive On MaxKeepAliveRequests 0 KeepAliveTimeout 60 <IfModule prefork.c> StartServers MinSpareServers 5 MaxSpareServers 20 ServerLimit 256 MaxClients 256 MaxRequestsPerChild 4000

## </IfModule>

<IfModule worker.c>

StartServers 2

MaxClients 150

MinSpareThreads 25

MaxSpareThreads 75

ThreadsPerChild 25

MaxRequestsPerChild 0

</IfModule>

## Listen 80

LoadModule auth\_basic\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_auth\_basic.so LoadModule auth\_digest\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_auth\_digest.so LoadModule authn\_file\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authn\_file.so LoadModule authn\_alias\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authn\_alias.so LoadModule authn\_anon\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authn\_anon.so LoadModule authn\_dbm\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authn\_dbm.so LoadModule authn\_default\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authn\_default.so LoadModule authz\_host\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authz\_host.so LoadModule authz\_user\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authz\_user.so LoadModule authz\_owner\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authz\_owner.so LoadModule authz\_groupfile\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authz\_groupfile.so LoadModule authz\_dbm\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authz\_dbm.so LoadModule authz\_default\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authz\_default.so LoadModule ldap\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_ldap.so LoadModule authnz\_ldap\_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod\_authnz\_ldap.so

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```
LoadModule include_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_include.so
LoadModule log_config_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_log_config.so
LoadModule logio_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_logio.so
LoadModule env_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_env.so
LoadModule ext_filter_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_ext_filter.so
LoadModule mime_magic_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_mime_magic.so
LoadModule expires_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_expires.so
LoadModule deflate_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_deflate.so
LoadModule headers_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_headers.so
LoadModule usertrack_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_usertrack.so
LoadModule setenvif_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_setenvif.so
LoadModule mime_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_mime.so
LoadModule dav_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_dav.so
LoadModule status_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_status.so
LoadModule autoindex_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_autoindex.so
LoadModule info_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_info.so
LoadModule dav_fs_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_dav_fs.so
LoadModule vhost_alias_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_vhost_alias.so
LoadModule negotiation_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_negotiation.so
LoadModule dir_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_dir.so
LoadModule actions_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_actions.so
LoadModule speling_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_speling.so
LoadModule userdir_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_userdir.so
LoadModule alias_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_alias.so
LoadModule rewrite_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_rewrite.so
#LoadModule proxy_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy.so
#LoadModule proxy_balancer_module
/var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_balancer.so
#LoadModule proxy_ftp_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_ftp.so
```

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```
#LoadModule proxy_http_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_http.so
#LoadModule proxy_connect_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_connect.so
#LoadModule proxy_ajp_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_ajp.so
LoadModule cache_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_cache.so
LoadModule suexec_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_suexec.so
LoadModule disk_cache_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_disk_cache.so
LoadModule file_cache_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_file_cache.so
LoadModule mem_cache_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_mem_cache.so
LoadModule cgi_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_cgi.so
#LoadModule jk_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_jk.so
LoadModule proxy_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy.so
LoadModule proxy_ajp_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_ajp.so
LoadModule slotmem_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_slotmem.so
LoadModule manager_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_manager.so
LoadModule proxy_cluster_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_proxy_cluster.so
LoadModule advertise_module /var/local/httpd/modules/mod_advertise.so
User apache
Group apache
### Section 2: 'Main' server configuration
ServerAdmin root@localhost
UseCanonicalName Off
DocumentRoot "/var/local/httpd/www/html"
<Directory />
```

```
Options FollowSymLinks
    AllowOverride None
</Directory>
<Directory "/var/local/httpd/www/html">
   Options Indexes FollowSymLinks
   AllowOverride None
   Order allow, deny
   Allow from all
</Directory>
<IfModule mod_userdir.c>
    UserDir disable
</IfModule>
DirectoryIndex index.html index.html.var
AccessFileName .htaccess
<Files ~ "^\.ht">
   Order allow, deny
    Deny from all
</Files>
TypesConfig /etc/mime.types
DefaultType text/plain
<IfModule mod_mime_magic.c>
    MIMEMagicFile conf/magic
</IfModule>
```

```
ErrorLog logs/error_log
LogLevel debug
\label{logFormat "%h %l %u %t \"%r\" %>s %b \"%{Referer}i\" \"%{User-Agent}i\""
combined
LogFormat "%h %l %u %t \"%r\" %>s %b" common
LogFormat "%{Referer}i -> %U" referer
LogFormat "%{User-agent}i" agent
CustomLog logs/access_log combined
ServerSignature Off
Alias /icons/ "/var/local/httpd/www/icons/"
<Directory "/var/local/httpd/www/icons">
    Options Indexes MultiViews
    AllowOverride None
    Order allow, deny
    Allow from all
</Directory>
<IfModule mod_dav_fs.c>
    DAVLockDB /var/lib/dav/lockdb
</IfModule>
ScriptAlias /cgi-bin/ "/var/local/httpd/www/cgi-bin/"
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```

HostnameLookups Off

```
AllowOverride None
   Options None
   Order allow, deny
   Allow from all
</Directory>
IndexOptions FancyIndexing VersionSort NameWidth=* HTMLTable
AddIconByEncoding (CMP,/icons/compressed.gif) x-compress x-gzip
AddIconByType (TXT,/icons/text.gif) text/*
AddIconByType (IMG,/icons/image2.gif) image/*
AddIconByType (SND,/icons/sound2.gif) audio/*
AddIconByType (VID,/icons/movie.gif) video/*
AddIcon /icons/binary.gif .bin .exe
AddIcon /icons/binhex.gif .hqx
AddIcon /icons/tar.gif .tar
AddIcon /icons/world2.gif .wrl .wrl.gz .vrml .vrm .iv
AddIcon /icons/compressed.gif .Z .z .tgz .gz .zip
AddIcon /icons/a.gif .ps .ai .eps
AddIcon /icons/layout.gif .html .shtml .htm .pdf
AddIcon /icons/text.gif .txt
AddIcon /icons/c.gif .c
AddIcon /icons/p.gif .pl .py
AddIcon /icons/f.gif .for
AddIcon /icons/dvi.gif .dvi
```

<Directory "/var/local/httpd/www/cgi-bin">

```
AddIcon /icons/script.gif .conf .sh .shar .csh .ksh .tcl
AddIcon /icons/tex.gif .tex
AddIcon /icons/bomb.gif core
AddIcon /icons/back.gif ..
AddIcon /icons/hand.right.gif README
AddIcon /icons/folder.gif ^^DIRECTORY^^
AddIcon /icons/blank.gif ^^BLANKICON^^
DefaultIcon /icons/unknown.gif
ReadmeName README.html
HeaderName HEADER.html
IndexIgnore .??* *~ *# HEADER* README* RCS CVS *, v *, t
AddLanguage ca .ca
AddLanguage cs .cz .cs
AddLanguage da .dk
AddLanguage de .de
AddLanguage el .el
AddLanguage en .en
AddLanguage eo .eo
AddLanguage es .es
AddLanguage et .et
AddLanguage fr .fr
AddLanguage he .he
```

AddIcon /icons/uuencoded.gif .uu

```
AddLanguage hr .hr
AddLanguage it .it
AddLanguage ja .ja
AddLanguage ko .ko
AddLanguage ltz .ltz
AddLanguage nl .nl
AddLanguage nn .nn
AddLanguage no .no
AddLanguage pl .po
AddLanguage pt .pt
AddLanguage pt-BR .pt-br
AddLanguage ru .ru
AddLanguage sv .sv
AddLanguage zh-CN .zh-cn
AddLanguage zh-TW .zh-tw
LanguagePriority en ca cs da de el eo es et fr he hr it ja ko ltz nl nn no pl
pt pt-BR ru sv zh-CN zh-TW
ForceLanguagePriority Prefer Fallback
AddDefaultCharset UTF-8
AddType application/x-compress .Z
AddType application/x-gzip .gz .tgz
AddHandler type-map var
AddType text/html .shtml
```

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```
AddOutputFilter INCLUDES .shtml
Alias /error/ "/var/local/httpd/www/error/"
<IfModule mod_negotiation.c>
<IfModule mod_include.c>
    <Directory "/var/local/httpd/www/error">
        AllowOverride None
        Options IncludesNoExec
        AddOutputFilter Includes html
        AddHandler type-map var
        Order allow, deny
        Allow from all
        LanguagePriority en es de fr
        ForceLanguagePriority Prefer Fallback
    </Directory>
</IfModule>
</IfModule>
BrowserMatch "Mozilla/2" nokeepalive
BrowserMatch "MSIE 4\.0b2;" nokeepalive downgrade-1.0 force-response-1.0
BrowserMatch "RealPlayer 4\.0" force-response-1.0
BrowserMatch "Java/1\.0" force-response-1.0
BrowserMatch "JDK/1\.0" force-response-1.0
BrowserMatch "Microsoft Data Access Internet Publishing Provider" redirect-
carefully
BrowserMatch "MS FrontPage" redirect-carefully
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```

```
BrowserMatch "^WebDrive" redirect-carefully
BrowserMatch "^WebDAVFS/1.[0123]" redirect-carefully
BrowserMatch "^gnome-vfs/1.0" redirect-carefully
BrowserMatch "^XML Spy" redirect-carefully
BrowserMatch "^Dreamweaver-WebDAV-SCM1" redirect-carefully
##MOD_CLUSTER ADDITIONS
<Location /mod_cluster-manager>
SetHandler mod_cluster-manager
Order deny, allow
Deny from all
Allow from 127.0.0.1
</Location>
##MOD_JK ADDITIONS
#JkWorkersFile /var/local/httpd/conf/workers.properties
#JkShmFile /var/local/httpd/mod_jk.shm
#JkLogFile /var/local/httpd/logs/mod_jk.log
#JkLogLevel info
#JkLogStampFormat "[%a %b %d %H:%M:%S %Y] "
### Section 3: Virtual Hosts
<VirtualHost 127.0.0.1>
 DocumentRoot /home/jtosi/website1
 ServerName www.site1.com
 ErrorLog logs/site1-error.log
 CustomLog logs/site1-access.log common
 CustomLog "|/var/local/httpd/sbin/rotatelogs /var/local/httpd/logs/site1-
access.log 86400" common
```

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```
<IfModule mod_cache_disk>
 CacheRoot /home/jtosi/apache/site1cacheroot
 CacheEnable disk /
 CacheDirLevels 5
 CacheDirLength 3
CacheSize 2000000
CacheMinFileSize 4
CacheMaxFileSize 256000
CacheDefaultExpire 86400
CustomLog logs/cached-reqeusts.log common env=cache-hit
CustomLog logs/uncached-requests.log common env=cache-miss
CustomLog logs/revalidated-requests.log common env=cache-revalidate
</IfModule>
## We don't want to cache highly volatile content
#CacheDisable http://www.somedomain.com/real-time-stock-market-quotes/
 <Directory "/home/jtosi/website1">
    Order allow, deny
```

```
Allow from all
  </Directory>
#JkMountFile /var/local/httpd/conf/uriworkermap.properties
#<Proxy balancer://jbossCluster>
#BalancerMember ajp://127.0.0.1:8009 loadfactor=1
#BalancerMember ajp://127.0.0.1:8109 loadfactor=3
#ProxySet stickysession=JSESSIONID
#</Proxy>
#ProxyPass / balancer://jbossCluster/
#ProxyPassReverse / balancer://jbossCluster/
</VirtualHost>
Listen 127.0.0.1:6666
<VirtualHost 127.0.0.1:6666>
<Location />
      Order deny, allow
      Deny from all
      Allow from 127.0.0.
   </Location>
 KeepAliveTimeout 60
 MaxKeepAliveRequests 0
 ManagerBalancerName mycluster
 ServerAdvertise On
</VirtualHost>
```

```
DocumentRoot /home/jtosi/website2
  ServerName www.site2.come
  ErrorLog logs/site2-error.log
  CustomLog logs/site2-access.log common
  CacheRoot /home/jtosi/apache/site2cacheroot
  CacheEnable disk /
  CacheDirLevels 5
  CacheDirLength 3
  <Directory "/home/jtosi/website2">
   Order allow, deny
    Allow from all
  </Directory>
</VirtualHost>
uriworkermap.properties
# Mount the Servlet context to the ajp13 worker
/jmx-console=examplebalancer
/jmx-console/*=examplebalancer
/web-console=examplebalancer
/web-console/*=examplebalancer
/admin-console=examplebalancer
/admin-console/*=examplebalancer
```

<VirtualHost 192.168.1.102>

```
# Define list of workers that will be used
# for mapping requests
worker.list=examplebalancer,status
# Define Node1
# modify the host as your host IP or DNS name.
worker.node1.port=8009
worker.node1.host=localhost
worker.node1.type=ajp13
worker.node1.ping_mode=A
worker.node1.lbfactor=1
# Define Node2
# modify the host as your host IP or DNS name.
worker.node2.port=8109
worker.node2.host=localhost
worker.node2.type=ajp13
worker.node2.ping_mode=A
worker.node2.lbfactor=3
# Load-balancing behaviour
worker.examplebalancer.type=lb
worker.examplebalancer.balance_workers=node1, node2
worker.examplebalancer.sticky_session=1
#worker.list=loadbalancer
# Status worker for managing load balancer
```

workers.properties

worker.status.type=status

## RESOURCES

## **Apache Directives Reference**

A complete explanation as well as a complete listing on the Apache directives can be found on the apache website at <a href="http://httpd.apache.org/">http://httpd.apache.org/</a>

## Mod\_jk Reference

More information on mod\_jk can be found at the mod\_jk website at <a href="http://tomcat.apache.org/connectors-doc/index.html">http://tomcat.apache.org/connectors-doc/index.html</a> Also, please refer to the Mod\_jk with multicast whitepaper available on the Red Hat Customer portal.

# Mod\_cluster Reference

More information on mod\_cluster can be found at <a href="http://www.jboss.org/mod\_cluster">http://www.jboss.org/mod\_cluster</a>. Also, please refer to the Mod\_cluster with multicast whitepaper available on the Red Hat Customer portal.

# Questions/Comments/Issues

If you have questions or comments about this whitepaper, please enter them in the Red Hat customer portal for this specific whitepaper: <a href="https://access.redhat.com/knowledge/techbriefs">https://access.redhat.com/knowledge/techbriefs</a>. If you have a technical issue following this whitepaper please open a support case: <a href="https://access.redhat.com/support/cases/new">https://access.redhat.com/support/cases/new</a>