

# High Availability

# H<sub>2</sub>A

## Redundant Failover for 24/7 Networks



In today's economy, information is a key factor to success. Your network is the key that allows fast, easy access to information in your office and around the world. To ensure that access to your vital information, your network infrastructure must provide reliable, secure connections to the Internet.

The GTA firewall forms the foundation for your network security by preventing unauthorized access to your network. But, have you considered what would happen to your network security if your firewall went offline? There's a simple solution that will eliminate that concern - H<sub>2</sub>A, GTA's high availability option. With H<sub>2</sub>A, you can be sure that firewall downtime does not mean network access downtime.

### Why High Availability?

H<sub>2</sub>A allows you to build a continuously available firewall system of GTA firewalls. The basic high availability configuration consists of two or more identical GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewalls each with the H<sub>2</sub>A option activated. GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewalls operate as one virtual GTA firewall system so you can locate them anywhere on your network without the need of special connecting cables. Should the primary GTA firewall go offline, the standby GTA firewall automatically and transparently switches to primary mode. Your organization never loses secure network access.

## Key Features

### 24 x 7 network security

The H<sub>2</sub>A High Availability option for GTA firewalls allows you to maintain network security in case of primary firewall downtime. With fast, transparent fail-over should your primary firewall go offline you are assured continuous access to your vital information. And your firewall configurations are maintained seamlessly during the fail-over process.

### Easy Installation

Installation and set-up are easy. There's no additional software to load. Simply add the H<sub>2</sub>A software activation code to your GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewall feature list and your high availability option is installed. There's no special cabling required, simply install the GTA firewalls anywhere on the same network!

### Simple Configuration

The H<sub>2</sub>A system can easily be configured to become operational quickly. You configure and manage the H<sub>2</sub>A high availability option with the standard GNAT Box System Software interfaces, so there's never a long learning curve.

### Cost Effective

With H<sub>2</sub>A you need only purchase high availability licenses for your GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewalls. There's no special hardware to purchase and no software to install and learn. Your administrative costs are kept to a minimum. Don't forget to consider the savings from improved 24 x 7 access time for your employees or your customers.

## Minimum Requirements

### H<sub>2</sub>A requires identically configured GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewalls

- Two (2) or more GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewall appliances with identical hardware and software configurations
- GNAT Box System Software version 3.2 (or higher)
- H<sub>2</sub>A – high availability license for each GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewall in the high availability chain

A current list of H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewalls can be found at [www.gta.com](http://www.gta.com)

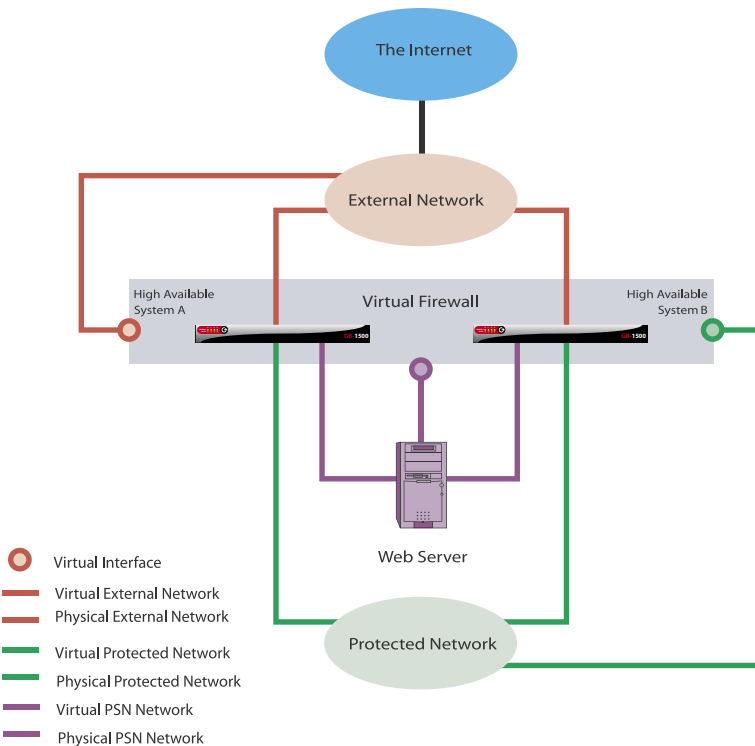
\* Specifications subject to change without notice

## Easy Management

H<sub>2</sub>A – high availability is configured and managed using any of the GNAT Box® System Software graphical user interfaces. For system administrators already familiar with GNAT Box System Software interfaces, this virtually eliminates the learning curve for implementing high availability. By using either the web browser interface or GBAdmin Windows interface you can manage your H<sub>2</sub>A configuration securely from anywhere on your network.

## How H<sub>2</sub>A - High Availability Works

Building a high availability network firewall infrastructure has never been easier. Using two GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewall appliances with GNAT Box System Software (ver 3.2 and higher) you can quickly be up and running with a fully redundant, continuously available firewall system. There's no additional software to install. Simply purchase a H<sub>2</sub>A license for each GTA firewall and enter the activation code supplied through GTA's online support center to enable H<sub>2</sub>A on your GTA firewalls.



Once your H<sub>2</sub>A option has been activated and configured, the systems work together transparently to ensure that your network has constant firewall coverage. Each GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewall continuously listens to network activity for H<sub>2</sub>A status and responds to changes in H<sub>2</sub>A information by moving from listening (standby) to primary (active) modes as needed. In addition, the primary GTA H<sub>2</sub>A firewall unit also polls each of its interfaces for functionality and should an interface fail, the primary GTA H<sub>2</sub>A firewall unit moves to listening mode allowing one of the listening GTA H<sub>2</sub>A firewalls to take over as the primary unit. The H<sub>2</sub>A system works seamlessly and transparently protecting your network from firewall downtime.

For organizations with 24 x 7 mission critical operations, GTA's H<sub>2</sub>A option provides an extra level of fail-over redundancy by allowing more than two GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewalls in the high availability chain. Each standby GTA H<sub>2</sub>A compatible firewall is ready to take over primary firewall functionality should the need arise.



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