TRICORD U/FT

Disk Mirroring and Hot Sparing for SCO UNIX

IMPROVED SYSTEM AVAILABILITY WITH U/FT

U/FT provides disk drive fault tolerance for improved system availability and performance operating under SCO UNIX 3.2.4, MPX 2.0. With U/FT, a software implementation of Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks Level 1 (RAID 1) operation, you can configure drives into mirrored arrays for fault tolerant operation.

If one drive in an array fails, the system will access the duplicate data on the mirrored disk and allow system operation to continue. In addition to mirroring data drives, U/FT allows you to mirror boot drives as well. Boot drive failures in the past would cause a system hang and loss of data. Providing a mirrored boot drive ensures continued operation.

YOU CHOOSE FAULT TOLERANCE AND PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Mirrored drives residing on a single channel on the same disk controller (IIOP) can provide improved fault tolerance. However, you can achieve greater fault tolerance by selecting mirrored drives on a different channel of the same IIOP. And for maximum security and performance, you can duplex data and mirrored drives across different IIOPs. Using these mirroring and duplexing techniques will also improve system performance.

Configuring disk arrays with U/FT increases performance over non-arrayed systems by distributing read requests across the set of mirrored drives in the array. Although mirrored drives on the same IIOP channel provide a performance increase, you will see significant improvement when using separate channels or duplexing across different IIOPs.
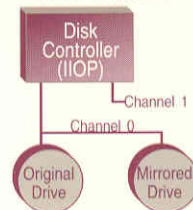
HOT SPARING BACKS UP MIRRORED DRIVES AUTOMATICALLY

With U/FT you can select one or more disk drives as "hot spares" to automatically replace failed drives in a mirrored configuration. If a mirrored drive fails, U/FT dynamically reconstructs and resynchronizes the mirrored data onto a hot spare without interrupting normal system operation. Hot sparing ensures system availability.
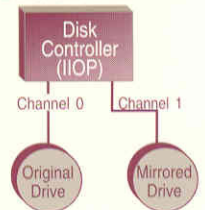
EASY TO INSTALL AND EASY TO USE

U/FT installs easily into the SCO UNIX file structure using the existing "custom" installation program. Once installed, the menu-driven U/FT Administrator quickly lets you access all configuration capabilities. You can configure new arrays, change or delete existing arrays, or assign hot spares. There also are menu options to view all disk and disk array information, and monitor disk read and write statistical information.
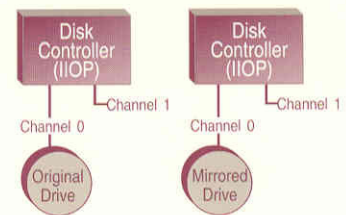

Mirroring on the Same Channel

Mirroring on Different Channels

Duplexing

BENEFITS

▲ Raid 1 Fault Tolerance provides improved system availability

▲ Hot sparing provides automatic disk backup

▲ Mirroring provides system performance improvements

▲ Administrator menu provides easy configuration options and statistics