

Failed cluster node confusion!

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Hello All!

Hope someone can help me with an issue I have with 3 shared disk clusters I have...

I was doing some tests with a Windows Server 2003 SP1 2 node cluster which is connected to an HP EVA SAN for storage. Everything is redundant including the HBA cards, NICs (they are teamed) etc etc. The heartbeat is configured to go over a cross over cable between the two nodes. If this fails then the heartbeat will go over the teamed NIC connection.

The client asked me to do some testing to see how resilient the solution was. All went really well when doing the following tests:

- 1) Shutting down one of the nodes
- 2) Unplugging one or both of the ethernet cables from the teamed NIC

When doing the above test, everything failed over to the remaining working node correctly.

The problem came when simulating a catastrophic failure by literally unplugging one of the nodes power supplies (both of them). When I did this, the second node did NOT failover the resources. Can someone explain why this is the case? We discovered this by accident when one of our nodes blue screened and the resources didn't failover. Is this a design limitation? When I opened Cluster Administrator all the nodes and resources had a blue exclamation point through them. How does one get the resources to automatically (or even manually) failover to the working node when one node has completely died (blue screen, hardware failure, etc)?? What is the correct procedure to follow when one of the nodes in a cluster completely fails? Does the remaining working node have to "seize" the resources?

I can't seem to find anything regarding this issue on the net.

Any help will be much appreciated! ;-)

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