Re: Intel Dual Port NIC Question

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You shouldn't have to do anything at all for it to behave correctly. I'm assuming both NIC are 1Gb. Connecting one to the 100Mb switch/router will result in the NIC running at 100Mb. Connecting the other to the 1Gb switch will allow the NIC to run at 1Gb. The only circumstances which would result in the NIC running at a slower speed while connected to the 1Gb switch is having an ethernet lead that is too long. The characteristice capacitance and inductance of the ethernet lead increases as the ethernet lead increases. This basically means that high frequency communications suffer from distortion and the NIC or switch will automatically attempt to successfully communicate at lower data rates. Standard switches will support 1000/100/10 Mbits/s so it will try those three modes starting at the highest. If the lead is longer than 100m, it will not work at all.

If your server is running a DHCP with all the clients connected to it on one NIC and the other NIC connected to your internet gateway/router/adsl modem, you should always have your clients connected to the 1Gb switch as none of the 'bottom bracket' routers/gateways/modems run higher than 100Mbit.

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