



Load Balancing Web Proxies / Filters / Gateways

Deployment Guide
v1.6.5

Table of Contents

1. About this Guide.....	4
2. Loadbalancer.org Appliances Supported.....	4
3. Loadbalancer.org Software Versions Supported.....	4
4. Web Proxies/Filters/Gateways.....	4
5. Benefits of Implementing a Load Balancer.....	5
6. Load Balancer Configuration Options.....	5
Deployment Modes.....	5
Layer 4 (Recommended).....	5
Layer 7.....	5
Persistence / Server Affinity.....	6
Source IP Address (Recommended).....	6
Destination Hash.....	6
7. Web Proxy Deployment Modes.....	6
1 – Explicit Proxy Mode (Recommended).....	6
2 – Transparent Routed Proxy Mode.....	6
8. Summary of Deployment Options.....	7
9. Loadbalancer.org Appliance – the Basics.....	8
Virtual Appliance Download & Deployment.....	8
Initial Network Configuration.....	8
Accessing the Web User Interface (WebUI).....	9
HA Clustered Pair Configuration.....	10
10. Option 1 – Explicit Proxy Mode (Recommended).....	11
Option 1A – Using DR (Direct Return) Mode (Recommended).....	11
Deployment Architecture.....	11
Load Balancer Configuration.....	12
Web Proxy Appliance Configuration.....	13
Finalize Settings.....	13
Option 1B – Using NAT Mode.....	14
Deployment Architecture.....	14
Load Balancer Configuration.....	15
Web Proxy Configuration.....	17
Finalize Settings.....	17
Option 1C – Using NAT Mode (Preferred NAT Topology).....	18
Deployment Architecture.....	18
Load Balancer Configuration.....	19
Web Proxy Configuration.....	21
Finalize Settings.....	21
Configuration Settings Common to Options 1A, 1B & 1C.....	21
Web Proxy Operating Mode.....	21
Client Configuration.....	21
11. Option 2 - Transparent Routed Proxy Mode.....	23
Deployment Architecture.....	23
Load Balancer Configuration.....	24

Create the Virtual Service (VIP).....	24
Add the Floating IP.....	24
Configure Firewall Rules.....	25
Define the Real Servers (RIPs).....	26
Web Proxy Appliance Configuration.....	26
Web Proxy Operating Mode.....	26
Router/Default Gateway Configuration.....	26
Client Configuration.....	27
12. Testing & Validation.....	27
Layer 4 – Current Connections.....	27
13. Technical Support.....	28
14. Further Documentation.....	28
15. Conclusion.....	28
16. Appendix.....	29
1 – Clustered Pair Configuration – Adding a Slave Unit.....	29
2 – Modified Transparent Mode Firewall Rules.....	31
3 - Company Contact Information.....	32

1. About this Guide

This guide details the steps required to configure a load balanced Web Proxy/Filter/Gateway environment utilizing Loadbalancer.org appliances. It covers the configuration of the load balancers and also any Web Proxy/Filter/Gateway configuration changes that are required to enable load balancing.

Note:

A number of vendor specific guides are also available. Please refer to [this URL](#) for details.

For more information about initial appliance deployment, network configuration and using the Web User Interface (WebUI), please also refer to the relevant Administration Manual:

- [v7 Administration Manual](#)
- [v8 Administration Manual](#)

2. Loadbalancer.org Appliances Supported

All our products can be used for load balancing Web Proxies/Filters. The complete list of models is shown below:

Discontinued Models	Current Models *
Enterprise R16	Enterprise R20
Enterprise VA R16	Enterprise MAX
Enterprise VA	Enterprise 10G
Enterprise R320	Enterprise Ultra
	Enterprise VA R20
	Enterprise VA MAX
	Enterprise AWS **
	Enterprise AZURE **

* For full specifications of these models please refer to: <http://www.loadbalancer.org/products/hardware>

** Some features may not be supported, please check with Loadbalancer.org support

3. Loadbalancer.org Software Versions Supported

- V7.6.4 and later

4. Web Proxies/Filters/Gateways

Web Proxies/Filters/Gateways provide a number of functions to permit organizations to control the way their staff access the Internet. These products are often appliance based and provide functionality including:

- Web Security & Control
- URL Filtering
- Content Caching
- Anti SPAM/Anti Malware/Anti Virus
- User Authentication
- High Availability

5. Benefits of Implementing a Load Balancer

Implementing Loadbalancer.org appliances enables multiple Web Proxies/Filters/Gateways to be deployed in a cluster. This provides the following key benefits:

- **High-Availability** – If a Web Proxy fails, service is not interrupted
- **Maintenance** – Web Proxies can easily be taken out of the cluster for maintenance
- **Performance** – For additional performance simply add more Web Proxies to the cluster

6. Load Balancer Configuration Options

The following sections describe the various load balancer deployment modes and persistence options that are used when load balancing Web Proxies/Filters/Gateways.

DEPLOYMENT MODES

LAYER 4 (RECOMMENDED)

DR Mode - Direct Server Return Mode (Recommended)

In this mode, traffic from the client to the Web Proxy passes via the load balancer, return traffic passes directly back to the client which maximizes performance. Direct routing works by changing the destination MAC address of the incoming packet on the fly which is very fast. This mode is transparent by default meaning that the Web Proxy sees the real client IP address and not the IP address of the load balancer.

Due to its speed, overall simplicity and effectiveness, Direct Routing (DR) mode with source IP persistence is our recommended method and can be used in both Explicit Proxy Mode & Transparent Routed Proxy Mode.

NAT Mode - Network Address Translation Mode

This mode requires the implementation of a two-arm infrastructure with an internal and external subnet to carry out the translation (the same way a firewall works). Return traffic **MUST** pass back via the load balancer. This can be achieved by either setting the default gateway on the Web Proxies to be the load balancer or by configuring a static route on the Web Proxies that forces client return traffic to pass back via the load balancer. This mode offers high performance and like DR mode is transparent by default.

LAYER 7

SNAT Mode - Source Network Address Translation

Using HAProxy in SNAT mode means that the load balancer is acting as a full proxy and therefore it doesn't have the same raw throughput as the layer 4 methods. Also, this method is not transparent by default so the real servers (i.e. the Web Proxies) will see the source address of each request as the load balancers IP address. This is generally not desirable, although this can be resolved in two ways: either by reading the X-Forwarded-For header that's included by default when using HAProxy, or by enabling TProxy on the load balancer. The issue with using TProxy is that the default gateway on the real servers must be changed to be the load balancer and it also requires a two-arm infrastructure with two subnets which complicates the deployment. The same requirements apply when using layer 4 NAT mode as mentioned above. SNAT mode does not have the raw throughput of the layer 4 solutions and is therefore not normally used for Web Proxy load balancing deployments.

PERSISTENCE / SERVER AFFINITY

Persistence may or may not be required and depends on the specific web proxy being used. Two possible methods are described in the following sections.

SOURCE IP ADDRESS (RECOMMENDED)

Source IP persistence is the default option for Layer 4 services and can easily be selected for Layer 7 services. When set, clients connecting from the same source IP address within the persistence timeout period (the default is 5 minutes) will always be sent to the same Web Proxy.

DESTINATION HASH

Another option at Layer 4 is to change the load balancing algorithm (i.e. the "scheduler") to destination hash (DH). This causes the load balancer to select the Web Proxy based on a hash of the destination IP address. This causes session requests to be directed at the same server based solely on the destination IP address of a packet which therefore makes client connections persistent for a particular Internet host.

Since this setting is a scheduler, the way connections are load balanced will also change. However it should still provide a well balanced distribution of client sessions between the Web Proxies.

7. Web Proxy Deployment Modes

There are two implementation methods that are typically used – Explicit Proxy Mode & Transparent Routed Proxy Mode. The specific terminology used by each vendor may vary, but will be similar.

1 – EXPLICIT PROXY MODE (RECOMMENDED)

This mode requires the load balancer's VIP address to be defined in users browsers. This means that the load balancer will receive client requests and distribute these requests across the back-end Web Proxies. Please refer to the section starting on page [11](#) for configuration details.

2 – TRANSPARENT ROUTED PROXY MODE

With this mode, client requests must be routed to the load balancer/proxy cluster. This can be achieved by either setting the default gateway on the client PCs to be the load balancer, or by adding rules to the default gateway device. Rules would typically be configured for HTTP & HTTPS traffic on ports 80 and 443. Please refer to the section starting on page [23](#) for configuration details.

Note:

Various limitations relating to HTTPS inspection and client authentication may affect your particular Web Proxy appliance when deployed in Transparent Mode. Please check with your

particular vendor to determine if this is the case and help choose the most appropriate deployment mode to use.

8. Summary of Deployment Options

Option	Web Proxy Mode	Load Balancer Mode	Notes
Option 1A (Recommended)	Explicit Proxy Mode	DR Mode	The Web Proxies must be configured to accept traffic for the VIP. Please refer to page 11 for configuration details.
Option 1B	Explicit Proxy Mode	NAT Mode	The load balancer must be set as the default gateway for the Web Proxies. Please refer to page 14 for configuration details.
Option 1C	Explicit Proxy Mode	NAT Mode	A static route must be configured on the Web Proxies to send client return traffic back via the load balancer. Please refer to page 18 for configuration details.
Option 2	Transparent Routed Proxy Mode	DR Mode	Firewall rules must be added to the load balancer to transparently send traffic to the Web Proxies. Please refer to page 23 for configuration details.

9. Loadbalancer.org Appliance – the Basics

VIRTUAL APPLIANCE DOWNLOAD & DEPLOYMENT

A fully featured, fully supported 30 day trial is available if you are conducting a PoC (Proof of Concept) deployment. The VA is currently available for VMware, Virtual Box, Hyper-V, KVM and XEN and has been optimized for each Hypervisor. By default, the VA is allocated 1 CPU, 2GB of RAM and has an 8GB virtual disk. The Virtual Appliance can be downloaded [here](#).

Note:

The same download is used for the licensed product, the only difference is that a license key file (supplied by our sales team when the product is purchased) must be applied using the appliance's WebUI.

Note:

Please refer to the [Administration Manual](#) and the ReadMe.txt text file included in the VA download for more detailed information on deploying the VA using various Hypervisors.

INITIAL NETWORK CONFIGURATION

The IP address, subnet mask, default gateway and DNS settings can be configured in several ways as detailed below:

Method 1 - Using the Network Setup Wizard at the console

After boot up, follow the instructions on the console to configure the IP address, subnet mask, default gateway and DNS settings.

Method 2 - Using the WebUI

Using a browser, connect to the WebUI on the default IP address/port: **http://192.168.2.21:9080**

To set the IP address & subnet mask, use: *Local Configuration > Network Interface Configuration*

To set the default gateway, use: *Local Configuration > Routing*

To configure DNS settings, use: *Local Configuration > Hostname & DNS*

Method 3 - Using Linux commands

At the console, set the initial IP address using the following command:

```
ip addr add <IP address>/<mask> dev eth0
```

At the console, set the initial default gateway using the following command:

```
route add default gw <IP address> <interface>
```

At the console, set the DNS server using the following command:

```
echo nameserver <IP address> >> /etc/resolv.conf
```

Note:

If method 3 is used, you must also configure these settings using the WebUI, otherwise the settings will be lost after a reboot.

ACCESSING THE WEB USER INTERFACE (WEBUI)

The WebUI can be accessed via HTTP at the following URL: **http://192.168.2.21:9080/lbadmin**

* *Note the port number → 9080*

The WebUI can be accessed via HTTPS at the following URL: **https://192.168.2.21:9443/lbadmin**

* *Note the port number → 9443*

(replace 192.168.2.21 with the IP address of your load balancer if it's been changed from the default)

Login using the following credentials:

Username: loadbalancer

Password: loadbalancer

Note:

To change the password , use the WebUI menu option: *Maintenance > Passwords*.

Once logged in, the WebUI will be displayed as shown on the following page:

loadbalancer.org Enterprise VA MAX

Master | Slave Active | Passive Link 5 Seconds

SYSTEM OVERVIEW 2015-06-18 14:21:20 UTC

Would you like to run the Setup Wizard?

Accept Dismiss

VIRTUAL SERVICE IP PORTS CONNS PROTOCOL METHOD MODE

No Virtual Services configured.

Network Bandwidth

Bytes/s

80 k
60 k
40 k
20 k
0

Wed 18:00 Thu 00:00 Thu 06:00 Thu 12:00

RX 2k Min, 4k Avg, 1853k Total.
TX 11k Min, 45k Avg, 18736k Total.

System Load Average

System Load

1.0
0.8
0.6
0.4
0.2
0.0

Wed 18:00 Thu 00:00 Thu 06:00 Thu 12:00

1m average 0.36 Min, 0.38 Avg, 0.39 Max
5m average 0.09 Min, 0.13 Avg, 0.17 Max
15m average 0.03 Min, 0.05 Avg, 0.07 Max

Memory Usage

Bytes

2.0 G
1.5 G
1.0 G
0.5 G
0.0

Wed 18:00 Thu 00:00 Thu 06:00 Thu 12:00

Used 117.78M Min, 122.85M Avg, 127.92M Max
Page 79.52M Min, 79.92M Avg, 80.32M Max
Buffer 10.86M Min, 11.14M Avg, 11.43M Max
Free 1812.93M Min, 1819.67M Avg, 1826.41M Max

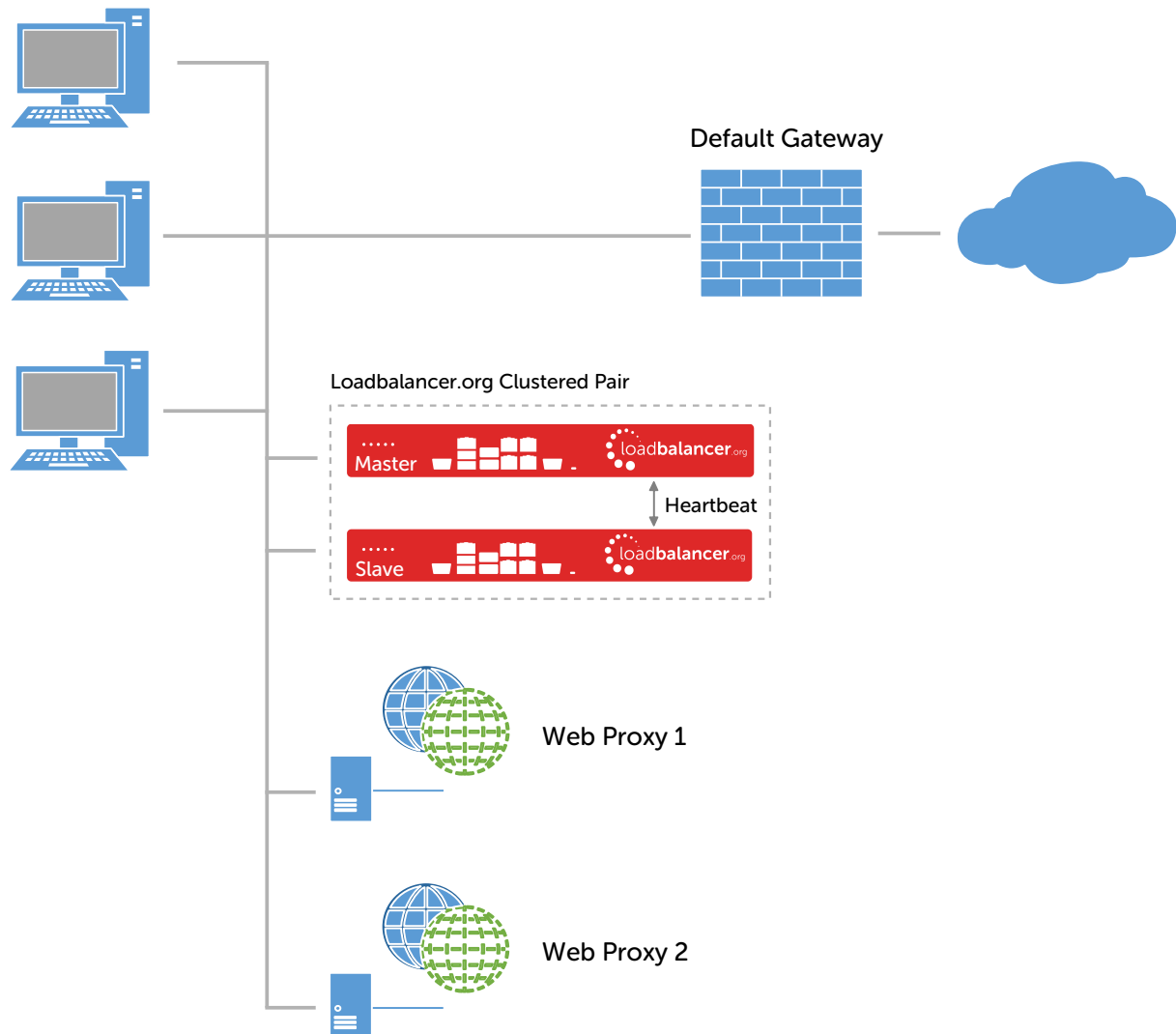
HA CLUSTERED PAIR CONFIGURATION

Loadbalancer.org recommend that load balancer appliances are deployed in pairs for high availability. In this guide a single unit is deployed first, adding a secondary slave unit is covered in section 1 of the Appendix on page [29](#).

10. Option 1 – Explicit Proxy Mode (Recommended)

OPTION 1A – USING DR (DIRECT RETURN) MODE (RECOMMENDED)

DEPLOYMENT ARCHITECTURE



Notes:

- Browser settings on client PC's must be changed to point at the Virtual Service (VIP) on the load balancer (see page [21](#))
- The load balancer is configured in one-arm Layer 4 DR mode
- The Web Proxies must be configured to accept traffic for the VIP (see page [13](#))
- Loadbalancer.org recommend that load balancer appliances are deployed in pairs for high availability. In this guide a single unit is deployed first, adding a secondary slave unit is covered in section 1 of the Appendix on page [29](#)

LOAD BALANCER CONFIGURATION

Create the Virtual Service (VIP)

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Virtual Services*
2. Click **Add a New Virtual Service**
3. Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy"/>	?	
Virtual Service	IP Address	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.202"/>	?
	Ports	<input type="text" value="8080"/>	?
Protocol	<input type="text" value="TCP"/>	?	
Forwarding Method	<input type="text" value="Direct Routing"/>	?	
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	

4. Enter an appropriate label (name) for the VIP, e.g. **Proxy**
5. Set the *Virtual Service IP address* field to the required IP address, e.g. **192.168.2.202**
6. Set the *Virtual Service Ports* field to the required port, e.g. **8080**
7. Ensure that *Protocol* is set to **TCP**
8. Ensure that *Forwarding Method* is set to **Direct Routing**
9. Click **Update**
10. Now click **Modify** next to the newly created VIP
11. Ensure *Persistence* is enabled and set *Persistence Timeout* to **3600** (i.e. 1 hour)
12. Click **Update**

Define the Real Servers (RIPs)

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Real Servers*
2. Click **Add a New Real Server** next to the newly created VIP
3. Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy1"/>	?
Real Server IP Address	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.210"/>	?
Weight	<input type="text" value="100"/>	?
Minimum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?
Maximum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>

4. Enter an appropriate label (name) for the first Web Proxy, e.g. **Proxy1**

5. Change the *Real Server IP Address* field to the required IP address, e.g. **192.168.2.210**
6. Click **Update**
7. Repeat the above steps to add your other Web Proxy(s)

WEB PROXY APPLIANCE CONFIGURATION

Modify the Web Proxies to accept traffic for the VIP

As mentioned previously, DR mode is our recommended load balancer operating mode. To use this mode, changes are required to the real servers, i.e. the Web Proxies. The real servers must accept traffic for the VIP, but they must not respond to any ARP requests for that IP, only the VIP should do this.

To configure a Linux based Web Proxy to accept traffic for the VIP, the iptables command below must be added to an appropriate startup script such as `/etc/rc.local` so that it is automatically executed each time the Web Proxy boots. It can also be executed immediately by running the command at the command prompt, but the setting will be lost after a reboot unless the command has been added to a startup script.

```
iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -p tcp -d <VIP address> -j REDIRECT
```

e.g.

```
iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -p tcp -d 192.168.2.202 -j REDIRECT
```

i.e. Redirect any incoming packets destined for the VIP to the local address

Note:

For more information please refer to the [Administration Manual](#) and search for 'ARP Problem'.

Note:

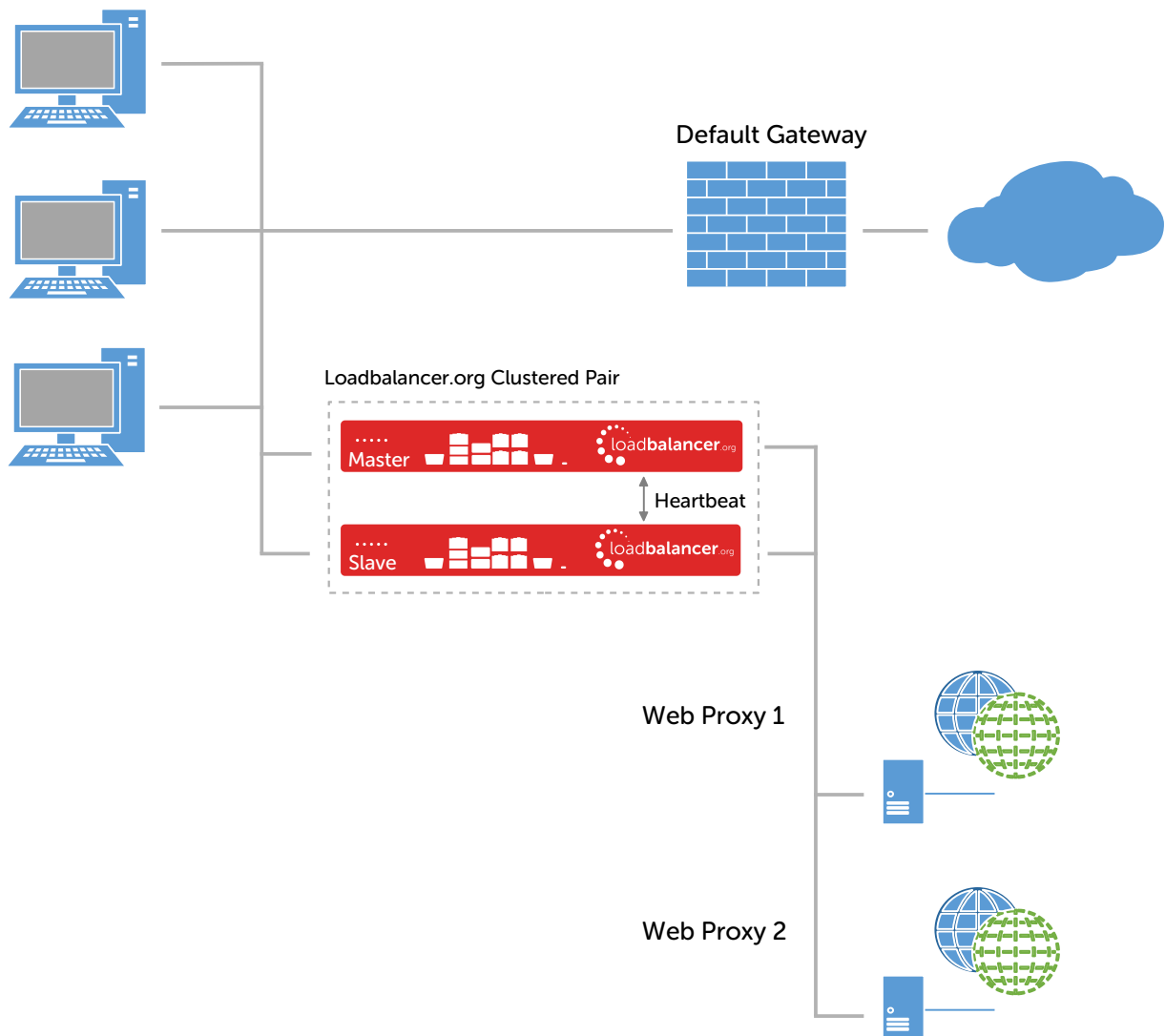
Vendors such as *Blox* and *Smoothwall* have options in their Web User Interface that allow this to be easily configured, so command line entries are not required. Please consult your specific vendor or loadbalancer.org for more information.

FINALIZE SETTINGS

Now refer to the section "*Configuration Settings Common to Options 1A, 1B & 1C*" on page [21](#) to finalize Web Proxy settings and configure client browser settings.

OPTION 1B – USING NAT MODE

DEPLOYMENT ARCHITECTURE



Notes:

- Browser settings on client PC's must be changed to point at the Virtual Service (VIP) on the load balancer (see page [21](#))
- The load balancer is configured in two-arm Layer 4 NAT mode
- Return traffic MUST pass back via the load balancer. To enable this, the default gateway for the Web Proxies is configured to be the load balancer. For an HA pair, a floating IP address must be configured to allow the gateway IP to move between master and slave in the event of a failover (see page [15](#))
- Loadbalancer.org recommend that load balancer appliances are deployed in pairs for high availability. In this guide a single unit is deployed first, adding a secondary slave unit is covered in section 1 of the Appendix on page [29](#)

LOAD BALANCER CONFIGURATION

Configure Network Settings

Two interfaces are required. Typically eth0 is used for the internal (Web Proxy) subnet and eth1 is used for the external (client & VIP) subnet, although this is not mandatory since interfaces can be used as required / preferred.

To configure network settings on the load balancer:

1. Ensure that the required cables are plugged in (hardware) or virtual NICs are connected (virtual)
2. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Local Configuration > Network Interface Configuration*
3. Define the required IP addresses and subnet mask:

The screenshot shows the 'IP Address Assignment' configuration page. At the top, there are four network interface icons: eth0 (10 GB/s), eth1 (10 GB/s), eth2 (disabled), and eth3 (disabled). Below the icons, there are two configuration sections. The first section is for eth0, with the IP address field containing '192.168.4.200/24' and the MTU field set to '1500 bytes'. The second section is for eth1, with the IP address field containing '192.168.2.200/24' and the MTU field set to '1500 bytes'.

4. Configure the required IP address for eth0, e.g. **192.168.4.200/24**
5. Configure the required IP address for eth1, e.g. **192.168.2.200/24**
6. Click **Configure Interfaces**

Define a Floating IP to be used as the Default Gateway for the Web Proxies

As mentioned, when using a clustered pair of load balancers for HA (our recommended configuration), a floating IP must be used as the default gateway for the Web Proxies. This will 'float' between the master and slave units in the event of a failover or failback. This ensures that the Web Proxies always have a consistent return path via the load balancer – whether the master or slave is active.

To configure a Floating IP:

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Floating IP's*

The screenshot shows the 'Floating IP's' configuration page. There is a text input field labeled 'New Floating IP' containing the value '192.168.4.205'. To the right of the input field is a green button labeled 'Add Floating IP'.

2. Define a suitable IP address for the default gateway , e.g. **192.168.4.205**
3. Click **Add Floating IP**

Create the Virtual Service (VIP)

- Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Virtual Services*
- Click **Add a New Virtual Service**
- Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy"/>	?	
Virtual Service	IP Address	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.202"/>	?
	Ports	<input type="text" value="8080"/>	?
Protocol	<input type="text" value="TCP"/>	?	
Forwarding Method	<input type="text" value="NAT"/>	?	
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	

- Enter an appropriate label (name) for the VIP, e.g. **Proxy**
- Set the *Virtual Service IP address* field to the required IP address, e.g. **192.168.2.202**
- Set the *Virtual Service Ports* field to the required port, e.g. **8080**
- Ensure that *Protocol* is set to **TCP**
- Ensure that *Forwarding Method* is set to **NAT**
- Click **Update**
- Now click **Modify** next to the newly created VIP
- Ensure *Persistence* is enabled and set *Persistence Timeout* to **3600** (i.e. 1 hour)
- Click **Update**

Define the Real Servers (RIPs)

- Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Real Servers*
- Click **Add a new Real Server** next to the newly created VIP
- Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy1"/>	?
Real Server IP Address	<input type="text" value="192.168.4.210"/>	?
Real Server Port	<input type="text" value="8080"/>	?
Weight	<input type="text" value="100"/>	?
Minimum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?
Maximum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>

- Enter an appropriate label (name) for the first Web Proxy, e.g. **Proxy1**
- Set the *Real Server IP Address* field to the required IP address, e.g. **192.168.4.210**

6. Set the *Real Server Port* field to the required port, e.g. **8080**
7. Click **Update**
8. Repeat the above steps to add your other Web Proxy(s)

Enable Auto-NAT

By default, servers behind the load balancer in a NAT configuration will not have access to the outside network. By enabling Auto-NAT, servers (i.e. the Web Proxies) will have their requests automatically mapped to the load balancer's external IP address. The default configuration is to map all requests originating from internal network eth0 to the external IP on eth1. A different interface can be selected if required.

To enable Auto-NAT on the load balancer:

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Advanced configuration*



Email Alert Destination Address	<input type="text"/>	?
Auto-NAT	eth1 (Default) ▼	?
Multi-threaded	yes ▼	?

Update

2. Set the Auto-NAT field to the external interface. As mentioned the default configuration is to use eth1 and the external interface and eth1 as the internal interface, but can be set to suit your needs.
3. Click **Update**

WEB PROXY CONFIGURATION

Configure the Default Gateway

As mentioned, Option 1B requires the default gateway on the Web Proxies to be the load balancer. When using an HA pair of load balancers, the gateway on the load balancer must be a Floating IP to provide a consistent return path via the load balancer – whether the master or slave is active. Page [15](#) details how to create the Floating IP.

Note:

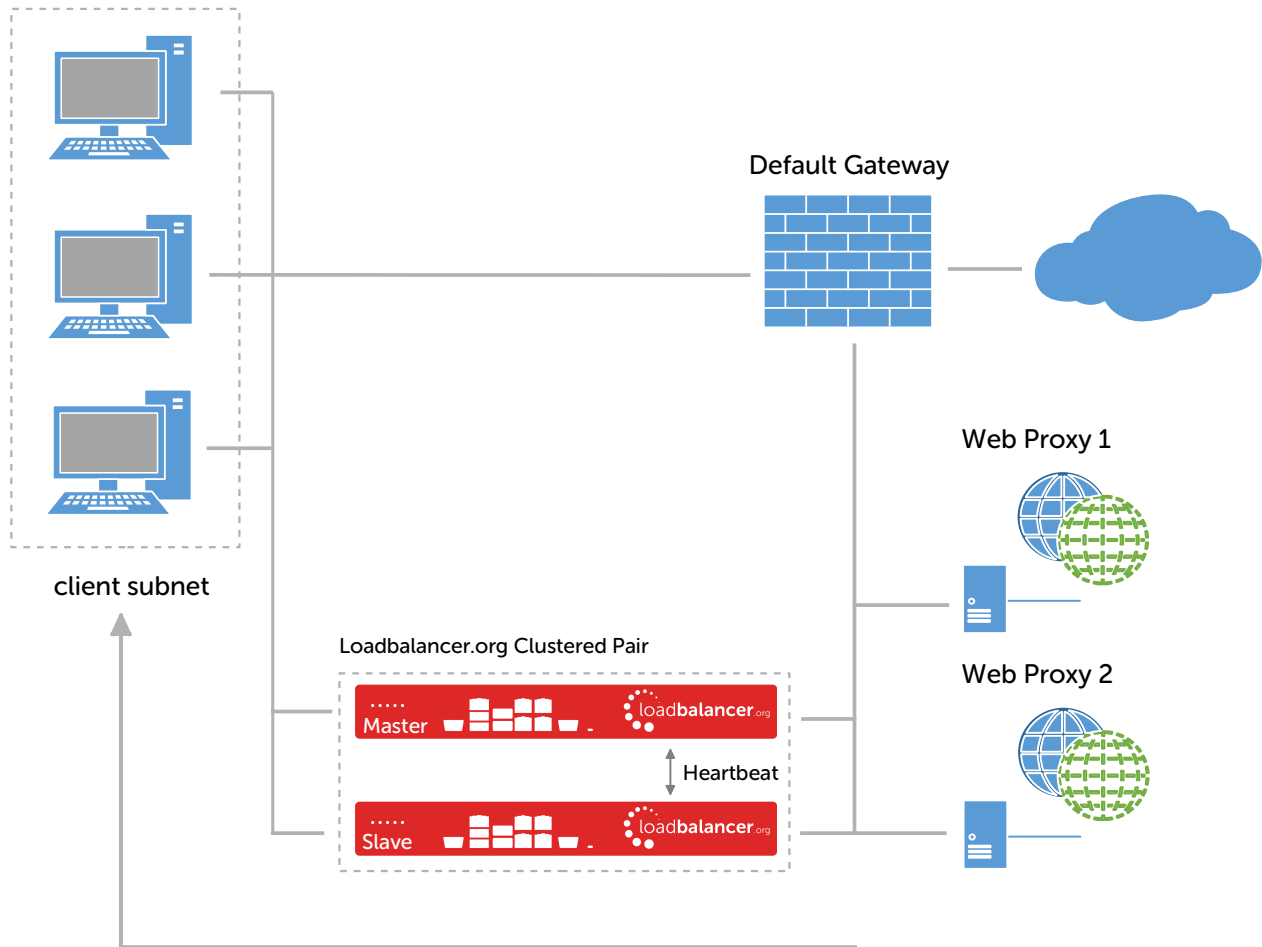
Please refer to the relevant Web Proxy documentation for instructions on setting the default gateway. This should be done on all Web Proxies.

FINALIZE SETTINGS

Now refer to the section "*Configuration Settings Common to Options 1A, 1B & 1C*" on page [21](#) to finalize Web Proxy settings and configure client browser settings.

OPTION 1C – USING NAT MODE (PREFERRED NAT TOPOLOGY)

DEPLOYMENT ARCHITECTURE



a static route is added to the Web Proxies to enable traffic to return to the client subnet via the load balancer

Notes:

- Browser settings on client PC's must be changed to point at the Virtual Service (VIP) on the load balancer (see page [21](#))
- The load balancer is configured in two-arm Layer 4 NAT mode
- Return traffic MUST pass back via the load balancer. To enable this, a static route is configured on the Web Proxies to send return traffic back via the load balancer. For an HA pair, a floating IP address must be configured to allow the gateway to move between master and slave in the event of a failover (see page [19](#))
- This method is more efficient & faster than Option 1B since the Web Proxies can access the Internet directly rather than going via the load balancer
- Loadbalancer.org recommend that load balancer appliances are deployed in pairs for high availability. In this guide a single unit is deployed first, adding a secondary slave unit is covered in section 1 of the Appendix on page [29](#)

LOAD BALANCER CONFIGURATION

Configure Network Settings

Two interfaces are required. Typically eth0 is used for the internal (Web Proxy) subnet and eth1 is used for the external (client & VIP) subnet, although this is not mandatory since interfaces can be used as required / preferred.

To configure network settings on the load balancer:

1. Ensure that the required cables are plugged in (hardware) or virtual NICs are connected (virtual)
2. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Local Configuration > Network Interface Configuration*
3. Define the required IP addresses and subnet mask:

The screenshot displays the 'IP Address Assignment' configuration page. At the top, there are four interface icons: eth0 (10 GB/s), eth1 (10 GB/s), eth2 (disabled), and eth3 (disabled). Below the icons, the configuration for eth0 is shown with an IP address of 192.168.4.200/24 and an MTU of 1500 bytes. The configuration for eth1 is shown with an IP address of 192.168.2.200/24 and an MTU of 1500 bytes.

4. Configure the required IP address for eth0, e.g. **192.168.4.200/24**
5. Configure the required IP address for eth1, e.g. **192.168.2.200/24**
6. Click **Configure Interfaces**

Define a Floating IP to be used as the gateway for the Static Route on the Web Proxies

As mentioned, when using a clustered pair of load balancers for HA (our recommended configuration), a floating IP must be used as the gateway for the static route on the Web Proxies. This will 'float' between the master and slave units in the event of a failover or failback. This ensures that the Web Proxies always have a consistent return path via the load balancer – whether the master or slave is active.

To configure a Floating IP:

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Floating IP's*

The screenshot displays the 'Floating IP's' configuration page. It shows a 'New Floating IP' field with the value 192.168.4.205 and an 'Add Floating IP' button.

2. Define a suitable IP address for the default gateway , e.g. **192.168.4.205**

3. Click **Add Floating IP**

Create the Virtual Service (VIP)

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Virtual Services*
2. Click **Add a New Virtual Service**
3. Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy"/>	?	
Virtual Service	IP Address	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.202"/>	?
	Ports	<input type="text" value="8080"/>	?
Protocol	<input type="text" value="TCP"/>	?	
Forwarding Method	<input type="text" value="NAT"/>	?	
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>	

4. Enter an appropriate label (name) for the VIP, e.g. **Proxy**
5. Set the *Virtual Service IP address* field to the required IP address, e.g. **192.168.2.202**
6. Set the *Virtual Service Ports* field to the required port, e.g. **8080**
7. Ensure that *Protocol* is set to **TCP**
8. Ensure that *Forwarding Method* is set to **NAT**
9. Click **Update**
10. Now click **Modify** next to the newly created VIP
11. Ensure *Persistence* is enabled and set *Persistence Timeout* to **3600** (i.e. 1 hour)
12. Click **Update**

Define the Real Servers (RIPs)

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Real Servers*
2. Click **Add a new Real Server** next to the newly created VIP
3. Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy1"/>	?
Real Server IP Address	<input type="text" value="192.168.4.210"/>	?
Real Server Port	<input type="text" value="8080"/>	?
Weight	<input type="text" value="100"/>	?
Minimum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?
Maximum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>

4. Enter an appropriate label (name) for the first Web Proxy, e.g. **Proxy1**
5. Set the *Real Server IP Address* field to the required IP address, e.g. **192.168.4.210**
6. Set the *Real Server Port* field to the required port, e.g. **8080**
7. Click **Update**
8. Repeat the above steps to add your other Web Proxy(s)

WEB PROXY CONFIGURATION

Configure a Static Route

As mentioned, Option 1C requires a Static Route to be defined on the Web Proxies that forces client return traffic to pass back via the load balancer. When using an HA pair of load balancers, the gateway for the static route must be a Floating IP to provide a consistent return path via the load balancer – whether the master or slave is active. Page [19](#) details how to create the Floating IP.

Note:

Please refer to the relevant Web Proxy documentation for instructions on configuring a Static Route. This should be done on all Web Proxies.

FINALIZE SETTINGS

Now refer to the section "*Configuration Settings Common to Options 1A, 1B & 1C*" below to finalize web proxy and client browser settings.

CONFIGURATION SETTINGS COMMON TO OPTIONS 1A, 1B & 1C

The steps in the following 2 sub sections must be followed for options 1A, 1B & 1C.

WEB PROXY OPERATING MODE

Typically, there is a setting in the WebUI of the Web Proxy to allow the selection of either Explicit Proxy Mode or Transparent Routed Proxy Mode.

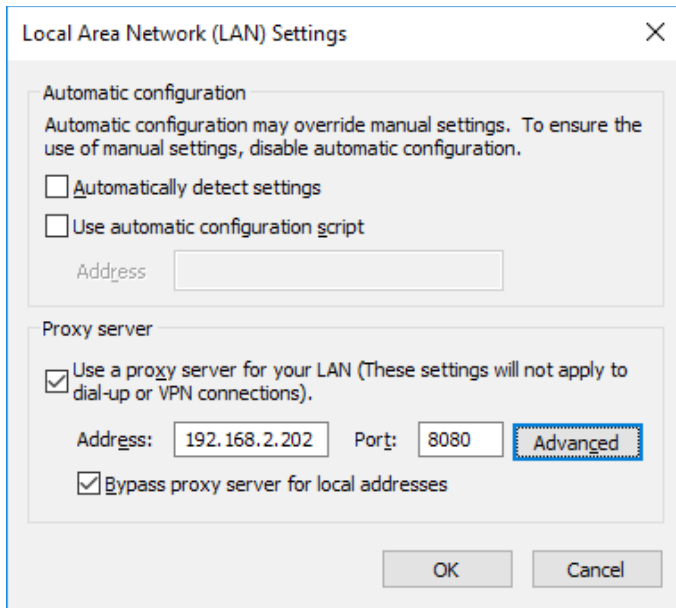
For Options 1A, 1B & 1C this should be set to Explicit Proxy Mode. The exact terminology does vary between vendors so please check your specific appliance.

CLIENT CONFIGURATION

Client browser settings must be set so that browsers connect via the VIP. In a Microsoft based LAN environment, this is typically achieved using AD group policy.

Note:

Depending on your requirements, it may be necessary to use an FQDN rather than an IP address for the Proxy server address. If you use an FQDN, make sure you have a valid DNS configuration that correctly resolves the hostname.

Browser Network Settings:

Local Area Network (LAN) Settings

Automatic configuration
Automatic configuration may override manual settings. To ensure the use of manual settings, disable automatic configuration.

Automatically detect settings

Use automatic configuration script

Address:

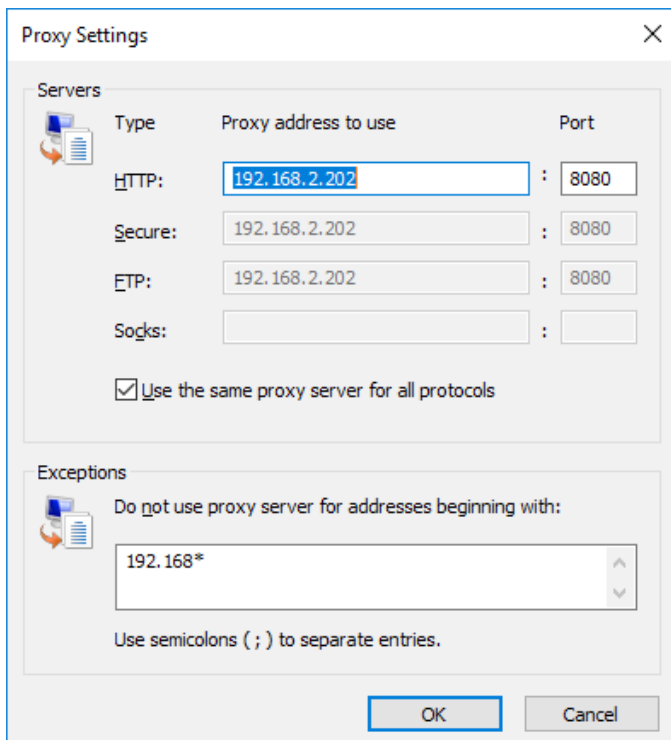
Proxy server

Use a proxy server for your LAN (These settings will not apply to dial-up or VPN connections).

Address: Port: [Advanced](#)

Bypass proxy server for local addresses

OK Cancel



Proxy Settings

Servers

Type	Proxy address to use	Port
HTTP:	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.202"/>	<input type="text" value="8080"/>
Secure:	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.202"/>	<input type="text" value="8080"/>
FTP:	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.202"/>	<input type="text" value="8080"/>
Socks:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Use the same proxy server for all protocols

Exceptions

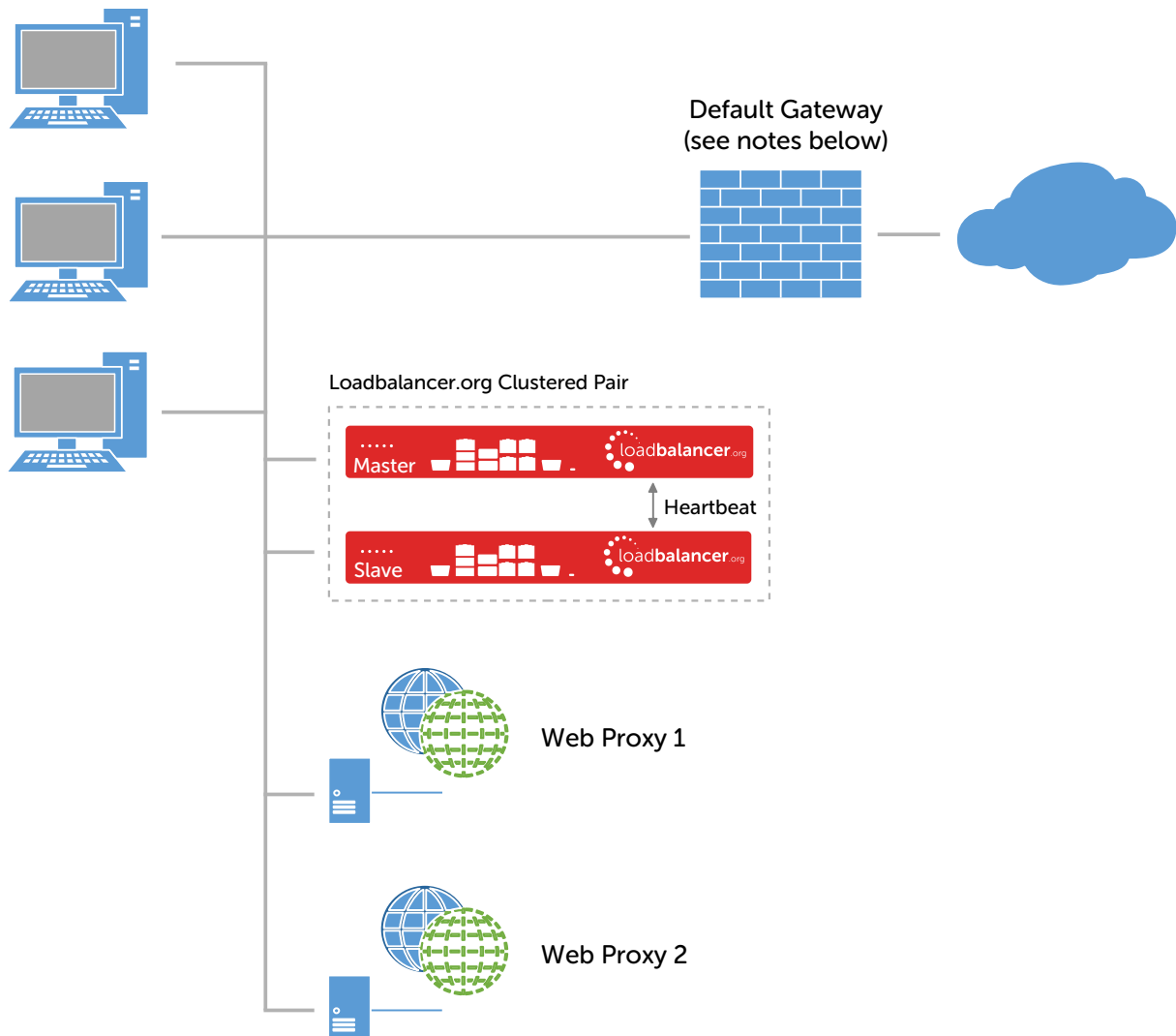
Do not use proxy server for addresses beginning with:

Use semicolons (;) to separate entries.

OK Cancel

11. Option 2 - Transparent Routed Proxy Mode

DEPLOYMENT ARCHITECTURE



Notes:

- Rules must be added to the router/firewall so that the required traffic (typically HTTP & HTTPS on port 80 & 443) is sent transparently to the load balancer, please see page [26](#) for example rules for a Linux router
- As with Explicit Proxy Mode, the load balancer is configured in Layer 4 DR mode
- Firewall rules must be added to the load balancer to transparently send traffic to the Web Proxies (see page [25](#))
- Loadbalancer.org recommend that load balancer appliances are deployed in pairs for high availability. In this guide a single unit is deployed first, adding a secondary slave unit is covered in section 1 of the Appendix on page [29](#)

LOAD BALANCER CONFIGURATION

CREATE THE VIRTUAL SERVICE (VIP)

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Virtual Services*
2. Click **Add a New Virtual Service**
3. Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy"/>	?
Virtual Service	IP Address <input type="text" value="1"/>	?
	Ports <input type="text"/>	?
Protocol	<input type="text" value="Firewall Marks"/>	?
Forwarding Method	<input type="text" value="Direct Routing"/>	?
		<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Update"/>

4. Enter an appropriate label (name) for the VIP, e.g. **Proxy**
5. Change the *Virtual Service IP address* field to **1**

Note:

This is the reference number for the 'Firewall Mark'. The same reference number is used when configuring the firewall rules – please see page [25](#) for more details.

6. Clear the *Virtual Service Ports* field, the ports are defined in the firewall rules on page [25](#)
7. Ensure that *Protocol* is set to **Firewall Marks**

Note:

The ports field will be disabled when this is done.

8. Ensure that *Forwarding Method* is set to **Direct Routing**
9. Click **Update**
10. Now click **Modify** next to the newly created VIP
11. Ensure *Persistence* is enabled and set *Persistence Timeout* to **3600** (i.e. 1 hour)
12. Under the *Health Checks* section change *Check Type* to **Ping Server**
13. Click **Update**

ADD THE FLOATING IP

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Floating IPs*

New Floating IP	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.202"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Floating IP"/>
-----------------	--	--

2. Enter an appropriate IP address for the Virtual Service, e.g. **192.168.2.202**
3. Click **Add Floating IP**

CONFIGURE FIREWALL RULES

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Maintenance > Firewall Script*
2. Scroll down to the Firewall Marks section
3. Add the following lines to this section as shown in the screen shot below:

```
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 80 -j MARK --set-mark 1
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 443 -j MARK --set-mark 1
ip rule add prio 100 fwmark 1 table 100
ip route add local 0/0 dev lo table 100
```

Note:

Please see section 2 in the Appendix if you intend to forward ALL traffic to the web proxies.

MAINTENANCE > FIREWALL SCRIPT

```
##### Manual Firewall Marks #####

iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 80 -j MARK --set-mark 1
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 443 -j MARK --set-mark 1
ip rule add prio 100 fwmark 1 table 100
ip route add local 0/0 dev lo table 100

# Example: Associate HTTP and HTTPS with Firewall Mark 1:
#VIP1="10.0.0.66"
#iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp -d $VIP1 --dport 80 -j MARK --set-mark 1
#iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp -d $VIP1 --dport 443 -j MARK --set-mark 1

# A Virtual Service may then be created in the web interface, using 1 as the
# service address.

##### Packet Filtering #####

# You should always use a network perimeter firewall to lock down all
# external access to the load balancer except the required Virtual Services
# and the required services from your admin machine / network (SSH & HTTPS)

# Allow unlimited traffic on the loopback interface:
#iptables -A INPUT -i lo -j ACCEPT
#iptables -A OUTPUT -o lo -j ACCEPT
```

- Click **Update**

DEFINE THE REAL SERVERS (RIPS)

1. Using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > Layer 4 – Real Servers*
2. Click **Add a New Real Server** next to the newly created VIP
3. Enter the following details:

Label	<input type="text" value="Proxy1"/>	?
Real Server IP Address	<input type="text" value="192.168.2.210"/>	?
Weight	<input type="text" value="100"/>	?
Minimum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?
Maximum Connections	<input type="text" value="0"/>	?

4. Enter an appropriate label (name) for the first Web Proxy, e.g. **Proxy1**
5. Change the *Real Server IP Address* field to the required IP address, e.g. **192.168.2.210**
6. Click **Update**
7. Repeat the above steps to add your other Web Proxy(s)

WEB PROXY APPLIANCE CONFIGURATION

WEB PROXY OPERATING MODE

Typically, there is a setting in the WebUI of the Web Proxy to allow the selection of either Explicit Proxy Mode or Transparent Routed Proxy Mode.

For Option 2 this should be set to Transparent Routed Proxy Mode. The exact terminology does vary between vendors so please check your specific appliance.

Note:

When using Transparent Mode, it's not necessary to modify the Web Proxy to accept traffic destined for the VIP, this is only required when using Explicit Proxy Mode.

ROUTER/DEFAULT GATEWAY CONFIGURATION

Depending on your network configuration, rules must be added to the router/default gateway so that all required traffic (typically HTTP & HTTPS on port 80 & 443) is sent to the floating IP address on the load balancer. The load balancer then distributes this traffic between the Web Proxies. The example shown below is for a Linux based router:

Example iptables rules for a Linux based router:

```
SUBNET="192.168.2.0/24"
FWMARK="5"
TABLE="10"
LOADBALANCER="192.168.2.202"
```

```
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -s $$SUBNET -p tcp -m tcp --dport 80 -j MARK --set-mark $FWMARK
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -s $$SUBNET -p tcp -m tcp --dport 443 -j MARK --set-mark $FWMARK
ip route add default via $LOADBALANCER dev eth3 table $TABLE
ip rule add fwmark $FWMARK table $TABLE
```

This example uses policy routing via firewall marks. This works by first selecting and marking the packets we want to be sent to the Web Proxy, i.e. all packets on port 80 & 443. Then, when the kernel goes to make a routing decision, the marked packets aren't routed using the normal routing table, instead via table 10 in this case. Table 10 has only one entry: route packets to the Web Proxy.

Note:

This is required when no changes have been made to the clients default gateway settings.

CLIENT CONFIGURATION

If rules are configured on the router as described in the section above, no client change are required. If such rules are not configured, then the default gateway on the client PCs must be modified to be the load balancer.

12. Testing & Validation

To verify that the traffic is passing through the load balancer correctly the following reporting options can be used:

System Overview

Reports > Layer 4 Status

Reports > Layer 4 Current Connections

Several reporting and dashboard options are also available on the web proxies, for this please refer to your specific vendors documentation.

LAYER 4 – CURRENT CONNECTIONS

Explicit Proxy Mode

The example screen shot below illustrates that the test client (192.168.64.7) sends requests to the VIP (192.168.111.88), the load balancer then forwards the request onto the Web Proxy (192.168.64.60).

LAYER 4 CURRENT CONNECTIONS

IPVS connection entries

pro	expire	state	source	virtual	destination
TCP	13:07	ESTABLISHED	192.168.64.7:3565	192.168.111.88:8080	192.168.64.60:8080
TCP	13:07	ESTABLISHED	192.168.64.7:3566	192.168.111.88:8080	192.168.64.60:8080
TCP	02:58	NONE	192.168.64.7:0	192.168.111.88:8080	192.168.64.60:8080
TCP	13:03	ESTABLISHED	192.168.64.7:3564	192.168.111.88:8080	192.168.64.60:8080
TCP	13:03	ESTABLISHED	192.168.64.7:3568	192.168.111.88:8080	192.168.64.60:8080

Transparent Mode

The example screen shot below illustrates the difference when running in transparent mode.

LAYER 4 CURRENT CONNECTIONS

IPVS connection entries

pro	expire	state	source	virtual	destination
TCP	00:41	FIN_WAIT	192.168.64.7:5774	70.42.56.98:80	192.168.64.60:80
TCP	00:15	FIN_WAIT	192.168.64.7:5758	74.208.104.65:80	192.168.64.60:80
TCP	14:19	ESTABLISHED	192.168.64.7:5681	93.188.129.145:80	192.168.64.60:80
TCP	00:50	FIN_WAIT	192.168.64.7:5779	70.42.56.98:80	192.168.64.60:80
TCP	00:47	FIN_WAIT	192.168.64.7:5778	70.42.56.98:80	192.168.64.60:80
TCP	14:35	ESTABLISHED	192.168.64.7:5679	176.34.178.134:80	192.168.64.60:80
TCP	14:35	ESTABLISHED	192.168.64.7:5691	178.236.5.70:80	192.168.64.60:80

13. Technical Support

If you have any questions regarding the appliance or would like assistance designing your deployment, please don't hesitate to contact our support team: support@loadbalancer.org.

14. Further Documentation

The Administration Manual contains much more information about configuring and deploying the appliance. It's available here: <http://pdfs.loadbalancer.org/loadbalanceradministrationv8.pdf>

15. Conclusion

Loadbalancer.org appliances provide a very cost effective solution for highly available load balanced Web Proxy/Filter environments.

16. Appendix

1 – CLUSTERED PAIR CONFIGURATION – ADDING A SLAVE UNIT

If you initially configured just the master unit and now need to add a slave - our recommended procedure, please refer to the relevant section below for more details:

Note:

A number of settings are not replicated as part of the master/slave pairing process and therefore must be manually configured on the slave appliance. These are listed below:

- Hostname & DNS settings
- Network settings including IP addresses, bonding configuration and VLANs
- Routing configuration including default gateways and static routes
- Date & time settings
- Physical – Advanced Configuration settings including Internet Proxy IP address & port, Firewall table size, SMTP relay and Syslog server
- SNMP settings
- Graphing settings
- Firewall Script & Firewall Lockdown Script settings
- Software updates

Version 7:

Please refer to **Chapter 8 – Appliance Clustering for HA** in the [v7 Administration Manual](#).

Version 8:

To add a slave node – i.e. create a highly available clustered pair:

- Deploy a second appliance that will be the slave and configure initial network settings
- using the WebUI, navigate to: *Cluster Configuration > High-Availability Configuration*

CREATE A CLUSTERED PAIR

loadbalancer.org

Local IP address
192.168.1.20

IP address of new peer
192.168.1.21

Password for *loadbalancer* user on peer
.....

Add new node

- Specify the IP address and the *loadbalancer* users password (the default is 'loadbalancer') for the slave (peer) appliance as shown above
- Click **Add new node**
- The pairing process now commences as shown below:

- Once complete, the following will be displayed:

- To finalize the configuration, restart heartbeat and any other services as prompted in the blue message box at the top of the screen

Note:

Clicking the **Restart Heartbeat** button on the master appliance will also automatically restart heartbeat on the slave appliance.

Note:

Please refer to chapter 9 – Appliance Clustering for HA in the [Administration Manual](#) for more detailed information on configuring HA with 2 appliances.

2 – MODIFIED TRANSPARENT MODE FIREWALL RULES

If ALL traffic is to be forwarded to the Web Proxies, the firewall rules below should be used rather than the rules on page [25](#), i.e.:

Replace:

```
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 80 -j MARK --set-mark 1
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 443 -j MARK --set-mark 1
ip rule add prio 100 fwmark 1 table 100
ip route add local 0/0 dev lo table 100
```

With:

```
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp -j MARK --set-mark 1
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p udp -j MARK --set-mark 1
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p tcp -d <LB-IP> -j MARK --set-mark 2
iptables -t mangle -A PREROUTING -p udp -d <LB-IP> -j MARK --set-mark 2
ip rule add prio 100 fwmark 1 table 100
ip route add local 0/0 dev lo table 100
```

Notes:

- <LB-IP> should be replaced with the base IP address of the load balancer (typically eth0), this is the address used by heartbeat and for administration purpose
- If these modified firewall rules are used, then either the default gateway for client PC's should be changed to be the load balancer, or the rules on the router should be changed to forward all traffic to the load balancer
- This will only work for TCP and UDP traffic. So for example, ICMP and some VPN technologies will not work because the load balancer only supports TCP and UDP.

Don't hesitate to contact our support team if you need further assistance: support@loadbalancer.org

3 - COMPANY CONTACT INFORMATION

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