

Interplay[®] Central Services

Service and Server Clustering Overview

Version 1.8

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Using This Guide

This guide is intended for the person responsible for installing, maintaining or administering a cluster of Avid Interplay Common Services (ICS) servers. It provides background and technical information on clustering in ICS. It provides an inventory of ICS services along with instructions on how to interact with them for maintenance purposes. Additionally, it explains the specifics of an ICS cluster, how each service operates in a cluster, and provides guidance on best practices for cluster administration. Its aim is to provide a level of technical proficiency to the person charged with installing, maintaining, or troubleshooting an ICS cluster.

For a general introduction to Interplay Central Services, including ICS installation and clustering steps, see the *Avid Interplay Central Services Installation and Configuration Guide*. For administrative information for Interplay Central, see the *Avid Interplay Central Administration Guide*.

1 Overview

Interplay Central Services (ICS) is a collection of software services running on a server, supplying interfaces, video playback and other services to Avid Solutions including Interplay Central, Interplay Sphere, Interplay MAM and mobile applications. A cluster is a collection of servers that have ICS and additional clustering infrastructure installed. The cluster is configured to appear to the outside world as a single server. The primary advantages of a cluster are high-availability, and additional playback capacity.

High availability is obtained through automatic failover of services from one node to another. This can be achieved with a cluster of just two servers, a primary (master) and secondary (slave). All ICS services run on the primary. Key ICS services also run on the secondary node. In the event that a service fails on the primary node, the secondary node automatically takes over, without the need for human intervention.

When additional capacity is the aim, multiple additional servers can be added to the master-slave cluster. In this case, playback requests (as always, fielded by the master) are automatically distributed to the available servers, which perform the tasks of transcoding and serving the transcoded media. This is referred to as load-balancing. A load-balanced cluster provides better performance for a deployment supporting multiple, simultaneous users or connections.

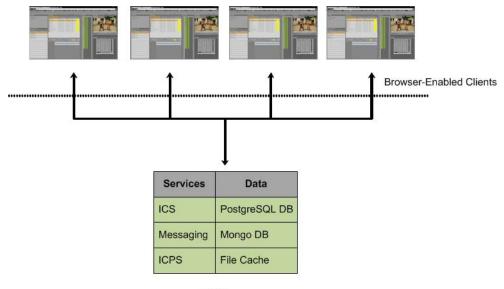
An additional benefit of a load-balanced cluster is *cache replication*, in which media transcoded by one server is immediately distributed to all the other nodes in the cluster. If another node receives the same playback request, the material is immediately available without the need for further effort.

In summary, an ICS server cluster provides the following:

- **Redundancy/High-availability**. If any node in the cluster fails, connections to that node are automatically redirected to another node.
- Scale/Load balancing. All incoming playback connections are routed to a single cluster IP address, and are subsequently distributed evenly to the nodes in the cluster.
- **Replicated Cache**. The media transcoded by one node in the cluster is automatically replicated on the other nodes. If another node receives the same playback request, the media is immediately available without the need to re-transcode.
- **Cluster monitoring**. A cluster resource monitor lets you actively monitor the status of the cluster. In addition, If a node fails (or if any other serious problem is detected, e-mail is automatically sent to one or more e-mail addresses.

Single Server Deployment

In a single server deployment, all ICS services (including the playback service) run on the same server. This server also holds the ICS database and the RAID 5 file cache. Since there is only one server, all tasks, including transcoding, are performed by the same machine. The single server has a host name and IP address. This is used, for example, by Interplay Central users to connect directly to it using a web browser.



The following diagram illustrates a typical single-server deployment.

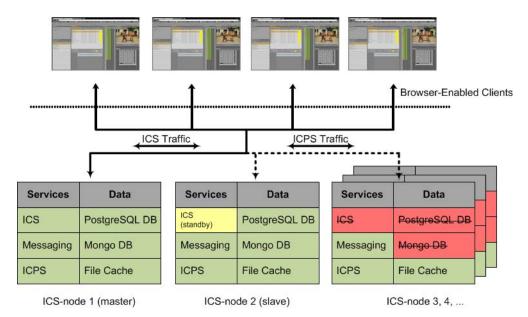


Cluster Deployment

In a basic deployment, a cluster consists of one master-slave pair of nodes configured for high-availability. Typically, other nodes are also present, in support of load-balanced transcoding and playback. As in a single node deployment, all ICS traffic is routed through a single node — the master, in this case, which is running all ICS services. Key ICS services and databases are replicated on the slave node — some are actively running, some are in "standby" mode — which is ready to assume the role of master at any time.

Playback requests, handled by the ICPS playback service, are distributed by the master to all available nodes. The load-balancing nodes perform transcoding, but do not participate in failovers; that is, without human intervention, they can never take on the role of master or slave.

An interesting difference in a cluster deployment is at the level of IP address. In a single server deployment, each server owns its host name and IP address, which is used, for example, by Interplay Central users to connect using a web browser. In contrast, a cluster has a virtual IP address (and a corresponding host name) defined at the DNS level. Interplay Central users enter the cluster IP address or host name in the browser's address bar, not the name of an individual server. The cluster redirects the connection request to one of the servers in the cluster, which remains hidden from view.



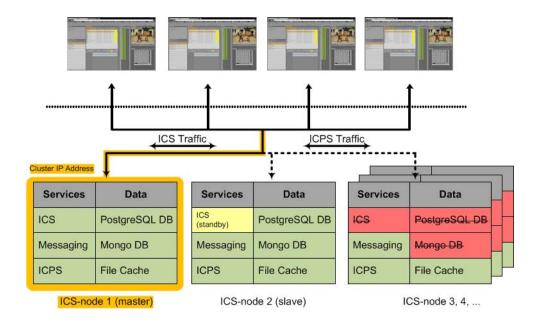
The following diagram illustrates a typical cluster deployment.

How a Failover Works

Failovers in ICS operate at two distinct levels: service, and node. A cluster monitor oversees both levels. A service that fails is swiftly restarted by the cluster monitor, which also tracks the service's fail count. If the service fails too often (or cannot be restarted), the cluster monitor gives responsibility for the service to another node in the cluster, in a process referred to as a *failover*. A service restart in itself is not enough to trigger a failover. A failover occurs when the fail count for the service reaches the threshold value.

The node on which the service failed remains in the cluster, but no longer performs the duties that have failed. Until you manually reset the fail count, the failed service will not be restarted.

In order to achieve this state of high-availability, one node in the cluster is assigned the role of master node. It runs all the key ICS services. The master node also owns the cluster IP address. Thus all incoming requests come directly to this node and are serviced by it. This is shown in the following illustration:

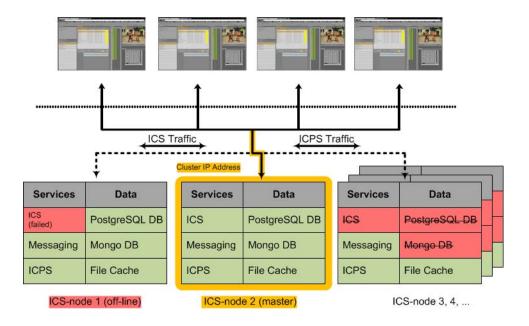


Should any of the key ICS services running on the master node fail without recovery (or reach the failure threshold) the node is automatically taken out of the cluster and another node takes on the role of master node. The node that takes over inherits the cluster IP address, and its own ICS services (that were previously in standby) become fully active. From this point, the new master receives all incoming requests. Manual intervention must be undertaken to determine the cause of the fault on the failed node and to restore it to service promptly.

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In a correctly sized cluster, a single node can fail and the cluster will properly service its users. However, if two nodes fail, the resulting cluster is likely under-provisioned for expected use and will be oversubscribed.

This failover from master to slave is shown in the following illustration.

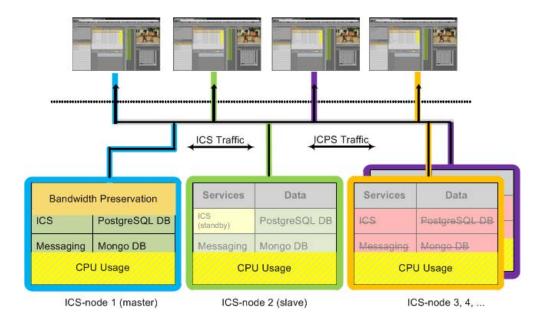


How Load Balancing Works

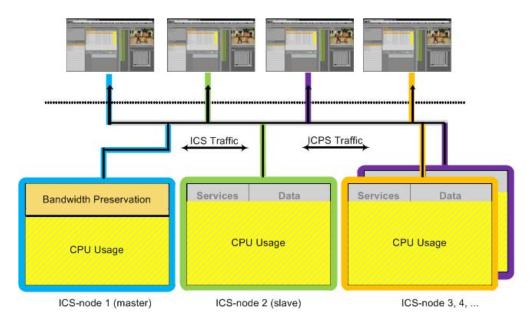
In ICS the video playback service is load-balanced, meaning incoming video playback requests are distributed evenly across all nodes in the cluster. This can be done because the Interplay Central Playback Service (ICPS) is actively running on all nodes in the cluster concurrently. A load-balancing algorithm controlled by the master node monitors the clustered nodes, and determines which node gets the job.

The exception is the master node, which is treated differently. A portion of its CPU capacity is preserved for the duties performed by the master node alone, which include serving the UI, handling logins and user session information, and so on. When the system is under heavy usage, the master node will not take on additional playback jobs.

The following illustration shows a typical load-balanced cluster. The colored lines indicate that playback jobs are sent to different nodes in the cluster. They are not meant to indicate a particular client is bound to a particular node for its entire session, which may not be the case. Notice the master node's bandwidth preservation.

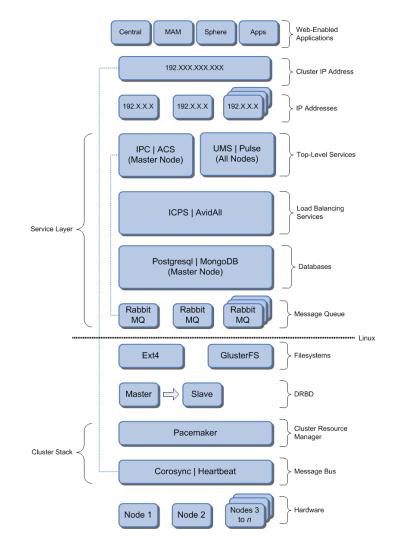


The next illustration shows a cluster under heavy usage. As illustrated, CPU usage on the master node will not exceed a certain amount, even when the other nodes approach saturation.



2 System Architecture

ICS features messaging systems, cluster management infrastructure, user management services, and so on. Many are interdependent, but they are nevertheless best initially understood as operating at logically distinct layers of the architecture, as shown in the following illustration.



The following table explains the role of each layer:

System Architecture Layer Description

Web-Enabled Applications	A the top of the food chain are the web-enabled client applications that take advantage of the ICS cluster. These include Interplay Central, Interplay MAM, Sphere and the iOS apps.	
Cluster IP Address	All client applications gain access to ICS via the cluster IP address. This is a virtual address, established at the network level in DNS and owned by the node that is currently master. In the event of a failover, ownership of the cluster IP address is transferred to the slave node.	
	The dotted line in the illustration indicates it is Corosync that manages ownership of the cluster IP address. For example, during a failover, it is Corosync that transfers ownership of the cluster IP address from the master node to the slave node.	
Node IP Addresses	While the cluster is seen from the outside as a single machine with one IP address and host name, it is important to note that al the nodes within the cluster retain individual host names and IP addresses. Network level firewalls and switches must allow the nodes to communicate with one another.	
Top-Level Services	At the top level of the service layer are the ICS services running on the master node only. These include:	
	• IPC - Interplay Central core services (aka "middleware")	
	• ACS - Avid Common Service bus (aka "the bus") (configuration & messaging uses RabbitMQ.	
	UMS - User Management Services	
	• Pulse - Interplay Pulse services (aka "multi-platform distribution")	
	The dotted line in the illustration indicates the top level services communicate with one another via ACS, which, in turn, uses RabbitMQ.	
Load Balancing Services	The mid-level service layer includes the ICS services that are load-balanced. These services run on all nodes in the cluster.	
	• ICPS - Interplay Central Playback Services: Transcodes and serves transcoded media.	
	• AvidAll - Encapsulates all other ICPS back-end services.	

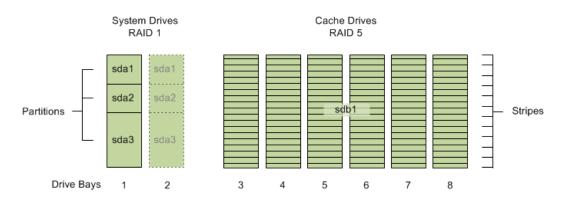
System Architecture Layer Description

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Databases	The mid-level service layer also includes two databases:
	• PostgreSQL: Stores data for several ICS services (UMS, ACS, ICPS, Pulse).
	MongoDB: Stores data related to ICS messaging.
	Both these databases are synchronized from master to slave for failover readiness.
RabbitMQ Message Queue	RabbitMQ is the message broker ("task queue") used by the ICS top level services.
	RabbitMQ maintains its own independent clustering system. That is, RabbitMQ is not managed by Pacemaker. This allows RabbitMQ to continue delivering service requests to underlying services in the event of a failure.
Filesystem	The standard Linux filesystem.
	This layer also conceptually includes GlusterFS, the Gluster "network filesystem" used for cache replication. GlusterFS performs its replication at the file level.
	Unlike the Linux filesystem, GlusterFS operates in the "user space" - the advantage being any GlusterFS malfunction does not bring down the system.
DRBD	Distributed Replicated Block Device (DRBD) is responsible for volume mirroring.
	DRBD replicates and synchronizes the system disk's logical volume containing the PostgreSQL and MongoDB databases across the master and slave, for failover readiness. DRBD carries out replication at the block level.
Pacemaker	The cluster resource manager. Resources are collections of services grouped together for oversight by Pacemaker. Pacemakers sees and manages resources, not individual services.
Corosync and Heartbeat	Corosync and Heartbeat are the clustering infrastructure. Corosync uses a multicast address to communicate with the other nodes in the cluster. Heartbeat contains Open Cluster Framework (OCF) compliant scripts used by Corosync for communication within the cluster.

System Architecture Layer	Description
Hardware	At the lowest layer is the server hardware.
	It is at the hardware level that the system disk is established in a RAID1 (mirror) configuration.
	Note that this is distinct from the replication of a particular volume by DRBD. The RAID 1 mirror protects against disk failure. The DRBD mirror protects against node failure.

Disk and File System Layout

It is helpful to have an understanding of a node's disk and filesystem layout. The following illustration represents the layout of a typical node:



In ICS 1.5 a RAID 5 cache was required for multi-cam, iOS, and MAM non-h264 systems only. As of ICS 1.6 a separate cache is required, but it does not always need to be RAID 5.

The following table presents contents of each volume:

Ē

Physical Volumes (pv)	Volume Groups (vg)	Logical Volumes (Iv)	Directory	Content
sda1			/boot	RHEL boot partition
sda2			/dev/drbd1	ICS databases

Physical Volumes (pv)	Volume Groups (vg)	Logical Volumes (Iv)	Directory	Content
sda3	icps	swap	/dev/dm-0	swap space
		root	/	RHEL system partition
sdb1	ics	cache	/cache	ICS file cache

Note the following:

- sda1 is a standard Linux partition created by RHEL during installation of the operating system
- sda2 is a dedicated volume created for the PostgreSQL (UMS, ACS, ICS, Pulse) and MongoDB (ICS messaging) databases. The sda2 partition is replicated and synchronized between master and slave by DRBD.
- sda3 contains the system swap disk and the root partition.
- sdb1 is the RAID 5 cache volume used to store transcoded media and various other temporary files.

ICS Services and Databases in a Cluster

The following table lists the most important ICS services that take advantage of clustering, and where they run:

Services		ics-node 1 (Master)	ics-node 2 (Slave)	ics-node 3	ics-node n	
ICS	IPC Core Services ("the middleware") (avid-interplay-central)	IPC	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
	User Management Service (avid-um)	UMS	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
	Avid Common Services bus	ACS	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
	("the bus") (acs-ctrl-core)		ON	ON	OFF	OFF
	AAF Generator (avid-aaf-gen)	AAF	ON	ON	ON	ON
	ICS Messaging (acs-ctrl-messenger)		ON	ON	ON	ON
	Playback Services ("the back-end") (avid-all)	ICPS	ON	ON	ON	ON
Interplay Pulse (avid-mpd) MPD		ON	ON	ON	ON	
Load	Balancing (avid-icps-manager)	XLB	ON	ON	ON	ON
= ON (RUNNING)		= OFF (STAN	DBY)	= OFF (DOES	NOT RUN)	

Note the following:

- All ICS services run on the Master node in the cluster.
- Most ICS services are off on the Slave node but start automatically during a failover.
- On all other nodes, the ICS services never run.
- Some services spawned by the Avid Common Service bus run on the master node only (in standby on the slave node); others are always running on both nodes.
- The Playback service (ICPS) runs on all nodes for Performance Scalability (load balancing supports many concurrent clients and/or large media requests) and High Availability (service is always available).

The following table lists the ICS databases, and where they run:

ICS Databases		ICS-node 1 (Master)	ICS-node 2 (Slave)	ICS-node 3	ICS-node n
ICS Database	PostgreSQL	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
Service Bus Messaging Database	MongoDB	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
= ON (RUNNING)		= OFF (STAND	OBY)	= OFF (DOES	NOT RUN)

Clustering Infrastructure Services

The ICS services and databases presented in the previous section depend upon the correct functioning a clustering infrastructure. The infrastructure is supplied by a small number of open-source software designed specifically (or very well suited) for clustering. For example, Pacemaker and Corosync work in tandem to restart failed services, maintain a fail count, and failover from the master node to the slave node, when failover criteria are met.

The following table presents the services pertaining to the infrastructure of the cluster:

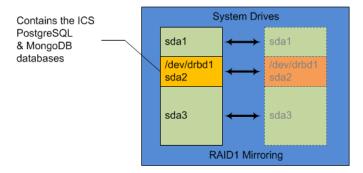
Software	Function	Node 1 (Master)	Node 2 (Slave)	Node 3	Node n
RabbitMQ	Cluster Message Broker/Queue	ON	ON	ON	ON
GlusterFS	File Cache Mirroring	ON	ON	ON	ON
DRBD	Database Volume Mirroring	ON	ON	OFF	OFF
Pacemaker	Cluster Management & Service Failover	ON	ON	ON	ON
Corosync	Cluster Engine Data Bus	ON	ON	ON	ON
Heartbeat	Cluster Message Queue	ON	ON	ON	ON
	= ON (RUNNING)	= OFF (STA	ANDBY)	= OFF (DOES NO	T RUN)

Note the following:

- RabbitMQ, the message broker/queue used by ACS, maintains its own clustering system. It is not managed by Pacemaker.
- GlusterFS mirrors media cached on an individual RAID 5 drive to all other RAID 5 drives in the cluster.
- DRBD mirrors the ICS databases across the two servers that are in a master-slave configuration.
- Pacemaker: The cluster resource manager. Resources are collections of services participating in high-availability and failover.
- Corosync and Heartbeat: The fundamental clustering infrastructure.
- Corosync and Pacemaker work in tandem to detect server and application failures, and allocate resources for failover scenarios.

DRBD and **Database** Replication

Recall the filesystem layout of a typical node. The system drive (in RAID1) consists of three partitions: sda, sda2 and sda3. As noted earlier, sda2 is the partition used for storing the ICS databases, stored as PostgreSQL databases.

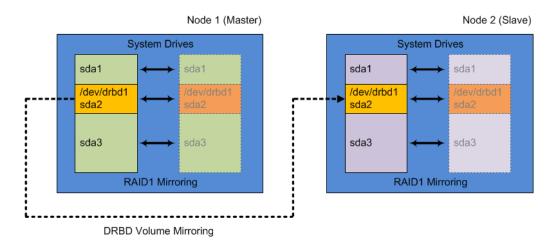


The following table details the contents of the databases stored on the sda2 partition:

Database	Directory	Contents
PostgreSQL	/mnt/drbd/postgres_data	UMS - User Management Services
		ACS - Avid Common Service bus
		ICPS - Interplay Central Playback Services.
		MPD - Multi-platform distribution (Pulse)
MongoDB	/mnt/drbd/mongo_data	ICS Messaging

In a clustered configuration, ICS uses the open source Distributed Replicated Block Device (DRBD) storage system software to replicate the sda2 partition across the Master-Slave cluster node pair. DRBD runs on the master node and slave node only, even in a cluster with more than two nodes. PostgreSQL maintains the databases on sda2. DRBD mirrors them.

The following illustration shows DRBD volume mirroring of the sda2 partition across the master and slave.



GlusterFS and Cache Replication

Recall that the ICS server transcodes media from the format in which it is stored on the ISIS (or standard filesystem storage) into an alternate delivery format, such as an FLV, MPEG-2 Transport Stream, or JPEG image files. In a deployment with a single ICS server, the ICS server maintains a cache where it keeps recently-transcoded media. In the event that the same media is requested again, the ICS server can deliver the cached media, without the need to re-transcode it.

In an ICS cluster, caching is taken one step farther. In a cluster, the contents of the RAID 5 volumes are replicated across all the nodes, giving each server access to all the transcoded media. The result is that each ICS server sees and has access to all the media transcoded by the others. When one ICS server transcodes media, the other ICS servers can also make use of it, without re-transcoding.

The replication process is set up and maintained by GlusterFS, an open source software solution for creating shared filesystems. In ICS, Gluster manages data replication using its own highly efficient network protocol. In this respect, it can be helpful to think of Gluster as a "network filesystem" or even a "network RAID" system.

GlusterFS operates independently of other clustering services. You do not have to worry about starting or stopping GlusterFS when interacting with ICS services or cluster management utilities. For example, if you remove a node from the cluster, GlusterFS itself continues to run and continues to replicate its cache against other nodes in the Gluster group. If you power down the node for maintenance reasons, it will re-synchronize and 'catch up' with cache replication when it is rebooted.

The correct functioning of the cluster cache requires that the clocks on each server in the cluster are set to the same time. See "Verifying Clock Synchronization" on page 67.

Clustering and RabbitMQ

RabbitMQ is the message broker ("task queue") used by the ICS top level services. ICS makes use of RabbitMQ in an active/active configuration, with all queues mirrored to exactly two nodes, and partition handling set to *ignore*. The RabbitMQ cluster operates independently of the ICS master/slave failover cluster, but is often co-located on the same two nodes. The ICS installation scripts create the RabbitMQ cluster without the need for human intervention.

Note the following:

- All RabbitMQ servers in the cluster are active and can accept connections
- Any client can connect to any RabbitMQ server in the cluster and access all data
- Each queue and its data exists on two nodes in the cluster (for failover & redundancy)
- In the event of a failover, clients should automatically reconnect to another node
- If a network partition / split brain occurs (very rare), manual intervention will be required

The RabbitMQ Cookie

A notable aspect of the RabbitMQ cluster is the special *cookie* it requires, which allows RabbitMQ on the different nodes to communicate with each other. The RabbitMQ cookie must be identical on each machine, and is set, by default, to a predetermined hardcoded string.

Powering Down and Rebooting

With regards to RabbitMQ and powering down and rebooting nodes:

- If you take down the entire cluster, the last node down must always be the first node up. For example, if "ics-serv3" is the last node you stop, it must be the first node you start.
- Because of the guideline above, it is not advised to power down all nodes at exactly the same time. There must always be one node that was clearly powered down last.
- If you don't take the whole cluster down at once then the order of stopping/starting servers doesn't matter.

For details, see "Shutting Down / Rebooting an Entire Cluster" on page 70.

Handling Network Disruptions

- RabbitMQ does not handle network partitions well. If the network is disrupted on only some of the machines and then it is restored, you should shutdown the machines that lost the network and then power them back on. This ensures they re-join the cluster correctly. This happens rarely, and mainly if the cluster is split between two different switches and only one of them fails.
- On the other hand, If the network is disrupted to *all* nodes in the cluster simultaneously (as in a single-switch setup), no special handling should be required.

Suggestions for Further Reading

- Clustering: http://www.rabbitmq.com/clustering.html
- Mirrored queues: http://www.rabbitmq.com/ha.html
- Network Partitions: http://www.rabbitmq.com/partitions.html

3 Services, Resources and Logs

Services and resources are key to the correct operation and health of a cluster. As noted in "System Architecture" on page 15, services are responsible for all aspects of ICS activity, from the ACS bus, to end-user management and transcoding. Additional services supply the clustering infrastructure. Some ICS services are managed by Pacemaker, for the purposes of high-availability and failover readiness. Services overseen by Pacemaker are called *resources*. All services produce logs that are stored in the standard Linux log directories (under /var/log), as detailed later in this chapter.

Services vs Resources

A typical cluster features both Linux *services* and Pacemaker cluster *resources*. Thus, it is important to understand the difference between the two. In the context of clustering, *resources* are simply one or more Linux services under management by Pacemaker. Managing services in this way allows Pacemaker to monitor the services, automatically restart them when they fail, and shut them down on one node and start them on another when they fail too many times.

It can be helpful to regard a cluster *resource* as Linux *service* inside a Pacemaker "wrapper". The wrapper includes the actions defined for it (*start, stop, restart,* etc.), timeout values, failover conditions and instructions, and so on. In short, Pacemaker sees and manages resources, not services.

For example, the Interplay Central (*avid-interplay-central*) service is the core Interplay Central service. Since the platform cannot function without it, this service is overseen and managed by Pacemaker as the *AvidIPC* resource.

As is known, the status of a Linux service can be verified by entering a command of the following form at the command line:

service <servicename> status

In contrast, the state of a cluster resource is verified via the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager, *crm*, as follows:

crm status <resource>

For details see:

- "Interacting with Services" on page 32
- "Interacting with Resources" on page 33

Tables of Services, Resources and Utilities

The tables in this section provide lists of essential services that need to be running in a clustered configuration. It includes three tables:

- All Nodes: The services that must be running on all nodes.
- **Master Node**: The services that must be running on the master node only. These services do not need to be, and should not be running on the any other node.
- **Pacemaker Resources**: The are the services under management by Pacemaker. They run on the master node, but can fail over to the slave node.

The lists are not exhaustive. They are lists of essential services that need to be running in a clustered configuration.

All Nodes

The following table presents the services that must be running on all nodes.

All Nodes	
Service	Description
avid-all	Encapsulates all ICPS back-end services:
	• avid-config
	• avid-isis
	• avid-fps
	• avid-jips
	• avid-spooler
	• avid-edit
pacemaker	Cluster Management and Service Failover Management
corosync	Cluster Engine Data Bus
glusterd	GlusterFS daemon responsible for cache replication.

All Nodes

Service	Description	
rabbitmq-server	Messaging broker/queue for the ACS bus.	
	Maintains its own cluster functionality to deliver high-availability.	
avid-aaf-gen	AAF Generator service, the service responsible for saving sequences.	
	To reduce bottlenecks when the system is under heavy load, five instances of this service run concurrently, by default.	
	Installed on all nodes but only used on the master or slave node, depending on where the IPC Core service (avid-interplay-central) is running.	
	This service is not managed by Pacemaker, therefore you should check its status regularly, and restart it if any instance has failed. See "Verifying the AAF Generator Service" on page 68.	
acs-ctrl-messenger	The services related to the IPC end-user messaging feature:	
	 "messenger" service (handles delivery of user messages) 	
	 "mail" service (handles mail-forwarding feature) 	
	This service registers itself on the ACS bus. All instances are available for handling requests, which are received by way of the bus via a round-robin-type distribution system.	
	This service operates independently, and is not managed by Pacemaker.	
avid-mpd	Interplay Pulse services.	
	Operates similarly to the acs-ctrl-messenger service described above.	
	This service is only available when Interplay Pulse (separate installer) is installed on the system.	

Service	Description	
avid-ics	A utility script (not a service) that can be used to verify the status of all the major ICS services	
	Verifies the status of the following services:	
	- avid-all	
	- avid-interplay-central	
	- acs-ctrl-messenger	
	- acs-ctrl-core	
	- avid-ums	
	The utility script enables you to <i>stop</i> , <i>start</i> and view the <i>status</i> of all the services it encapsulates at once:	
	avid-ics status	
	avid-ics stop	
	avid-ics start	
	Note that the utility script cannot be invoked like a true service. The form " <i>service avid-ics</i> <i>status</i> " will not work. Use the following form instead:	
	avid-ics <command/>	

All Nodes

Master Node Only

The following table presents the services that must be running on the master node.

Master Node	
Service	Description
avid-interplay-central	IPC Core services ("the middleware")

Service	Description	
acs-ctrl-core	Avid Common Service bus ("the bus")	
	Essential bus services needed for the overall platform to work:	
	 "boot" service (provides registry services to bus services) 	
	 "attributes" services (provides system configuration of IPC) 	
	• "federation" service (initializes multi-zone configurations)	
	The <i>acs-ctrl-core</i> service is a key service. The following services will not start or function correctly if as <i>acs-ctrl-core</i> is not running.	
	• avid-icps-manager	
	• avid-ums	
	• avid-interplay-central	
	• avid-all	
	• acs-ctrl-messenger	
	• avid-mpd	
avid-ums	User Management Service	
avid-icps-manager	Manages the ICPS connection and load balancing services.	
postgresql-9.1	PostgreSQL database for user management and attributes data	
mongod	MongoDB database for data from the following services:	
	• ICS Messaging (acc-ctrl-messenger) data	
	• ACS bus (acs-ctrl-core) registry	

Service	Description
drbd	DRBD (Distributed Replicated Block Device) is used to mirror the system disk partition containing the two databases from master to slave, for failover readiness:
	PostGreSQL
	MongoDB
	DRBD is fully functional on both master and slave. It is included in this table for convenience.

Master Node

Pacemaker Resources

The following table presents the cluster resources overseen and managed by Pacemaker/Corosync. The underlying resources must be running on the master node, but will fail over to the slave node.

Managed by Pacemaker/Corosync		
Resource	Description	
drbd_postgres	Encapsulates:	
	• drbd	
	• postgresql-9.1	
AvidIPC	Encapsulates:	
	avid-interplay-central	
AvidUMS	Encapsulates:	
	• avid-ums	
AvidACS	Encapsulates:	
	• acs-ctrl-core	
MongoDB	Encapsulates:	
	• mongod	

Managed by Facemaker/Corosync		
Resource	Description	
AvidAll	Encapsulates:	
	• avid-all	
AvidICPS	Encapsulates:	
	avid-icps-manager	

Managed by Pacemaker/Corosync

Pacemaker and Corosync manage numerous other cluster resources. The table lists the most important ones. For a complete list, query the Cluster Resource Manager using the following command at the command-line:

crm configure show

Æ

In the output that appears, "primitive" is the token that defines a cluster resource.

Interacting with Services

ICS services are standard Linux applications and/or daemons, and you interact with them following the standard Linux protocols.

The command line for interacting with services follows the standard Linux format:

service <servicename> <action>

Standard actions include the following (some services may permit other actions):

status returns the current status of the serv	ice
---	-----

stop tops the service

start starts the service

restart stops then restarts the service

The command line for interacting with services follows the standard Linux format:

For example:

service avid-ums restart

Interacting with Resources

Cluster resources are Linux services that are under management by Pacemaker. These should not normally be touched using typical Linux tools. You must interact with cluster resources using the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager, *crm*. If you try to stop the underlying service directly — that is, without going through the Cluster Resource Manager — Pacemaker will do its job and restart it immediately.

Under special circumstances (such as during troubleshooting), you can shut down Pacemaker and Corosync, then directly stop, start and re-start the underlying services managed by Pacemaker. The simplest way to gain direct access to a node's managed services is by taking the node offline. See "Recommended Approach: Remove Node from Cluster" on page 34.

The command line for interacting with resources uses a format particular to the Cluster Resource Manager:

crm resource <action> <resourcename>

For example:

crm resource status AvidIPC

Returns information similar to the following:

resource AvidIPC is running on: icps-mam-large

Issuing the above command without specifying a resource returns the status of all cluster resources.

crm resource status

Returns information similar to the following:

```
AvidConnectivityMonEverywhere [AvidConnectivityMon]
   Started: [ icps-mam-large icps-mam-med icps-mam-small ]
AvidClusterMon (lsb:avid-monitor) Started
MongoDB (lsb:mongod) Started
Resource Group: postgres
   postgres_fs (ocf::heartbeat:Filesystem) Started
   AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2) Started
   pgsqlDB (ocf::avid:pgsql_Avid) Started
Master/Slave Set: ms_drbd_postgres [drbd_postgres]
   Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
   Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
Clone Set: AvidAllEverywhere [AvidAll]
   Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
```

```
AvidIPC(lsb:avid-interplay-central) StartedAvidUMS(lsb:avid-ums) StartedAvidACS(lsb:acs-ctrl-core) StartedClone Set: AvidICPSEverywhere [AvidICPS]<br/>Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
```

For more information see the discussion of the Cluster Resource Monitor tool, *crm*, in "Verifying Cluster Configuration" on page 46

Stopping the Underlying Services Directly: Two Approaches

If you stop a resource's underlying service directly — that is, without going through the cluster resource manager — Pacemaker will attempt to restart it immediately. This not only restarts the service, it also increases the failover count of the corresponding resource, and can result in an unexpected failover. Always use the cluster resource manager utility.

The exception to this rule is during cluster installation, upgrading, or troubleshooting. For example, if you incorrectly complete an installation and configuration procedure, you might need to back up a few steps, and redo the procedure. In order for the new settings to take hold, you might need to restart the corresponding service or services directly. Similar arguments can be made for upgrading and troubleshooting. In these cases, there are two main approaches.

Recommended Approach: Remove Node from Cluster

The recommended approach is to temporarily remove the node from the cluster using the cluster resource manager:

crm node standby <node>

Putting a node into standby shuts down Pacemaker and Corosync, freeing all *services* from management as resources.

To bring a node back online issue the following command (which restarts Pacemaker and puts its services back under management):

crm node online <node>

Alternative Approach: Stop Pacemaker and Corosync

An alternative approach is to shut down Pacemaker and Corosync directly:

service pacemaker stop service corosync stop

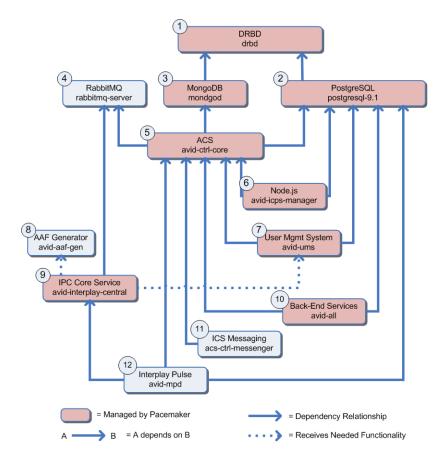
Restart them in the reverse order.

Services Start Order and Dependencies

When direct intervention with a service is required, take special care with regards to stopping, starting, or restarting. The services on a node operate within a framework of dependencies. Services must be stopped and started in a specific order. This order is particularly important when you have to restart an individual service (in comparison to rebooting the entire server). Before doing anything, identify and shut down the services that depend on the target service.

If Pacemaker and Corosync are running on the node 1) stop Pacemaker 2) stop Corosync (in that order). Otherwise, Pacemaker will automatically restart the service. If the node is actively part of a cluster, putting it into standby using the Cluster Resource Manager utility (crm) will stop Pacemaker and Corosync for you. See "Interacting with Services" on page 32.

The start order and dependencies relationships of the main cluster services are summarized in the following illustration.



Start Order	Service Name	Process Name	Notes
1	DRBD	drbd	
2	PostgreSQL	postgresql-9.1	
3	MongoDB	mongod	
4	RabbitMQ	rabbitmq-server	
5	Avid Common Service bus (ACS: "the bus")	acs-ctrl-core	
6	Node.js	avid-icps-manager	
7	User Management Services (UMS)	avid-ums	
8	AAF Generator	avid-aaf-gen	Five instances of this service should always be running. See "Verifying the AAF Generator Service" on page 68.
9	IPC Core Services	avid-interplay-central	
10	ICPS Backend Services	avid-all	
11	ICS Messaging	acs-ctrl-messenger	
12	Pulse	avid-mpd	

The following table summarizes the order in which services can be safely started.

Example: Restarting the User Management Services

A simple example will demystify the illustration and table. Suppose you need to restart the User Management Services (avid-ums).

- 1. Identify its position in the dependency table (#7).
- 2. Identify all the services that are directly or indirectly dependent on it (service #8, #9 & #12).
- 3. Since the avid-ums and avid-interplay-central are managed by Pacemaker, stop Pacemaker and Corosync by putting the node into standby mode.
- 4. Stop the dependent services first in order from most dependencies to least dependencies.
- 5. That is, stop, service #12 first, then #9, #8, and #7.

- 6. Restart UMS (#7).
- 7. Restart services #8 through #12, in that order.

For a closer look at the start orders assigned to Linux services, see the content of the /etc/rc3.d directory. The files in this directory are prefixed **Sxx** or **Kxx** (e.g. S24, S26, K02). The prefix **Sxx** indicates the start order. **Kxx** indicates the shutdown order.

The content of a typical /etc/rc3.d directory is shown below:

🔄 root@icps-mam-large:/etc/rc3.d		
K00ipmievd	K87restorecond	S25netfs
K01numad	K88ns1cd	S26acpid
K01smartd	K88sssd	S26haldaemon
K02oddjobd	K89rdisc	S26udev-post
K08drbd	K92ip6tables	S28autofs
K10psacct	K92iptables	S29avidfos
K10saslauthd	K95cgconfig	S50avid-icps-manager
K12avid-all	K95firstboot	S50mcelogd
K15mongod	K99cpuspeed	S55sshd
K16acs-app-server	K99rngd	S80postfix
K17acs-ctrl-core	S01sysstat	S80rabbitmg-server
K20avid-interplay-central	S021vm2-monitor	S82abrt-ccpp
K35avid-ums	S10network	S82abrtd
K36postgresq1-9.1	S11auditd	S82abrt-oops
K45memcached	S11portreserve	
K50netconsole	S12rsyslog	S90crond
K50snmpd	S13irgbalance	S95acs-ctrl-messenger
K50snmptrapd	S13rpcbind	S95atd
K60csd	S14nfslock	S97rhnsd
K60nfs	S15mdmonitor	S97rhsmcertd
K69rpcsvcgssd	S18rpcidmapd	S98avid-aaf-gen
K73slapd	S19rpcgssd	S98avid-ctrl-dismon
K73ypbind	S20avid-mpd	S98avid-ctrl-search
K74nscd	S20corosync	S99certmonger
K74ntpd	S20kdump	S991ibvirt-guests
K75ntpdate	S22messagebus	S991ocal
K75quota_n1d	S24avahi-daemon	S99pacemaker
K86cgred	S25cups	
		X

The Linux start order as reflected in the /etc/rc3.d and the other run-level ("/etc/rcX.d") directories reflect the boot order and shut-down order for the server. They do not always reflect dependencies within ICS itself.

Working with Cluster Logs

ICS and its associated open-source services — such as Pacemaker, Corosync, and RabbitMQ — produce numerous logs. These are stored in the standard RHEL directory and subdirectories:

/var/log

Typically, log files have a name of the following form:

<process>.log

For example:

spooler.log
spooler.log-201310.25.gz
spooler.log.old20131024 141055

Note the following:

- *.log are current log files, for the active process.
- *.gz are "rotated out" log files, compressed and with a date appended.
- *.old are backlogs.

Log files are *rotated* (replaced), compressed and eventually deleted automatically by the Linux *logrotate* log management utility. In addition, most ICS logs have the following characteristics, determined by the *logrotate* configuration file (/etc/logrotate.conf):

- Fresh logs are begun with each reboot
- New log files are uncompressed text files (some are binaries)
- Older logs are rotated (replaced) weekly
- Older logs are stored in the *gzip* format
- Four weeks worth of backlogs are kept
- A new empty log file is created after rotating out the old one
- Date is appended as suffix on the rotated file

Specific processes can override the logrotate configuration file settings by supplying their own configuration file in the /etc/logrotate.d directory. If a log file is not behaving as expected, check there.

Understanding Log Rotation and Compression

The Linux *logrotate* utility runs and compresses the old logs daily. Although it is invoked by the Linux *cron* daemon, the exact runtime for *logrotate* cannot be stated with accuracy. It varies, for example, depending on when the system was most recently rebooted, but it does not run at a fixed time after the reboot. This is by design, in order to vary and minimize the impact on other system resources. By default, rotated logs files are store as *gzip* (.gz) compressed files.

The production of logs is controlled by the following files:

- /etc/cron.daily/logrotate specifies the job to be run and the file containing configuration parameters
- /usr/sbin/logrotate is the job that is run

- /etc/logrotate.conf is the file containing configuration parameters
- /etc/logrotate.d is a directory containing additional configuration information that might override the default instructions

Further details on the log rotation configuration files are beyond the scope of this document. For more information, see the Linux *man* page for *logrotate* by typing the following at the Linux command line:

man logrotate

Viewing the Content of Log Files

You can search and examine the contents of logs from the Linux command line using the usual Linux tools and commands:

- *vi* Opens the log file for editing.
- *tail* Displays the last few lines of a log file, in real-time. An excellent tool for monitoring "growing" files (such as log files.)

To view the content of multiple log files in real time, use the "-f" option:

```
tail -f <file1> -f <file2>
```

For example the following command displays the last few lines of both the *edit.log* and *isis.log* files in the same shell:

tail -f /var/log/avid/edit.log /var/log/avid/isis.log

- *more* Outputs the content of a file one screen at time.
- *less* Like *more*, but permitting forwards and backwards movement through the file.
- *grep* Use the *grep* command to search for regular expressions within a log file from the command line.

For example the following command searches all log files in the current directory for the term "fail-count":

grep fail-count *.log

The following more general form of the *grep* command searches all log files in the current directory and all subdirectories:

grep -r <searchterm> *.log

• *gzip* - Use the *gzip* command to unzip rotated log files for viewing. Rotated log files are stored as compressed gzip files by default.

The general form of the *gzip* command for uncompressing .gz files is as follows:

grep -d <logfile>.log.gz

Retrieving Log Files

In addition to viewing logs directly on the Linux server as outlined above, it can be convenient to copy logs of interest to a desktop machine. To do so, you need access via the network to the server of interest, and log in credentials. You also need a secure shell (SSH) file transfer protocol (FTP) client — commonly abbreviated SFTP — installed on the desktop machine.

WinSCP is the recommended free, open-source Windows client for securely copying files from a Linux server to a desktop machine (Windows only). It can be downloaded at the following location: http://winscp.net

To copy files using WinSCP:

1. Connect to the server of interest using WinSCP as the root user.

The root user has the necessary permission levels to establish the connection.

WinSCP uses the standard TCP port 22 for its SSH connection. If you can establish an SSH connection to the server outside of WinSCP, you can use WinSCP.

- 2. If a Warning dialog that appears, click Yes/Update as appropriate to accept the key.
- 3. WinSCP opens an interface providing a view of the Windows filesystem on the left and the RHEL filesystem on the right.

WinSCP automatically opens in the home directory of the logged in user. Since you logged in as the root user, this is /root on the RHEL machine. This should not be confused with the Linux root directory itself (/).

- 4. Navigate to the directory on the Windows machine where you want to put log files.
- 5. Navigate to the directory on the Linux server containing the logs of interest (for example, /var/log/avid).
- 6. Select the log files of interest. Shift-click to select multiple files.
- 7. Drag and drop the files to the Windows side of the WinSCP interface. Alternately, press the **Copy** button for more options.

WinSCP copies the files from the Linux server to the Windows machine.

Important Log Files at a Glance

The following table presents the most important logs for clustering:

Log File	Description	
/var/log/cluster	Corosync log files.	
/var/log/mongo	MongoDB log files.	
/var/log/rabbitmq	RabbitMQ log files.	
/var/log/avid	avid-db.log - Log file of the avid-db database management tool.	
	ICPS (playback service / "back-end") logs:	
	• config.log IPC configuration information, as found in the System Settings panels. Produced by <i>avid-config</i> service.	
	• edit.log Traffic between the back-end and the editors (NewsCutter/MediaComposer), including host and log-in information, timeline warnings, and so on. Produced by <i>avid-edit</i> service.	
	• fps.log Flash Player Security (FPS) information, relating to the player appearing in the IPC UI. Produced by <i>avid-fps</i> service.	
	 isis.log Information pertaining to ISIS mounting and connections. Produced by <i>avid-isis</i> service. 	
	jips.log Java Interplay Production service. Contains information pertaining to low-level connections between the ICS back-end services and the Interplay Production services used to obtain AAF metadata. Produced by avid-jips service.	
	• reconfigure.log Activity associated with running " <i>service avid-all reconfigure</i> ", which runs during setup.	
	 spooler.log Information relating to playback. Produced by avid-spooler service. 	
	All the above bulleted logs are produced by the named services, which in turn are overseen by the <i>avid-all</i> service.	
/var/log/avid/acs	 acs-app-server.log Log file for the ACS Administrative web pages, to be used for troubleshooting only (not on by default) 	
	 acs-ctrl-boot.log Log file for the ACS Boot Service (which serves as a registry of services) 	
	• acs-ctrl-generic.log Log file for most other ACS services, but in the IPC 1.3 case, this is only Attributes Service	

Important Log Files at a Glance

Log File	Description
/var/log/avid/avid-aaf-gen	AAF Generators logs. This is the service responsible for saving sequences.
/var/log/avid/avid-interplay-central	Contains the Interplay Central Java middleware logs (including httpd information).
	· interplay_central_x.log Interplay Central server log
	· YYYY_MM_DD.request.log Per day request logs, currently empty
	· health-check Internal health-check logs directory
	· interplay Internal production connection logs directory
	· performance Interplay performance logs directory, disabled by default.
/var/log/avid/avid-register-ics-zone	Reserved for future use.
/var/log/avid/avid-register-workgroup	Reserved for future use.
/var/log/avid/avid-ums	service.log - this information is being prepared.
	session.log - log-in requests and session information.
/var/log/avid/qm	Quality Manager (relink) logs.

RHEL Logs in /var/log

The following table presents the standard RHEL logs found in the /var/log directory:

Log File	Description
/var/log/anaconda.log	Linux installation messages.
/var/log/boot.log	Information pertaining to boot time.
/var/log/btmp.log	Failed login attempts.
/var/log/cron	Information logged by the Linux cron daemon.
/var/log/dmesg	Information about hardware detected by the kernel at boot time. The Linux <i>dmesg</i> command shows the contents of this log.

Log File	Description
/var/log/dracut.log	Log file of the Linux <i>initramfs</i> image creation process.
/var/log/lastlog	Most recent log-in for all system users. Use Linux <i>lastlog</i> command to view the contents of this log.
/var/log/maillog	Mail server log.
/var/log/mcelog	The machine check events (memory and CPU error) log.
/var/log/messages	Global system messages, including startup messages, logins, packet logging.
/var/log/secure	Authentication and authorization messages.
/var/log/spooler	Usenet and uucp log.
/var/log/tallylog	Failed login attempts.
/var/log/wtmp	Current login records. Use the Linux <i>who</i> command to display the contents.
/var/log/yum.log	Information about packages installed using Linux yum utility.

RHEL Subdirectories in /var/log

The following table presents the standard RHEL subdirectories found in the /var/log directory:

Log File	Description
/var/log/audit	Logs stored by the RHEL audit daemon.
/var/log/ConsoleKit	Logs stored related to user sessions. Deprecated.
/var/log/cups	Logs related to printing.
/var/log/httpd	The Apache web server access and error logs. As of ICS 1.8 Apache is no longer used.

Log File	Description
/var/log/ntpstats	Logs relating to the NTP daemon.
	To enable NTP logging, add lines similar to the following to /etc/ntp.conf:
	statistics clockstats cryptostats loopstats peerstats logconfig =all logfile /var/log/ntp statsdir /var/log/ntpstats/
/var/log/prelink	Information related to the Linux <i>prelink</i> program that speeds up the startup process.
/var/log/rhsm	Logs related to the Red Hat Subscription Manager.
/var/log/sa	Information collected and stored by the Linux <i>sar</i> performance monitoring utility (CPU, memory, I/O, network statistics, and so on). The <i>sar</i> utility is part of the larger Linux <i>sysstat</i> package. It reports local information only (i.e. it is not cluster-ready).
/var/log/samba	Logs related to the Samba programs.
/var/log/sssd	Information stored by the Linux <i>system security services daemon</i> responsible for access to remote directories and authentication.

ICS Logs in /var/log

The following table presents the standard ICS logs found in the /var/log directory:

Log File	Description
/var/log/fuse_avidfos.log	Logs related to the Linux <i>fuse</i> interface, used by the <i>avid-isis</i> backend service to mount the ISIS.
/var/log/ICS_installer_ <version>_<build>.log</build></version>	Logs related primarily to the Linux phase of the installation.
/var/log/ICS_install.log	Logs related primarily to the installation of ICS services.

ICS Subdirectories in /var/log

Log File	Description
/var/log/avid	Logs for numerous Avid services. See "Important Log Files at a Glance" on page 40.
/var/log/avid-syslog	edit.log - deprecated.spooler.log - deprecated.
/var/log/cluster	Corosync log files.
/var/log/mongo	MongoDB log files. See "Important Log Files at a Glance" on page 40.
/var/log/rabbitmq	RabbitMQ log files.

4 Validating the Cluster

This chapter presents a series of verifications and tests for determining if a cluster is behaving normally and its network connections are optimal. It covers what to test, and what to expect, and how to remedy the situation if you find evidence of incorrect or suboptimal conditions.

Normally, you should only need to run through the procedures in this chapter once, after setting up the cluster. However, if a node has been added, or you suspect conditions on the network have changed (for example, if a network switch has been altered or replaced), you ought to run through some of the validation procedures again.

This section is intended for use primarily on a newly set up cluster, or when a node has been added or permanently removed. For information and procedures directed towards regular maintenance activities, see "Cluster Maintenance and Administrator Best Practices" on page 64.

Verifying Cluster Configuration

The simplest way to verify that all nodes are participating in the cluster and all resources are up and running is via the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Monitor, *crm*. This utility lets you view and monitor (in real time) the status of the cluster.

To monitor the status of the cluster, log in to any node in the cluster as *root* and enter the following command.

crm mon [-f]

The output of this command presents the status of the main resources (and underlying services) controlled by Pacemaker, and the nodes on which they are running. The optional -f switch adds fail counts to the output.

Example: A Cluster Consisting with Three Nodes

To illustrate the Cluster Resource Monitor, consider an cluster consisting of three nodes:

- icps-mam-small
- icps-mam-med
- icps-mam-large

Logging in to one of the above nodes and issuing the *crm* command results in the following output:

```
_____
Last updated: Wed Apr 30 13:11:30 2014
Last change: Wed Apr 9 08:24:44 2014 via crmd on icps-mam-large
Stack: openais
Current DC: icps-mam-large - partition with quorum
Version: 1.1.7-6.el6-148fccfd5985c5590cc601123c6c16e966b85d14
3 Nodes configured, 3 expected votes
19 Resources configured.
_____
Online: [ icps-mam-med icps-mam-large icps-mam-small ]
  Clone Set: AvidConnectivityMonEverywhere [AvidConnectivityMon]
     Started: [ icps-mam-large icps-mam-med icps-mam-small ]
AvidClusterMon (lsb:avid-monitor):
                                       Started icps-mam-large
MongoDB (lsb:mongod):
                      Started icps-mam-large
    Resource Group: postgres
    postgres fs (ocf::heartbeat:Filesystem): Started icps-mam-large
    AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2):
                                                Started icps-mam-large
    pqsqlDB (ocf::avid:pqsql Avid):
                                                Started icps-mam-large
  Master/Slave Set: ms drbd postgres [drbd postgres]
    Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
    Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
   Clone Set: AvidAllEverywhere [AvidAll]
Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
AvidIPC (lsb:avid-interplay-central): Started icps-mam-large
AvidUMS (lsb:avid-ums): Started icps-mam-large
AvidACS (lsb:acs-ctrl-core):
                               Started icps-mam-large
   Clone Set: AvidICPSEverywhere [AvidICPS]
     Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
```

Note the line identifying the master node:

AvidClusterIP

Note that the master node always runs the following services:

- AvidIPC (avid-interplay-central)
- AvidUMS (avid-ums)
- AvidACS (acs-ctrl-core)

In the bullet list above — as in the *crm* output — the actual service name, as it would appear at the Linux command line, is shown in parentheses.

The prefix lsb shown in the Cluster Resource Monitor indicates the named service conforms to the Linux Standard Base (LSB) project, meaning these services support standard Linux commands for scripts (e.g. start, stop, restart, force-reload, status). The prefix ocf indicates the named entity is a cluster resource, compliant with the Open Cluster Framework (OCF). OCF can be understood as an extension of LSB for the purposes of clustering.

For details on Cluster Resource Monitor output, see "Understanding the Cluster Resource Monitor Output" on page 65.

Notice also that while all services are running on one node — *icps-mam-large*, in the sample output — only some of the services are running on the others (*icps-mam-small & icps-mam-med*). This is because *icps-mam-large* is the master node. The *icps-mam-med* node is the slave node, and runs database replication and video playback services only. The *icps-mam-small* node runs video playback services only.

Example: Fail Counts

As noted, running crm_mon with the -f switch adds fail counts (if any) to the output, for example:

```
Migration summary:
* Node icps-mam-large:
    AvidAll:2: migration-threshold=1000000 fail-count=7
    AvidUMS: migration-threshold=2 fail-count=1
    AvidACS: migration-threshold=20 fail-count=1
* Node icps-mam-med:
* Node icps-mam-small:
    AvidAll:0: migration-threshold=1000000 fail-count=9
Failed actions:
    AvidUMS_monitor_25000 (node=icps-mam-large, call=188, rc=7,
    status=complete): not running
    AvidACS_monitor_25000 (node=icps-mam-large, call=189, rc=7,
    status=complete): not running
    AvidAll:0_monitor_25000 (node=icps-mam-small, call=76, rc=7,
    status=complete): not running
```

To reset all the fail counts for a cluster:

If you see fail counts or failed action errors in the Cluster Resource Monitor, you can easily reset them for all nodes by entering the following command (as *root*):

/usr/maxt/maxedit/cluster/resources/cluster rsc-cleanup

For additional ways to reset fail counts, "Cluster Maintenance and Administrator Best Practices" on page 64.

Verifying the Contents of the Hosts File

The *hosts* file (/etc/hosts) is used by Linux to map host names to IP addresses, allowing network transactions on the computer to resolve the right targets on the network when the instructions carry a host name (more human readable) instead of an IP address.

In an ICS cluster, it is very important for each node in the cluster to resolve host names and IP addresses for all nodes in the same cluster as quickly as possible. As a result, it is important to:

- Resolve the hosts own host name independently of the *localhost* entry
- Add entries to the hosts file to resolve the host names for other nodes in the cluster

To verify the content of the hosts file:

1. Open edit the /etc/hosts file for editing and locate the following line(s):

```
127.0.0.1 localhost localhost.localdomain localhost4 localhost4.localdomain4
```

::1 localhost localhost.localdomain localhost6 localhost6.localdomain6

Note the following:

- 127.0.0.1: This entry maps the default localhost IP address (127.0.0.1) to *localhost*.
- ::1: This entry performs the same mapping function for IPv6 networking. "::1" is shorthand for the long sequence of zeros and colons representing the default IPv6 localhost IP address.
- 2. In some cases, the entries might include an explicit call-out of the computer's *own* host name (shown in italics, below):

127.0.0.1 localhost localhost.localdomain localhost4 localhost4.localdomain4 *ics-node1*

::1 localhost localhost.localdomain localhost6 localhost6.localdomain6 ics-node1

In the above sample network:

- **ics-node-1**: Is the host name of the local machine.

In a cluster the above entry must be considered an error. When another node queries "ics-node-1" for its IP address, it will receive "127.0.0.1" in response. Thereafter, the node that did the querying will send messages to itself instead of the real "ics-node-1", and clustering will be thrown into disarray.

3. If an entry contains the machine's own host name, remove the host name from the entry.

For example, in the above sample output, you would removed "ics-node-1" from the end of both entries.

4. In addition, the /etc/hosts file should contain lines resolving host names to IP addresses for all nodes in the cluster (including the local host). The form of each line is as follows:

<IP Address> <FQDN> <hostname>

For a four node cluster, for example, the /etc/hosts files should contain entries similar to the following:

```
127.0.0.1 localhost localhost.localdomain localhost4 localhost4.localdomain4
```

::1 localhost localhost.localdomain localhost6 localhost6.localdomain6

```
10.106.131.41 burl-ics1.csglobal.lab ics-node-1
10.106.131.42 burl-ics2.csglobal.lab ics-node-2
10.106.131.43 burl-ics3.csglobal.lab ics-node-3
10.106.131.44 burl-ics4.csglobal.lab ics-node-4
```

5. If it does not, add the appropriate information, save, and exit the file.

Verifying the Lookup Service Order

A Linux server can look up host names and IP addresses in different places. For example, it can resolve a host name to an IP address by looking into the /etc/hosts file or via a DNS server. Editing /etc/hosts files to map host names and IP addresses for a network of many computers can be tedious and is prone to error. Using a DNS server is a more efficient way in many cases. However, the lookup process that uses a DNS server is vulnerable to network latency and occasionally timeouts.

For an ICS cluster, it is very important to minimize the time it takes to resolve server names to IP addresses. As a result, using the local /etc/hosts file need to be given priority over a DNS server. It is therefore important to configure all ICS nodes in a cluster to first try to resolve host names to IP addresses using the hosts file, and if the host name is not declared in that file, then refer to a DNS.

To verify the lookup service order:

1. Open the /etc/nsswitch.conf file for editing:

vi /etc/nsswitch.conf

2. Find the hosts section where the lookup order is specified (about halfway into the file):

#hosts: db files nisplus nis dns
hosts: files dns

3. Make sure that in the uncommented *hosts* line, the term *files* appears before the term *dns*.

If not, edit the file, then save it and exit.

Verifying the Cluster IP Addresses and NIC Names

In order for the cluster to operate correctly, end-users must be able to connect to it via the cluster IP address, which is a "virtual" IP address hosted by the master node (and managed by Pacemaker). In addition, the master node (and all other nodes) must be able to connect to the ISIS (or file system storage).

The NIC interface named *eth0* is used by each node in the cluster to connect to storage. A "virtual" NIC interface named eth0:cl0 (for "cluster 0") is used to represent the cluster to the outside world. Both these NIC interfaces must be visible for the cluster to function.

To verify visibility of the Cluster IP Addresses and NIC Names:

On the master node, enter the following command as root:

ifconfig



For help identifying the master node, see "Identifying the Master, Slave, and Load-Balancing Nodes" on page 58.

This command returns detailed information on the currently active network interfaces, with output similar to the following (*eth0*, *eth0*:*cl0* and *lo* should be present on the master):

eth0	Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:26:55:E6:46:6A inet addr:172.24.18.226 Bcast:172.24.18.255 Mask:255.255.255.0 inet6 addr: fe80::226:55ff:fee6:466a/64 Scope:Link UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1 RX packets:80365428 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0 TX packets:98852170 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0 collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
	RX bytes:31780097451 (29.5 GiB) TX bytes:83538170989 (77.8 GiB) Interrupt:26 Memory:fbfe0000-fc000000
eth0:cl	0 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:26:55:E6:46:6A inet addr:172.24.18.60 Bcast:172.24.18.188 Mask:255.255.255.255 UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1 Interrupt:26 Memory:fbfe0000-fc000000
lo	Link encap:Local Loopback inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0 inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:16436 Metric:1

RX packets:47938974 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0

```
TX packets:47938974 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
RX bytes:40479536558 (37.6 GiB) TX bytes:40479536558 (37.6 GiB)
```

Note the following:

- *eth0* indicates the NIC interface named "eth0" is up and running. This is the interface used to connect to the ISIS (by default).
- *eth0:cl0* indicates this node has a *virtual* NIC interfaces defined for it. Technically, this is an *alias*, a construct permitting two IP addresses to be assigned to the same NIC interface. The cluster NIC alias is cl0 (for "cluster 0"). Only the master node will show the "eth0:cl0" information, which indicates it owns the virtual cluster IP address.
- Under eth0:cl0, the IP address ("inet addr") must match the cluster IP address
- *lo* is the loopback interface.

Verifying Node Connectivity

Recall that as seen from the outside (and by end-users) the cluster appears as a single machine with one host name and IP address. Nevertheless, within a cluster, nodes communicate with one another using their individual host names and IP addresses. In addition, ICS itself depends on excellent connectivity for its success.

First, it is important to determine that the nodes are visible to one another over the network. It is also important to determine how packets are routed through the network — you do not want too many "hops" involved (ideally, there should be just one hop). The Linux *ping* command is the simplest way to verify basic network connectivity. Routing information is revealed by the Linux *traceroute* command.

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When establishing the cluster (using setup-corosync) you made use of a "pingable IP" address. The pingable IP address is used by ICS nodes for self-diagnosis, to determine if they themselves have dropped out of the cluster, or if it is network connectivity that is the issue. Be sure to run traceroute on the pingable IP address to verify it is within easy reach and is unlikely to be made unreachable, for example, by inadvertent changes to network topology.

In this section you:

- 1. Obtain the "always on" pingable address from the Cluster Information Base.
- 2. Use the address to verify network connectivity.
- 3. Verify the routing of packets between nodes.
- 4. Verify DNS host name resolution.

Obtaining the "Always-On" IP Address

The "always-on" IP address is used by Connectivity Monitor cluster components to determine if a particular nodes is still in the cluster. For example, if the Connectivity Monitor on a slave node can no longer communicate with the master node, it "pings" the always-on IP address (in practice, usually a router). If the always-on address responds, the node concludes it is the master node that has gone off-line, and it takes on the role of master itself. If the always-on address does not respond, the slave node concludes there is a network glitch; hence it does not attempt to take on the master role.

To obtain the pingable IP address:

On any node in the cluster type the following command:

crm configure show

This displays the contents of the Cluster Information Base in human-readable form. The pingable IP address is held by the **AvidConnectivityMon** primitive (shown below).

```
primitive AvidConnectivityMon ocf:pacemaker:ping \
    params host_list="172.XX.XX." multiplier="100" \
    op start interval="0" timeout="20s" \
    op stop interval="0" timeout="20s" \
    op monitor interval="10s" timeout="30s"
```

Verifying Network Connectivity

Verifying basic network connectivity between cluster nodes by manually pinging the nodes of interest is a quick way to ensure the nodes can communicate with one another.

To verify network connectivity:

On any network connected machine (preferably one of the cluster nodes), use the Linux *ping* command to reach the host in question:

ping -c 4 <hostname/ipaddres>

For example:

ping -c 4 ics-dl360-1

The system responds by outputting its efforts to reach the specified host, and the results. For example, output similar to the following indicates success:

PING ics-dl360-1.fqdn.com (172.XXX.XXX) 56(88) bytes of data 64 bytes from ics-dl360-1.fqdn.com (172.XXX.XXX.XXX): 64 bytes from ics-dl360-1.fqdn.com (172.XXX.XXX.XXX): 64 bytes from ics-dl360-1.fqdn.com (172.XXX.XXX.XXX): 64 bytes from ics-dl360-1.fqdn.com (172.XXX.XXX.XXX):

A summary of the results is also presented.

Testing the Number of Network "hops" between Nodes

Network "hops" refer to the number of routers or network switches that data must pass through on the way from the source node to its destination. For efficiency, it is important that there are as few network hops as possible between the clustered nodes. Ideally, there should be at most one hop.

To view the route packets take between nodes:

On one of the cluster nodes connected machine, use the Linux *traceroute* command to reach another node:

traceroute <hostname>

For example, issuing a traceroute on "localhost" (always your current machine) will result in output similar to the following:

```
1 traceroute to localhost (127.0.0.1), 30 hops max, 60 byte packets localhost (127.0.0.1) 0.020 ms 0.003 ms 0.003 ms
```

The above output indicates the packets traveled over a single hop.

For a machine that is three network hops away, the results will resemble the following:

```
1 172.24.18.1 (172.24.18.1) 0.431 ms 0.423 ms 0.416 ms
2 gw-mtl-isis-lab1.global.avidww.com (172.24.32.7) 0.275ms 0.428 ms 0.619
ms
3 mtl-sysdira.global.avidww.com (172.24.48.40) 0.215 ms 0.228 ms 0.225 ms
```

Verifying DNS Host Naming

It is important that the DNS servers correctly identify the nodes in the cluster. This is true of all nodes, not just the master and slave. The Linux *dig* (domain information groper) command performs name lookups and displays the answers returned by the name servers that are queried.

To verify that each host is recognized by DNS:

For each node, enter the following command as root.

```
dig +search <host>
```

The *+search* option forces *dig* to use the DNS servers defined in the /etc/resolve.conf file, in the order they are listed in the file.

The *dig* command as presented above returns information on the "A" record for the host name submitted with the query, for example:

```
dig +search icps-mam-large
```

Returns output similar to the following:

```
; <<>> DiG 9.8.2rc1-RedHat-9.8.2-0.10.rc1.el6 <<>> +search icps-mam-large
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 27390
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 0
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;icps-mam-large.global.avidww.com. IN A
;; ANSWER SECTION:
icps-mam-large.global.avidww.com. 480 IN A 172.24.18.242
;; Query time: 31 msec
;; SERVER: 172.24.32.12#53(172.24.32.12)
;; WHEN: Thu May 1 16:38:26 2014
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 66
```

The key information in the above output is the status (**NOERROR**) in the "->>HEADER<--" section, and the "Answer Section" which contains the Fully Qualified Domain Name (**FQDN**), even though you only submitted the host name. This proves the domain name server has the information it needs to resolve the host name.

The following table presents the possible return codes:

Return Code	Description
NOERROR	DNS Query completed successfully
FORMERR	DNS Query Format Error
SERVFAIL	Server failed to complete the DNS request
NXDOMAIN	Domain name does not exist
NOTIMP	Function not implemented
REFUSED	The server refused to answer for the query
YXDOMAIN	Name that should not exist, does exist
XRRSET	RRset that should not exist, does exist
NOTAUTH	Server not authoritative for the zone
NOTZONE	Name not in zone

Checking DRBD Status

Recall that DRBD is responsible for mirroring the ICS database on the two servers in the master-slave configuration. It does not run on any other nodes. In this section you run the DRDB *drdb-overview* utility to ensure there is connectivity between the two DRBD nodes, and to verify database replication is taking place.

To view the status of DRBD, log in to the node of interest and issue the following command:

drbd-overview

A healthy master node will produce output similar to the following:

```
1:r0/0 Connected Primary/Secondary UpToDate/UpToDate C r---- /mnt/drbd ext4 20G 907M 18G 5%
```

A healthy slave node will return the following:

1:r0/0 Connected Secondary/Primary UpToDate/UpToDate C r----

If the master and slave nodes do not resemble the above output, see "Troubleshooting DRBD" on page 78.

The following table explains the meaning of the output:

Element	Description	
1:r0/0	The DRBD device number ("1") and name ("r0/0").	
Connected	The connection state. Possible states include:	
	 Connected - Connection established and data mirroring is active. 	
	• Standalone - No DRBD network connection (i.e., not yet connected, explicitly disconnected, or connection dropped). In ICS this usually indicates a "split brain" has occurred.	
	• WFConnection - The node is waiting for the peer node to become visible on the network.	
Primary/Secondary	The roles for the local and peer (remote) DRBD resources. The local role is always presented first (i.e. local/peer).	
	• Primary - The active resource.	
	• Secondary - The resource that receives updates from its peer (the primary).	
	 Unknown - The resource's role is currently not known. This status is only ever displayed for the peer resource (i.e. Primary/Unknown). 	
UptoDate/UptoDate	The resource's disk state. The local disk state is presented first (i.e. local/peer). Possible states include:	
	• UptoDate - Consistent and up to date. The normal state.	
	• Consistent - Data is consistent, but the node is not connected to its peer.	
	• Inconsistent - Data is not consistent. This occurs on both nodes prior to first (full) sync, and on the synchronization target during synchronization.	
	• DUnknown - No connection to peer. This status is only ever displayed for the peer resource (i.e. UptoDate/Unknown).	
C	The replication protocol. Should be "C" (synchronous).	
r	I/O flags. The first entry should be "r" (running).	

Element	Description
/mnt/drbd ext4 20G 907M 18G 5%	The DRBD partition mount point and other standard Linux filesystem information. This indicates the DRBD partition is mounted on this node. This should be the case on the master node only.

Identifying the Master, Slave, and Load-Balancing Nodes

Recall that there are three types of nodes in a cluster: *master*, *slave*, and *load-balancing*. The master "owns" the cluster IP address. The slave assumes the role of master in the event of a failover. Any extra nodes play a load-balancing role, but can never take on the role of master or slave.

This section provides instructions for quickly identifying the different nodes in a cluster using the Cluster Resource Monitoring utility, crm. For more details on its output, see "Understanding the Cluster Resource Monitor Output" on page 65.

To identify the master node, slave node, and load balancing nodes:

1. Log in to any node in the cluster as *root* and open the cluster resource monitoring utility:

crm_mon

This returns the status of all cluster-related services on all nodes, with output similar to the following example using three nodes (e.g. *icps-mam-small*, *icps-mam-medium* and *icps-mam-large*).

```
Clone Set: AvidConnectivityMonEverywhere [AvidConnectivityMon]
Started: [ icps-mam-large icps-mam-med icps-mam-small ]
```

```
AvidClusterMon (lsb:avid-monitor): Started icps-mam-large
MongoDB (lsb:mongod): Started icps-mam-large
    Resource Group: postgres
    postgres fs (ocf::heartbeat:Filesystem): Started icps-mam-large
    AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2): Started icps-mam-large
                  (ocf::avid:pgsgl Avid):
                                             Started icps-mam-large
    pqsqlDB
  Master/Slave Set: ms drbd postgres [drbd postgres]
    Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
    Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
  Clone Set: AvidAllEverywhere [AvidAll]
Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
AvidIPC (lsb:avid-interplay-central): Started icps-mam-large
AvidUMS (lsb:avid-ums): Started icps-mam-large
AvidACS (lsb:acs-ctrl-core): Started icps-mam-large
   Clone Set: AvidICPSEverywhere [AvidICPS]
     Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
```

- 2. In the output of the command, look for the line containing "AvidClusterIP" this service runs on the master node only (*icps-mam-large* in the above example):
 - AvidClusterIP

For example:

```
AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2): Started icps-mam-large
```

The sample output above identifies the master as *icps-mam-large*.

Note that the master node always runs the following services:

- AvidIPC (avid-interplay-central)
- AvidUMS (avid-ums)
- AvidACS (acs-ctrl-core)

For example:

```
AvidIPC (lsb:avid-interplay-central): Started icps-mam-large
AvidUMS (lsb:avid-ums): Started icps-mam-large
AvidACS (lsb:acs-ctrl-core): Started icps-mam-large
```

3. To identify the slave, look for the line containing "Master/Slave Set".

For example:

```
Master/Slave Set: ms_drbd_postgres [drbd_postgres]
Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
```

The sample output above identifies the slave as *icps-mam-med*.

4. To identify the load-balancing nodes, look for the "online" or any of the "started" entries.

For example:

```
Online: [ icps-mam-med icps-mam-large icps-mam-small ]
Started: [ icps-mam-large icps-mam-med icps-mam-small ]
```

The sample output above identifies the load-balancing node as *icps-mam-small*.

Forcing a Failover

You can verify the cluster is working as expected by putting the master node into standby mode and observing the failover. You can then bring the node back up and observe as it rejoins the cluster.

To force a failover in the cluster:

1. Log in to any node in the cluster as *root* and open the cluster resource monitoring utility:

crm_mon

This returns the status of all cluster-related services on all nodes, with output similar to the following example using three nodes (e.g. *icps-mam-small*, *icps-mam-medium* and *icps-mam-large*).

```
==============
Last updated: Wed Apr 30 13:11:30 2014
Last change: Wed Apr 9 08:24:44 2014 via crmd on icps-mam-large
Stack: openais
Current DC: icps-mam-large - partition with quorum
Version: 1.1.7-6.el6-148fccfd5985c5590cc601123c6c16e966b85d14
3 Nodes configured, 3 expected votes
19 Resources configured.
=============
Online: [ icps-mam-med icps-mam-large icps-mam-small ]
   Clone Set: AvidConnectivityMonEverywhere [AvidConnectivityMon]
     Started: [ icps-mam-large icps-mam-med icps-mam-small ]
AvidClusterMon (lsb:avid-monitor):
                                        Started icps-mam-large
MongoDB (lsb:mongod):
                       Started icps-mam-large
     Resource Group: postgres
     postgres fs (ocf::heartbeat:Filesystem): Started icps-mam-large
    AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2): Started icps-mam-large
                   (ocf::avid:pgsql Avid):
                                              Started icps-mam-large
     pgsqlDB
  Master/Slave Set: ms drbd postgres [drbd postgres]
     Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
     Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
   Clone Set: AvidAllEverywhere [AvidAll]
Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
```

```
AvidIPC (lsb:avid-interplay-central): Started icps-mam-large
AvidUMS (lsb:avid-ums): Started icps-mam-large
AvidACS (lsb:acs-ctrl-core): Started icps-mam-large
Clone Set: AvidICPSEverywhere [AvidICPS]
Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
```

- 2. Note the line identifying the master node:
 - AvidClusterIP

This is the node you will put into standby mode to observe failover (*icps-mam-large* in the above example).

Note that the master node always runs the following services:

- AvidIPC (avid-interplay-central)
- AvidUMS (avid-ums)
- AvidACS (acs-ctrl-core)
- 3. In a separate terminal session log in to any node as *root* and bring the master node into standby mode:

crm node standby <master node name>

In the above command, replace <master node name> with the name of the master node (e.g. *icps-mam-large*).

4. Observe the failover in the *crm_mon* utility within the other terminal session as the master node is reassigned to the slave node, and the associated services are brought up on the new master.

Note too that any active Interplay Central client windows will receive a message indicating the need to log back in. Playback might be briefly affected.

5. Bring the standby node back online:

crm node online <original master node name>

- 6. Observe in the *crm_mon* window as the off-line node is brought back up and rejoins the cluster.
- 7. If you want to restore the original node to the role of master, temporarily put the current master into standby mode, so control fails over again, back to the original master node.

Resetting Fail Counts

Note that a node fail count is retained by the system, and should be reset after a failover. This is somewhat critical, as the threshold for failures is two (2), the default for all services except AvidAll. The cluster will fail over automatically when the threshold is reached. Using the cleanup command will reset the fail count.

To view the fail counts:

1. Exit the cluster resource monitor (if still active), then launch it again, this time with the option to view the fail counts:

```
crm mon -f
```

2. The Cluster Resource Monitor outputs the status of the cluster, which now includes a "Migration Summary" section, similar to the following:

Migration summary:

- * Node <master node>:
- * Node <slave node>:
- * Node <load-balancing node>:

For example, if the AvidUMS resource — which encapsulate the UMS *service* — has failed on the master node of a three-node cluster, the output would resemble the following:

Migration summary:

```
* Node <master node>:
    AvidUMS: migration-threshold=2 fail-count=1
```

- * Node <slave node>:
- * Node <load-balancing node>:

A fail-count of 1 indicates the underlying service failed and was restarted. Should it fail again (reaching the "migration threshold"), Pacemaker will remove this node from the cluster and failover to the slave node.

To reset a fail count:

1. Reset the fail count for the node directly:

crm resource failcount <resource> set <hostname> 0

Here <resource> is the name of the resource for which you want to reset the failcount:

- AvidACS (avid-ctrl-core)
- AvidUMS (avid-ums)
- AvidIPC (avid-interplay-central)
- AvidAllEverywhere (avid-all)

And where *<hostname>* is the hostname of the node on which the service is running. For example:

crm resource failcount AvidACS set icps-mam-large 0

- 2. Alternately, use the *cleanup* command to reset all fail counts for all nodes in the cluster: /usr/maxt/maxedit/cluster/resources/cluster rsc-cleanup
- 3. Run *crm_mon* again to observe the results:

crm mon -f

5 Cluster Maintenance and Administrator Best Practices

Under most conditions, Pacemaker perform more than adequately as an ICS cluster administrator. It restarts the services under its management and sends e-mail alerts when a node has been removed from the cluster, without the need for human intervention. This section provides additional guidance for an ICS cluster administrator, with information and procedures to ensure the cluster remains healthy and running optimally.

Checking Cluster Status

For all important events such as a master node failover, the cluster sends automated emails to cluster administrator email address(es). It is nevertheless important to regularly check up on the cluster manually. Recall that cluster resources are Linux services under management by Pacemaker. By regularly checking the fail counts of cluster resources, for example, you can identify trouble spots before a failover actually takes place. Similarly, examining the status of DRBD will ensure database replication proceeds as expected.

Tool Name	Notes		
crm	The Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager utility.		
crm_mon	A shortcut for "crm resource status". In addition, the following form of the command outputs cluster status plus fail count information:		
	crm_mon -f		
	If a service has reached a fail-count of 2 and a has been removed, that server should be examined.		
drdb-overview	A utility that outputs DRBD connectivity status.		

The following table lists the main tools for examining the status of a cluster:

Understanding the Cluster Resource Monitor Output

This section provides a line-by-line explanation of typical crm_mon output (line numbers have been added, for reference).

```
1. ===========
2. Last updated: Wed Apr 30 13:11:30 2014
3. Last change: Wed Apr 9 08:24:44 2014 via crmd on icps-mam-large
4. Stack: openais
5. Current DC: icps-mam-large - partition with quorum
6. Version: 1.1.7-6.el6-148fccfd5985c5590cc601123c6c16e966b85d14
7. 3 Nodes configured, 3 expected votes
8. 19 Resources configured.
9. ==========
10. Online: [ icps-mam-med icps-mam-large icps-mam-small ]
       Clone Set: AvidConnectivityMonEverywhere [AvidConnectivityMon]
11.
         Started: [ icps-mam-large icps-mam-med icps-mam-small ]
12.
13. AvidClusterMon (lsb:avid-monitor):
                                            Started icps-mam-large
14. MongoDB (lsb:mongod): Started icps-mam-large
        Resource Group: postgres
15.
       postgres fs (ocf::heartbeat:Filesystem): Started icps-mam-large
16.
       AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2): Started icps-mam-large
17.
18.
      pgsglDB
                      (ocf::avid:pgsql Avid):
                                                 Started icps-mam-large
19.
      Master/Slave Set: ms drbd postgres [drbd postgres]
20.
        Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
21.
         Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
       Clone Set: AvidAllEverywhere [AvidAll]
22.
23. Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
24. AvidIPC (lsb:avid-interplay-central): Started icps-mam-large
25. AvidUMS (lsb:avid-ums): Started icps-mam-large
26. AvidACS (lsb:acs-ctrl-core):
                                 Started icps-mam-large
       Clone Set: AvidICPSEverywhere [AvidICPS]
27.
28.
         Started: [ icps-mam-small icps-mam-med icps-mam-large ]
```

Line(s) Description

1-9	Header information
2	Last time something changed in the cluster status (for example, a service stopped, was restarted, and so on).
3	Last time the cluster configuration was changed, and from where it was changed.

Line(s)	Description
4	Name of the Corosync stack (includes Pacemaker, Corosync and Heartbeat). Always named "openais".
5	Displays the current holder of the configuration. If you change something on a machine, the change must be "approved" by the Current DC.
6	Version number of the Corosync stack.
7	The number of nodes configured. Expected votes relates to quorums (unused).
8	Number of resources (services and groups of services) under management by Pacemaker. This includes the cluster IP address.
	For example, referring to lines 15-18. Lines 16, 17, & 18 represent resources. Line 15 (the resource group) is also a resource.
10	Lists the nodes that are online and/or offline.
11-12	The resource monitoring the pingable IP address you specified when creating the cluster.
13	The resource that sends the automated emails.
14	The MongoDB resource
15-18	The PostgreSQL resource group.
	· postgres_fs: Responsible for mounting the drbd device as a filesystem.
	· AvidClusterIP: The virtual cluster IP address.
	· pgsqlDB: The PostgreSQL database.
19-21	The master/slave set for DRBD.
22-23	The playback services. "Clone Set" indicates it is running on all nodes in the cluster.
24	Interplay Central resource.
25	The User Management Services resource.
26	The Avid Common Services bus ("the bus").
27-28	The Avid Interplay Central Playback Services (the "back end" services).

Verifying Clock Synchronization

Verifying accuracy in clock synchronization across multiple networked servers in Linux is a challenge, and there is no simple way to do it that provides entirely satisfactory results. The major impediment is the nature of the Linux NTP itself. Time synchronization is particularly important in a cluster, since Pacemaker and Corosync, the cluster management software, rely on time stamps for accuracy in communication.

Recall that during ICS installation you set up a *cron* job for the NTP daemon to synchronize each *particular* system to an NTP time server. Recall too that the time adjustment is not instantaneous — it can take some time for the NTPD daemon to adjust the local system time to the value retrieved from the NTP time server. Further, network congestion can result in unpredictable delays between each server seeking accurate time, and accurate time being returned to it.

For all the reasons given above, it can be understood that even with NTP, there is no guarantee all systems see the same time at the same moment. Nevertheless, some basic checking can be performed:

- Verify the NTP configuration file (/etc/ntp.conf) contains the address of an in-house NTP server
- Ensure any out-of-house servers (e.g. "**0.rhel.pool.ntp.org**") are commented out (for security)
- Verify a *cron* job (/etc/cron.d/ntpd) has been set up
- Verify the NTP server in the NTP configuration file is reachable from each server in the cluster:

```
ntpdate -q <server_address>
```

- Open a shell on each server in the cluster and visually verify the system time and date: date
- If needed, use NTP to adjust the time and date:

```
/usr/sbin/ntpd -q -u ntp:ntp
```

```
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```

Some industry literatures suggests a server's time can take some time to "settle down" after a reboot, or after requesting a clock synchronization using NTP. It is not unusual for there to be delays of up to an hour or two before clock accuracy is established.

For more information see "Synching the System Clock" in the ICS Installation and Configuration Guide.

Verifying the AAF Generator Service

The AAF Generator service (*avid-aaf-gen*) is responsible for saving sequences. To reduce the possibility of bottlenecks when many users attempt to save sequences at the same time, multiple instances of the service run simultaneously (by default, five). As a result, Interplay Central has the ability to save multiple sequences concurrently, significantly reducing overall wait-times under heavy load.

In a cluster deployment, this service is installed and running on all nodes. However, it is only involved in saving sequences on the node where the IPC core service (*avid-interplay-central*) is currently running.

The service is not managed by Pacemaker. It is therefore important to regularly verify its status. If one or more instances of it have failed, restart the service. An instance can fail, for example, if an invalid AAF is used within a sequence. If all instances fail, responsibility for saving transfers to the Interplay Central core service (*avid-interplay-central*), and bottlenecks can arise.

Logs are stored in /var/log/avid/avid-aaf-gen/log_xxx.

To verify the status and/or stop the AAF Generator service:

1. Log in to both the master and slave nodes as root.

Though the AAF Generator service is active in saving sequences only on the master node, you should verify its status on the slave node too, to prepare for any failover.

2. Verify the status of the AAF Generator service:

service avid-aaf-gen status

The system outputs the status of each instance, similar to the following:

avid-aaf-gen_1 process is running	[OK]
avid-aaf-gen_2 process is running	[OK]
avid-aaf-gen_3 process is running	[OK]
avid-aaf-gen_4 process is running	[OK]
avid-aaf-gen_5 process is running	[OK]

An error would look like this:

avid-aaf-gen_1	process	is not running	[WARNING]
----------------	---------	----------------	-----------

3. In the event of an error, restart the service as follows:

service avid-aaf-gen restart

Output similar to the following indicates the service has restarted correctly:

Starting process	<pre>avid-aaf-gen_1 - Stat:</pre>	0	[OK]
Starting process	avid-aaf-gen_2 - Stat:	0	[OK]
Starting process	avid-aaf-gen_3 - Stat:	0	[OK]
Starting process	avid-aaf-gen_4 - Stat:	0	[OK]
Starting process	avid-aaf-gen 5 - Stat:	0	[OK]

4. If you need to stop the service this must be done in two steps. First, configure 0 instances of the service (there are 5 by default):

```
echo 0 > /opt/avid/avid-aaf-gen/DEFAULT NUM PROCESSES
```

5. With zero instances configured, you can stop the service normally:

service avid-aaf-gen-stop

To restart the service, reset the number of instances to the default (5) then restart it in the usual way.

Shutting Down / Rebooting a Single Node

The Linux reboot process is thorough and robust, and automatically shuts down and restarts all the ICS and clustering infrastructure services on a server in the correct order. However, when the server is a node in an ICS cluster, care must be taken to remove the node from a cluster — that is, stop all clustering activity first — before shutting down or rebooting the individual node.

Failing to observe the correct procedures can have unexpected consequences. In the best case, rebooting a server without first excluding it from the cluster can result in an unnecessary failovers, for example. In the worst case, it can throw the cluster into disarray.

Before Shutting Down and Restarting:

• Alert end-users to exit Interplay Central or risk losing unsaved work.

To shut down and reboot an individual node:

- Log in to any machine in the cluster as *root*, and open two shell windows. It is not necessary for you to log in to the node you want to reboot.
- 2. In the first shell, start the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager:

crm_mon

The Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager presents information on the state of the cluster. For details, see "Understanding the Cluster Resource Monitor Output" on page 65.

3. In the second shell, bring the node of interest into standby mode:

crm node standby <node name>

Putting the node into standby automatically stops Pacemaker (and Corosync). These are the services responsible for restarting halted services and failing over from master to slave node.

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Putting the node into standby before rebooting also eliminates the impact on the failover count. If it is the current master node you put into standby, an orderly failover to the slave node will take place, without incrementing a fail count on the master node.

- Observe in the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Monitor shell as the node drops out of the cluster.
- 5. Reboot the cluster node, as desired:
 - If your shell is open on the node you want to reboot: reboot
 - To reboot a different node from the current shell:

ssh root@<node name> reboot

6. Once the node has rebooted, issue the command to rejoin it to the cluster:

crm node online <node name>

In a moment or two, the rebooted node shows up in the Pacemaker cluster resource monitor shell.

Shutting Down / Rebooting an Entire Cluster

When shutting down and restarting an entire cluster, nodes themselves must be shut down and restarted in a specific order. Rebooting nodes in the incorrect order can cause DRBD to become confused about which node is master, resulting in a "split brain" situation. Rebooting in the incorrect order can also cause RabbitMQ to enter into a state of disarray, and hang. Both DRBD and RabbitMQ malfunctions can present misleading symptoms and can be equally difficult to remedy. For these reasons, a strict shutdown and reboot order and methodology is advised.



When shutting down and restarting an entire cluster, allow each node to power down completely before shutting down the next one. Similarly, on restart, allow each node to power up completely and "settle" before restarting the next.

The following list shows the correct order for shutting down and restarting an entire cluster:

- 1. Shut down load-balancing nodes
- 2. Shut down slave
- 3. Shut down master
- 4. Bring up original master
- 5. Bring up slave
- 6. Bring up load-balancing nodes

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When bringing the cluster back up, it is important to bring up the original master first. This was the last node down, and must be the first back up. This is primarily for the sake of RabbitMQ, which runs on all nodes and maintains its own "master" (called a "disc node" in RabbitMQ parlance). The non-master RabbitMQ nodes (called "ram nodes") look to the last known disc node for their configuration information. If the disc node is not available, the RabbitMQ cluster will hang and services that depend on it — such as the ACS bus — will report errors.

Before Shutting Down and Restarting:

- Alert end-users to exit Interplay Central or risk losing unsaved work.
- After shutting down and restarting an entire cluster, it is good practice to check and reset any fail counts using the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager.

To shut down and restart an entire cluster:

- 1. Log in to any machine in the cluster as root.
- 2. Use the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager to identify the master node:

crm_mon

3. Identify the master node by locating the line containing "AvidClusterIP" — this service runs on the master server only.

For example, if the *crm_mon* command output will contain a line similar to the following:

AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2): Started icps-mam-large

The above output identifies the master node as *icps-mam-large*.

For details on identifying the master, slave and load-balancing nodes, see "Identifying the Master, Slave, and Load-Balancing Nodes" on page 58.

4. Identify the slave node by locating the "Master/Slave Set" entry.

For example, the *crm_mon* command output will contain an entry similar to the following:

```
Master/Slave Set: ms_drbd_postgres [drbd_postgres]
Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
```

The above output identifies the slave node as *icps-mam-med*.

- 5. Perform the next operations on each node in the following order:
 - a. Load-balancing nodes
 - b. Slave node
 - c. Master node
- 6. Stop the clustering services:

service pacemaker stop service corosync stop

Run the above commands on the load-balancing nodes first, slave node next, then on the master node last. The load-balancing nodes themselves can have their clustering services stopped in any order.

7. Reboot nodes in the following order:

- Original master node first
- Original slave node second
- Other nodes in any order



Allow the master node to come back up and "settle" before rebooting the slave node. Otherwise, both nodes may attempt to become master, resulting in hung behavior for some processes.

8. After shutting down and restarting an entire cluster, it is good practice to instruct the Pacemaker cluster resource manager to perform its housekeeping tasks:

```
crm resource cleanup <resource> [<node>]
```

For more information, see "Resetting Fail Counts" on page 62.

Performing a Rolling Shutdown / Reboot

A rolling shutdown is one in which several — possibly all — machines in a cluster are shut down and rebooted, in sequence. Significantly, only one machine at a time is off-line. At no time is more than one machine off-line. A rolling shut down can be useful if you need to reboot multiple machines, since it does so in a controlled manner, with minimal disruption of services.

The following list shows the correct order for a rolling shutdown / reboot:

- 1. Power-cycle the load-balancing nodes
- 2. Power-cycle the slave node
- 3. Power-cycle the master node



When power-cycling the master and slave servers, first power-cycle one and wait until it has rejoined the cluster before power-cycling the other.

To perform a rolling shutdown / reboot:

- 1. Log in to any machine in the cluster as *root*.
- 2. Use the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager to identify the master node:

crm_mon

3. Identify the master node by locating the line containing "AvidClusterIP" — this service runs on the master server only.

For example, if the *crm_mon* command output will contain a line similar to the following:

```
AvidClusterIP (ocf::heartbeat:IPaddr2): Started icps-mam-large
```

The above output identifies the master node as *icps-mam-large*.

ſ

For details on identifying the master, slave and load-balancing nodes, see "Identifying the Master, Slave, and Load-Balancing Nodes" on page 58.

4. Identify the slave node by locating the "Master/Slave Set" entry.

For example, the *crm_mon* command output will contain an entry similar to the following:

Master/Slave Set: ms_drbd_postgres [drbd_postgres]
Masters: [icps-mam-large]
Slaves: [icps-mam-med]

The above output identifies the slave node as *icps-mam-med*.

5. Power-cycle the load balancing node before any other nodes:

```
service pacemaker stop
service corosync stop
reboot
```

6. Power-cycle the slave node next:

```
service pacemaker stop
service corosync stop
reboot
```

7. Power-cycle the **master** node last:

service pacemaker stop service corosync stop reboot

8. After performing a rolling shutting / reboot of an entire cluster, it is good practice to instruct the Pacemaker cluster resource manager to perform its housekeeping tasks:

crm resource cleanup <resource> [<node>]

For more information, see "Resetting Fail Counts" on page 62.

Responding to Automated Cluster Email

By default Pacemaker is configured to send automated emails to notify the cluster administrators of important events. The following table presents the email types that can be sent and the remedial action needed.

Email Type	Description	Action Needed
Node Up /Joined Cluster	• A node that was put into standby has added back into the cluster	None.
	• During installation, a new node has successfully joined the cluster.	
Cluster and the offending node has been removed from the cluster.	and the offending node has been removed from the cluster.A node has been put into	In the case of a failed node, the cluster requires immediate attention. Getting it operationa and back in the cluster is a priority.
	standby mode	Be sure to reset the failover count on the failed node, once the situation has been corrected See "Resetting Fail Counts" or page 62.

Email Type	Description	Action Needed
DRBD Split Brain	• DRBD is operating independently on the two nodes where it is running	The cluster requires immediate attention to remedy the situation.
		To remedy, wipe out the DRBD database on one of the nodes, then rejoin that node to the DRBD primary node.
		See "Correcting a DRBD Split Brain" on page 82.
DRBD Split Brain Recovery	DRBD has been successfully reconfigured.	None.

6 Cluster Troubleshooting

This chapter presents troubleshooting tips and procedures.

Common Troubleshooting Commands

The following table lists some helpful commands for general troubleshooting.

Command	Description
ics_version	Prints ICS version information to the screen.
drbd-overview	Prints DRBD status information to the screen Alternate form: service drbd status.
crm_mon [-f]	Opens the Pacemaker cluster resource manager.
	The -f option displays the failover count for all services under management by Pacemaker.
crm	Launches the Pacemaker cluster resource manager.
	crm command mode
	crm
	Once in the cluster resource monitor shell, tab twice for a list of options at each level (including help).
gluster	Queries GlusterFS peers. e.g.
	gluster peer [command]
	gluster peer probe

Command	Description
cluster [rsc-start rcs-cleanup]	Various cluster troubleshooting functions, found in the following directory (version 1.5+):
	/opt/avid/cluster/
	To start all services on a cluster:
	cluster rcs-start
	To clean up resource errors found in crm_mon:
	cluster rcs-cleanup
acs-query	Tests the RabbitMQ message bus.
corosync-cfgtool -s	Returns the IP and other stats for the machine on which you issue the command:
	corosync-cfgtool -s
corosync-objctl grep member	Returns the IP addresses of all nodes in the cluster:
	corosync-objctl grep member
avid-db dumpall	Backs up the ICS database
system-backup [-b -r]	Backs up the system settings and ICS database (useful before an upgrade:
	system-backup.sh -b
	Restores from the backup:
	system-backup.sh -r
avid-interplay-central [start stop restart status]	Starts, stops and returns the status of the Avid Interplay Central service, e.g.:
[][]	service avid-interplay-central status
acs-ctrl-core	Starts stops and returns the status of ACS bus service, e.g.:
[start stop restart status]	service acs-ctrl-core status
acs-ctrl-message	Starts, stops and returns the status of ACS messaging service, e.g.:
[start stop restart status]	acs-ctrl-message status

Troubleshooting DRBD

Recall that DRBD runs on the master and slave nodes only, and is responsible for mirroring the contents of a partition between master and slave. The partition it mirrors is used by ICS to store the ICS database and the datbase used by MongoDB, For details, see "DRBD and Database Replication" on page 21.

This section presents common DRBD problems and solutions. Typical problems in DRBD include:

- A lack of primary-secondary connectivity
- The secondary operating in standalone mode
- Both nodes reporting connectivity but neither one in the role of master.
- Both nodes reporting themselves in the role of master

The following examples show how to recognize the problems described above.

Master Node: WFConnection

1:r0/0 WFConnection Primary/Unknown UpToDate/DUnknown C r---- /mnt/drbd ext4 20G 397M 18G 3%

Summary: The DRBD master node cannot connect to the DRBD slave node:

Details:

WFConnection	The master node is waiting for a connection from the slave node (i.e. the slave node cannot be found on the network).
Primary/Unknown	This node is the master, but the slave node cannot be reached.
UpToDate/DUnknown	The database on the master is up to date, but the state of the database on the slave node is not known.

Action Required: Make the connection manually. Refer to the instructions in "Manually Connecting the DRBD Slave to the Master" on page 81.



If the master node reports WFConnection while the slave node reports StandAlone — it indicates a DRBD split brain. See "Correcting a DRBD Split Brain" on page 82.

Slave Node: Standalone

1:r0/0 StandAlone Secondary/Unknown UpToDate/DUnknown r-----

Summary: The slave cannot connect to the master.

Details:

StandAlone	The slave node is operating in on its own. (StandAlone)
Secondary/Unknown	The slave node is the secondary, but the primary cannot be found (Secondary/Unknown)
UpToDate/DUnknown	The database on the slave node is up to date, but the state of the one on the master is unknown (UpToDate/DUnknown)

Action Required: Make the connection manually. Refer to the instructions in "Manually Connecting the DRBD Slave to the Master" on page 81.

If the master node reports WFConnection while the slave node reports StandAlone — it indicates a DRBD split brain. See "Correcting a DRBD Split Brain" on page 82.

Both Nodes: Secondary/Secondary

1:r0/0 Connected Secondary/Secondary UpToDate/UpToDate C r----

Summary: The nodes are connected, but neither is master.

Details:

Connected	A connection is established.
Secondary/Secondary	Both nodes are operating as the slave node. That is, each is acting as the peer that receives updates.
UpToDate/Unknown	The database on the master is up to date, but the state of the database on the slave node is not known.

Action needed: This usually indicates a failure within the Pacemaker PostgreSQL resource group. For example, if Pacemaker cannot mount the DRBD device as a filesystem, DRBD will start successfully, but writing data to disk and database replication cannot take place.

To investigate the issue further:

 Use the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Manager to verify if all services are running. crm mon -f

For details, see "Verifying Cluster Configuration" on page 46.

2. Reset fail counts.

For details, see "Resetting Fail Counts" on page 62.

3. Restart failed Pacemaker resources or the underlying Linux services.

For details, see:

- "Interacting with Services" on page 32
- "Interacting with Resources" on page 33
- 4. If all services in the PostgreSQL resource group are operating as expected, the problem may lie at a deeper level of the Linux operating system.

For details, see "Working with Cluster Logs" on page 37.

Solving this issue can be complex. If the above suggestions do not resolve the problem, consult your Avid representative for further troubleshooting.

Both Nodes: Standalone and Primary

```
1:r0/0 StandAlone Primary/Unknown UpToDate/DUnknown C r---- /mnt/drbd ext4
20G 397M 18G 3%
```

1:r0/0 StandAlone Primary/Unknown UpToDate/DUnknown C r----

Summary: A DRBD "split brain" has occurred. Both nodes are operating independently, reporting themselves as the master node, and claiming their database is up to date.

StandAlone	The master node is waiting for a connection from the slave node (i.e. the slave node cannot be found on the network).
Primary/Unknown	This node is the master, but the slave node cananot be reached.
	The key indicator of this type of DRBD split brain is both nodes reporting themselves as the Primary.
UpToDate/Unknown	The database on the master is up to date, but the state of the database on the slave node is not known.

Action Needed: Discard the data on the slave node and reconnect it to the DRBD resource on the master node. Refer to the instructions in DRBD "Correcting a DRBD Split Brain" on page 82.

Manually Connecting the DRBD Slave to the Master

When the master and slave nodes are not connecting automatically, you will have to make the connection manually. You do so by telling the slave node to connect to the resource owned by the master.

To manually connect the DRBD slave to the master:

1. Log in to any node in the cluster as *root* and start the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Monitor utility:

crm mon

2. To identify the slave, look for the line containing "Master/Slave Set".

For example:

```
Master/Slave Set: ms_drbd_postgres [drbd_postgres]
Masters: [ icps-mam-large ]
Slaves: [ icps-mam-med ]
```

The sample output above identifies the slave as *icps-mam-med*.

For details on identifying the slave node, see "Identifying the Master, Slave, and Load-Balancing Nodes" on page 58.

3. On the slave run the following command

drbdadm connect r0

4. Verify the reconnection was successful:

drbd-overview

5. The output on the master node should resemble the following:

```
1:r0/0 Connected Primary/Secondary UpToDate/UpToDate C r---- /mnt/drbd ext4 20G 397M 18G 3%
```

6. The output on the slave node should resemble the following:

1:r0/0 Connected Secondary/Primary UpToDate/UpToDate C r-----

Correcting a DRBD Split Brain

A DRBD split brain describes the situation in which both DRBD nodes are operating completely independently. Further, there is no connection between them, hence data replication is not taking place. A DRBD split brain must be remedied as soon as possible, since each node is updating its own database, but, since database synchronization is not taking place, data can easily be lost.

To recover from a split brain, you must force the ICS master node to take on the role of DRBD master node too. You then discard the database associated with the DRBD slave node, and reconnect it to the established master.



Discarding the database on the slave node does not result in a full re-synchronization from master to slave. The slave node has its local modifications rolled back, and modifications made to the master are propagated to the slave.

To recover from a DRBD split brain:

1. Log in to any node in the cluster as *root* and start the Pacemaker Cluster Resource Monitor utility:

crm mon

2. Identify the master node.

In the output that appears, the cluster IP address (AvidClusterIP). This is the master node.

For details on identifying the master node, see "Identifying the Master, Slave, and Load-Balancing Nodes" on page 58.

3. On the master run the following command:

drbdadm connect r0

This ensures the master node is connected to the r0 resource. This is the DRBD resource holding the databases, and was given the name r0 when you installed ICS.

4. On the slave run the following command

```
drbdadm connect --discard-my-data r0
```

After issuing the above command, you may receive the following error message on the slave node:

Failure: (102) Local address (port) already in use.

The above error is due to the Linux kernel retaining an active connection to the r0 resource. If that is the case, explicitly disconnect the slave node from the resource using the following command, then try Step 4 again:

drbdadm disconnect r0

5. Verify the recovery was successful:

drbd-overview

6. The output on the master node should resemble the following:

```
1:r0/0 Connected Primary/Secondary UpToDate/UpToDate C r---- /mnt/drbd ext4 20G 397M 18G 3%
```

7. The output on the slave node should resemble the following:

```
1:r0/0 Connected Secondary/Primary UpToDate/UpToDate C r----
```

7 Frequently Asked Questions

What triggers a failover?

If a service fails once, it is immediately restarted on the server and its fail-count is set to one. No email is sent in this case. A second failure of the same service results in a failover from master to slave, and the sending out of an automated email.

What impact does a failover have upon users?

Most service failures result in an immediate service restart on the same node in the cluster. In such cases, users generally do not notice the failure. At worst, their attempts to interact with the service in question may return errors for a few seconds but full functionality is quickly restored with no data loss.

If a service fails for a second time on a node and forces the removal of that node from the cluster, users will be impacted by a system that returns errors until the new master node takes over. This can take 20-30 seconds, and if a user loses patience and leaves the page or closes the browser they will lose unsaved changes.

How important are failovers?

In most cases service failures are benign, and the automated restart is sufficient. You may want to monitor cluster status regularly. If services on some nodes are occasionally reporting a fail-count of 1, take some initiative to verify that server hardware is OK, and that disk space is not compromised. You can even look at the time of the failure and retrieve logs.

However, a node may have failed because of a lack of disk space or a hardware failure, in which cases it should only be added back to the cluster only after it has been repaired.

Do I need to investigate every time I see a fail count?

No. Most service failures are due to software issues, and in this case services reliably restart or failover to another node in the cluster. If the fail count appears to be the result of a benign service failure (or a pure software failure), simply reset the service's failure-count. That way if it fails again it will restart without triggering a failover.

The most seamless recovery is a service restart on the same node, so we strongly encourage administrators to monitor their cluster regularly for a fail-counts. Following confirmation that the server is OK (from a hardware perspective), simply reset the fail-count.

A failover has taken place, but now some (or all) connections are lost, the UI is unresponsive, and logging in is not possible. What can be done?

This is a problem that can have numerous different causes. The following table offers some explanations and recovery steps.

Possible Cause	Recovery Steps
Master node unexpectedly but properly reboots, triggers failover, but services do not start properly.	Stop the cluster, reboot nodes, reset fail-count for all services, restart cluster.
Temporary power loss to master node triggers failover, but services do not start properly	
Network failure (cable disconnected/severed, or other general network failure).	Stop the cluster, power down all nodes. Consult network administrator to repair network. Reboot nodes, reset fail-count for all services, restart cluster.
System disk drive is full.	Stop the cluster, investigate the system disk and remove files to make space, reboot nodes, reset fail-count for all services, restart cluster.