

Digi Console Servers

Features/Benefit Analysis



Feature	Digi Passport™ and Digi CM™	Benefit
Number of ports	Digi Passport (4, 8, 16, 32, 48); Digi CM (8, 16, 32, 48)	Provides a choice of serial port counts so users can select the model that best fits their needs based on the number of devices to be managed
Serial port connectors	RJ-45F, built into the unit	Data room standard RJ-45 connectors; pin-out for straight-through CAT5 cable connection to Sun/Cisco devices
48VDC power option	Digi Passport (32); Digi CM (16, 32, 48)	Provides flexible power option to meet customer requirements
Rack-mountable	Digi Passport (8, 16, 32, 48); Digi CM (16, 32, 48)	Can be mounted in a 1U 19" or 23" rack
Configuration options	Web, command line, text menu	Best-in-class, easy-to-use Web User Interface
SNMP	Yes	Monitor systems using standard SNMP packages such as HP Openview for system status, and monitor port logins, exceptions and cable disconnects
In-band access	10 /100Base-T Ethernet	Primary connection using industry standard Ethernet
Out-of-band access	Yes	Out-of-band access to box using serial modem or PC Card expansion for modem, NIC or 802.11b wireless interface
Telnet	Yes	Easy access to command line via standard Telnet interface
HTTPS	Yes	Secure Web UI using SSL
SSH v2	Yes	"Secure Telnet" access to device using client applications like Putty, OpenSSH, F-Secure
User authentication	Local, RADIUS (w/ Local Fail Over option), TACACS+ (w/ & w/o Local Fail Over option), SSH Host Key, Kerberos (w/ & w/o Local Fail Over option), LDAP (w/ & w/o Local Fail Over option) Secure ID	One of the widest ranges of user login management packages supported
IP filtering	Yes	IP tables limit IP's ability to gain access to device using IP packet filtering
Access control lists per port	Yes	Based on user login privileges or originating IP, access can be limited on a per port basis
Clustering	Yes (up to 816 ports per cluster)	Transparent access to additional Digi console servers via single IP
Port sniffing	Yes (one read/write, multiple read only)	Able to monitor "real-time" data stream for key words in order to trigger alerts
Port addressing methods	TCP port number, server name, IP addressing or web menu	Provides ability to assign a number and a title for the device connected, in order to better identify attached equipment
Off-line data buffering	Local (via RAM or CF card) or remote (Redundant & Secure NFS or Syslog) w/ time stamping	Ability to capture log data from unit immediately prior to and after critical event has transpired in order to diagnose what went wrong; Sarbanes-Oxley compliant
Event notification	Email, paging or SNMP trap	Based on defined event an email, page or other event (via SNMP) can be triggered in order to alert responsible personnel to potential problem
Sun break-safe	Yes (Solaris Ready™ Certified)	Many console servers inadvertently send signals which will lock up Sun servers; Digi design protects this from ever happening
Multi-user collaboration tools	Yes	Multiple concurrent users per port
Manage Windows Server™ 2003	Yes (Web UI)	Integrated user-to-user messaging
Digi Automatic Device Recognition	Yes	Custom port menus per user
Software upgrades	Free, available at www.digi.com	Easily access the latest firmware features online
Converter cables	Converter cables/adapters for most servers	Converters available for most major servers, routers, firewalls, etc. for easy straight-through CAT5 cabling
Expansion card options	CF card for data logging, Wi-Fi, dial-up modem, redundant Ethernet	Standard PC Card interface allows memory cards, wireless, modem, NIC and other expansion for easier diagnosis and monitoring of console server
Power management	Integrates with Digi Remote Power Manager and other intelligent power management devices	Power management integration provides single interface for console and power management
freeKVM™	Yes	Provides remote graphical access to system desktops and their resident applications
IPv4	Yes	Supports this fourth version of Internet Protocol which is widely deployed and is currently the dominant network layer protocol on the Internet

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Dual power option	Digi Passport (8, 16, 32, 48); Digi CM (48)	Provides backup power in the event of failure
RemotePorts	Yes	Extends console management capabilities to up to 48 additional devices not connected serially to the Digi console box: see http://www.digi.com/pdf/fs_remoteports.pdf for more information
Additional features	DHCP, NTP, SCP, Cron, Secure NFS (SDK available)	The Digi Passport and Digi CM offer many valuable features not found in other console servers

Feature	Digi Passport	Benefit
IPv6	Yes	Supports Internet Protocol version 6 which provides greater address space and more efficient data routing: IPv6 is not yet pervasive but will become a federal agency requirement by 2008
IPMI (Intelligent Platform Management Interface)	Yes	Provides the ability to consolidate management of servers with IPMI capability via serial over LAN: IPMI is an Intel-based specification for monitoring and controlling server hardware remotely
PPP	Yes	Method for transporting multi-protocol network data that allows remote devices to be easily connected to a company's network or the Internet
Dual Ethernet	Yes	Provides redundant connectivity and automatic failover
Internal modem option	Yes (all models)	Provides dial-up connectivity in out-of-band situations
Perl scripting	Yes	Enables customizable log searching and event notification
USB port	Yes	Offers another option for log storage or reconfiguration via USB memory stick storage



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