Overview

Achieve complete system access through one common interface without additional hardware. With the addition of our freeKVM feature, Digi Passport® and Digi CM™ console servers give data center managers remote access to a system’s BIOS, OS and graphical desktop from one device, thereby eliminating the need for expensive KVM over IP implementations and their inherent shortcomings.

About freeKVM

System administration typically involves two distinct roles – Operator and Administrator. For the Operator, responsible for a computer system’s underlying BIOS and OS, the serial console port is the most secure and reliable interface for remote OS management. Administrators, responsible for the applications loaded on the system, often prefer to use a GUI-based interface.

Digi console servers give system and network administrators serial access to network equipment and computer systems as well as a method for gaining access to the graphical interface of computer systems on the network. This method, freeKVM, allows users to specify a connection protocol and IP address to reach each targeted system.

Supported connection protocols include Remote Desktop Protocol, VNC, XManager for UNIX (using the X Window System) as well as the ability to define other methods.

Why freeKVM Makes Sense

With the addition of freeKVM, Digi offers an integrated solution for concurrently managing multiple servers via a single interface without the cost, network overhead or synchronization problems associated with KVM over IP solutions. Since freeKVM does not require any additional cabling, it reduces the amount of airflow obstruction in the rack and simplifies physical rack maintenance.

By combining the ability to perform operating level tasks through the serial console with the ability to concurrently perform application level tasks across multiple systems using freeKVM, the Digi Passport and Digi CM offer data center managers secure, intelligent and versatile access to critical network equipment.

freeKVM at a Glance

- Gives administrators a graphical interface for application management
- Works with UNIX®, Linux®, Solaris™, AIX®, HP-UX® and Mac OS® X; works in conjunction with the Special Administrative Console (SAC) in Windows Server™ 2003
- Can eliminate the need for KVM over IP if used with serial console capable hardware
- Requires less network bandwidth than KVM over IP solutions
- Not burdened by the mouse synchronization problems of KVM over IP
- Fewer cables translates to better air flow around data center equipment

Features/Benefits

- Achieve complete system access through one common interface with no additional hardware
- Access BIOS, OS and user applications without dedicated KVM over IP hardware
- Eliminates cost, complexity and synchronization penalties of KVM over IP