

Oracle® Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Overview

Copyright © 2004, 2012, Oracle and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

This software and related documentation are provided under a license agreement containing restrictions on use and disclosure and are protected by intellectual property laws. Except as expressly permitted in your license agreement or allowed by law, you may not use, copy, reproduce, translate, broadcast, modify, license, transmit, distribute, exhibit, perform, publish, or display any part, in any form, or by any means. Reverse engineering, disassembly, or decompilation of this software, unless required by law for interoperability, is prohibited.

The information contained herein is subject to change without notice and is not warranted to be error-free. If you find any errors, please report them to us in writing.

If this is software or related documentation that is delivered to the U.S. Government or anyone licensing it on behalf of the U.S. Government, the following notice is applicable:

U.S. GOVERNMENT END USERS. Oracle programs, including any operating system, integrated software, any programs installed on the hardware, and/or documentation, delivered to U.S. Government end users are "commercial computer software" pursuant to the applicable Federal Acquisition Regulation and agency-specific supplemental regulations. As such, use, duplication, disclosure, modification, and adaptation of the programs, including any operating system, integrated software, any programs installed on the hardware, and/or documentation, shall be subject to license terms and license restrictions applicable to the programs. No other rights are granted to the U.S. Government.

This software or hardware is developed for general use in a variety of information management applications. It is not developed or intended for use in any inherently dangerous applications, including applications that may create a risk of personal injury. If you use this software or hardware in dangerous applications, then you shall be responsible to take all appropriate fail-safe, backup, redundancy, and other measures to ensure its safe use. Oracle Corporation and its affiliates disclaim any liability for any damages caused by use of this software or hardware in dangerous applications.

Oracle and Java are registered trademarks of Oracle and/or its affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

Intel and Intel Xeon are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. All SPARC trademarks are used under license and are trademarks or registered trademarks of SPARC International, Inc. AMD, Opteron, the AMD logo, and the AMD Opteron logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Advanced Micro Devices. UNIX is a registered trademark of The Open Group.

This software or hardware and documentation may provide access to or information on content, products, and services from third parties. Oracle Corporation and its affiliates are not responsible for and expressly disclaim all warranties of any kind with respect to third-party content, products, and services. Oracle Corporation and its affiliates will not be responsible for any loss, costs, or damages incurred due to your access to or use of third-party content, products, or services.

Ce logiciel et la documentation qui l'accompagne sont protégés par les lois sur la propriété intellectuelle. Ils sont concédés sous licence et soumis à des restrictions d'utilisation et de divulgation. Sauf disposition de votre contrat de licence ou de la loi, vous ne pouvez pas copier, reproduire, traduire, diffuser, modifier, breveter, transmettre, distribuer, exposer, exécuter, publier ou afficher le logiciel, même partiellement, sous quelque forme et par quelque procédé que ce soit. Par ailleurs, il est interdit de procéder à toute ingénierie inverse du logiciel, de le désassembler ou de le décompiler, excepté à des fins d'interopérabilité avec des logiciels tiers ou tel que prescrit par la loi.

Les informations fournies dans ce document sont susceptibles de modification sans préavis. Par ailleurs, Oracle Corporation ne garantit pas qu'elles soient exemptes d'erreurs et vous invite, le cas échéant, à lui en faire part par écrit.

Si ce logiciel, ou la documentation qui l'accompagne, est concédé sous licence au Gouvernement des Etats-Unis, ou à toute entité qui délivre la licence de ce logiciel ou l'utilise pour le compte du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis, la notice suivante s'applique:

U.S. GOVERNMENT END USERS. Oracle programs, including any operating system, integrated software, any programs installed on the hardware, and/or documentation, delivered to U.S. Government end users are "commercial computer software" pursuant to the applicable Federal Acquisition Regulation and agency-specific supplemental regulations. As such, use, duplication, disclosure, modification, and adaptation of the programs, including any operating system, integrated software, any programs installed on the hardware, and/or documentation, shall be subject to license terms and license restrictions applicable to the programs. No other rights are granted to the U.S. Government.

Ce logiciel ou matériel a été développé pour un usage général dans le cadre d'applications de gestion des informations. Ce logiciel ou matériel n'est pas conçu ni n'est destiné à être utilisé dans des applications à risque, notamment dans des applications pouvant causer des dommages corporels. Si vous utilisez ce logiciel ou matériel dans le cadre d'applications dangereuses, il est de votre responsabilité de prendre toutes les mesures de secours, de sauvegarde, de redondance et autres mesures nécessaires à son utilisation dans des conditions optimales de sécurité. Oracle Corporation et ses affiliés déclinent toute responsabilité quant aux dommages causés par l'utilisation de ce logiciel ou matériel pour ce type d'applications.

Oracle et Java sont des marques déposées d'Oracle Corporation et/ou de ses affiliés. Tout autre nom mentionné peut correspondre à des marques appartenant à d'autres propriétaires qu'Oracle.

Intel et Intel Xeon sont des marques ou des marques déposées d'Intel Corporation. Toutes les marques SPARC sont utilisées sous licence et sont des marques ou des marques déposées de SPARC International, Inc. AMD, Opteron, le logo AMD et le logo AMD Opteron sont des marques ou des marques déposées d'Advanced Micro Devices. UNIX est une marque déposée d'The Open Group.

Ce logiciel ou matériel et la documentation qui l'accompagne peuvent fournir des informations ou des liens donnant accès à des contenus, des produits et des services émanant de tiers. Oracle Corporation et ses affiliés déclinent toute responsabilité ou garantie expresse quant aux contenus, produits ou services émanant de tiers. En aucun cas, Oracle Corporation et ses affiliés ne sauraient être tenus pour responsables des pertes subies, des coûts occasionnés ou des dommages causés par l'accès à des contenus, produits ou services tiers, ou à leur utilisation.

Contents

Preface	5
1 Introduction to Geographic Edition Software	9
Business Continuity	9
Making Applications Highly Available With Geographic Edition Software	10
Recovering From a Disaster	10
Key Features of Geographic Edition Software	11
Administration and Configuration Tools	12
2 Key Concepts for Geographic Edition	13
Data Replication	13
Overview of Data Replication	13
Sun Availability Suite Feature	14
EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility Software	14
Oracle Data Guard Software	15
Sun ZFS Storage Appliance Software	15
Resource Groups and Device Groups	15
Cluster Partnerships	16
Protection Groups	17
Overview of Protection Groups	17
Relationship Between Partnerships and Protection Groups	18
Protection Group Status	19
Application Resource Groups	19
Heartbeat Monitoring	20
Heartbeat Plug-ins	20

3 Geographic Edition Architecture	21
Geographic Edition Software Environment	21
Geographic Edition Hardware Environment	22
Data Replication Configuration	22
Geographically Distributed Cluster Topology	25
Three-Data-Center (3DC) Topologies	27
Glossary	29
Index	33

Preface

Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Overview introduces the Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition (Geographic Edition) software by explaining the purpose of the product and the means by which Geographic Edition achieves this purpose. This book also explains key concepts for Geographic Edition. This document contains information about Geographic Edition features and functionality.

Bash is the default prompt for Oracle Solaris 11. Machine names shown with the Bash shell prompt are displayed for clarity.

Using UNIX Commands

This document contains information about commands that are used to install, configure, or administer a Geographic Edition configuration. This document might not contain complete information on basic UNIX commands and procedures such as shutting down the system, booting the system, and configuring devices.

See one or more of the following sources for this information:

- Online documentation for the Solaris software system
- Other software documentation that you received with your system
- Solaris Operating System (OS) man pages

Typographic Conventions

The following table describes the typographic conventions that are used in this book.

TABLE P-1 Typographic Conventions

Typeface	Description	Example
AaBbCc123	The names of commands, files, and directories, and onscreen computer output	Edit your <code>.login</code> file. Use <code>ls -a</code> to list all files. <code>machine_name% you have mail.</code>

TABLE P-1 Typographic Conventions (Continued)

Typeface	Description	Example
AaBbCc123	What you type, contrasted with onscreen computer output	machine_name% su Password:
<i>aabbcc123</i>	Placeholder: replace with a real name or value	The command to remove a file is <i>rm filename</i> .
<i>AaBbCc123</i>	Book titles, new terms, and terms to be emphasized	Read Chapter 6 in the <i>User's Guide</i> . A <i>cache</i> is a copy that is stored locally. Do <i>not</i> save the file. Note: Some emphasized items appear bold online.

Shell Prompts in Command Examples

The following table shows UNIX system prompts and superuser prompts for shells that are included in the Oracle Solaris OS. In command examples, the shell prompt indicates whether the command should be executed by a regular user or a user with privileges.

TABLE P-2 Shell Prompts

Shell	Prompt
Bash shell, Korn shell, and Bourne shell	\$
Bash shell, Korn shell, and Bourne shell for superuser	#
C shell	machine_name%
C shell for superuser	machine_name#

Related Documentation

Information about related Geographic Edition topics is available in the documentation that is listed in the following table.

Topic	Documentation
Overview	Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Overview
Installation	Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Installation Guide

Topic	Documentation
Command and function references	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Reference Manual</i>
Data Replication	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Data Replication Guide for Oracle Solaris Availability Suite</i> <i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Data Replication Guide for EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility</i> <i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Data Replication Guide for Oracle Data Guard</i> <i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Remote Replication Guide for Sun ZFS Storage Appliance</i>
System administration	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition System Administration Guide</i>

Information about related Oracle Solaris Cluster topics is available in the documentation that is listed in the following table.

Topic	Documentation
Hardware installation and administration	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster 4.1 Hardware Administration Manual</i> Individual hardware administration guides
Concepts	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Concepts Guide</i>
Software installation	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Software Installation Guide</i>
Data service installation and administration	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Data Services Planning and Administration Guide</i> and individual data service guides
Data service development	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Data Services Developer's Guide</i>
System administration	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster System Administration Guide</i> <i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Quick Reference</i>
Software upgrade	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Upgrade Guide</i>
Error messages	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Error Messages Guide</i>
Command and function references	<i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Reference Manual</i> <i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Data Services Reference Manual</i> <i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Reference Manual</i> <i>Oracle Solaris Cluster Quorum Server Reference Manual</i>

Access to Oracle Support

Oracle customers have access to electronic support through My Oracle Support. For information, visit <http://www.oracle.com/pls/topic/lookup?ctx=acc&id=info> or visit <http://www.oracle.com/pls/topic/lookup?ctx=acc&id=trs> if you are hearing impaired.

Getting Help

If you have problems installing or using the Geographic Edition system, contact your service provider and provide the following information:

- Your name and email address (if available)
- Your company name, address, and phone number
- The model and serial numbers of your systems
- The release number of the operating system (for example, Oracle Solaris 11)
- The release number of the Geographic Edition software (for example, 4.1)

Use the following commands to gather information about each node on your system for your service provider.

Command	Function
<code>prtconf -v</code>	Displays the size of the system memory and reports information about peripheral devices
<code>psrinfo -v</code>	Displays information about processors
<code>pkg list</code>	Reports which packages are installed
<code>prtdiag -v</code>	Displays system diagnostic information
<code>/usr/cluster/bin/clnode show-rev -v</code>	Displays Geographic Edition software release and package version information for each node
<code>/usr/cluster/bin/cluster show</code>	Lists cluster configuration information
<code>/usr/cluster/bin/clresource show,</code> <code>/usr/cluster/bin/clresourcegroup show,</code> <code>/usr/cluster/bin/clresourcetype show</code>	Displays information about installed resources, resource groups, and resource types
<code>/usr/cluster/bin/geoadm status</code>	Displays runtime status of the local cluster

Also have available the contents of the `/var/adm/messages` file and the log files in `/var/opt/SUNWcacao/logs`.

Introduction to Geographic Edition Software

Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition (Geographic Edition) software is a layered extension of the Oracle Solaris Cluster software. The Geographic Edition software protects applications from unexpected disruptions by using multiple clusters that are separated by long distances and by using a redundant infrastructure that replicates data between these clusters. The clusters can be global clusters, zone clusters, or a combination of both. Data replication software enables applications that are running on a Geographic Edition cluster to tolerate disasters by migrating services to a geographically separated secondary cluster. A disaster such as an earthquake, a fire, or a storm might disable the cluster at the primary site. If a disaster occurs, the Geographic Edition cluster can continue to provide services by using the following levels of redundancy:

- A secondary cluster
- Duplicated application configuration on the secondary cluster
- Replicated data on the secondary cluster

This chapter gives a high-level overview of the Geographic Edition product. It contains the following sections:

- [“Business Continuity” on page 9](#)
- [“Making Applications Highly Available With Geographic Edition Software” on page 10](#)
- [“Recovering From a Disaster” on page 10](#)
- [“Key Features of Geographic Edition Software” on page 11](#)
- [“Administration and Configuration Tools” on page 12](#)

Business Continuity

Business continuity is a wide-ranging subject that analyzes all aspects of how a business maintains service to its customers when faced with an unexpected disaster. When creating a business continuity plan, companies must trade off the cost of the additional required infrastructure such as hardware, software, telecommunications, and buildings, against the risks, such as the costs of a prolonged outage. As a result, systems that are critical to the business and those for which there is a legal requirement are the top priorities.

For a service to be available, all the constituent pieces must also be available. The key issue is rapid recovery of individual service elements. Outages can occur from hardware failure such as component or power failures, or from software failures such as operating system panics and application crashes. Network connectivity failures can also affect service availability. Most of these failures can be masked through component redundancy or by having a standby server ready to take over the workload. The Geographic Edition software is a building block for disaster tolerance which provides a framework that enables data services to be moved between a primary cluster and a geographically separated secondary cluster in a controlled fashion.

Making Applications Highly Available With Geographic Edition Software

The Geographic Edition software provides a suite of tools to manage and configure geographically separated clusters with a migration of services between sites. The Geographic Edition software can manage availability across multiple physical locations through robust security, application service migration, and data replication to tolerate disaster across an enterprise system.

The Geographic Edition product enables an improved combination of performance, cost, and separation of data recovery points. This combination contrasts with campus or metro clustering, which consists of a single cluster with widely separated nodes. The Geographic Edition product provides the management and configuration tools for geographically separated clusters.

A configuration that is running the Geographic Edition software consists of a set of clusters that are geographically distributed. The primary cluster provides application services. The secondary cluster in the set is an alternative site that can take over the primary cluster services if a disaster occurs. The Geographic Edition software manages configuration, data replication, and heartbeat monitoring between the two clusters and enables data to be decentralized across multiple disaster recovery sites.

Recovering From a Disaster

Disaster tolerance is the ability of a system to restore an application on a secondary cluster when the primary cluster fails. Disaster tolerance is based on data replication and failover. The Geographic Edition software enables disaster tolerance by redundantly deploying the following:

- Highly available clusters that are geographically separated
- Data replication at either the host or the storage level
- Backups and restoration and data vaulting

Data replication is the process of continuously copying data from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster. Through data replication, the secondary cluster has a recent copy of the data on the primary cluster. The secondary cluster can be geographically separated from the primary cluster.

Failover is the automatic relocation of a resource group or device group from a primary cluster to a secondary cluster. If the primary cluster fails, the application and the data are immediately available on the secondary cluster.

The Geographic Edition software supports two types of migration of services: a switchover and a takeover. A switchover is a planned migration of services from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster. During a switchover, the primary cluster is connected to the secondary cluster and coordinates the migration of services with the secondary cluster. This coordination enables the data replication to complete and ensures that services can be transferred from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster without loss or corruption of data.

A takeover is an emergency migration of services from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster. A system administrator can initiate a takeover to recover from a disaster. Unlike a switchover, the primary cluster is not connected to the secondary cluster during a takeover. Therefore, the primary cluster cannot coordinate with the secondary cluster to migrate the services. Because of this lack of coordination, the risk of data loss and data corruption in a takeover is higher than it is with a switchover. The Geographic Edition software uses dedicated recovery procedures during a takeover to minimize data loss and data corruption.

Key Features of Geographic Edition Software

The Geographic Edition product provides the following features:

- Failure detection of multiple clusters that are geographically separated
- Configurable heartbeat monitoring between clusters
- Application resource switchover from one cluster to another cluster
- Remote management of partner clusters through a command-line interface (CLI)
- Data replication between geographically separated clusters
- Secure administration interfaces through role-based access control (RBAC)
- Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) authentication and encryption for communication between nodes or clusters
- Configurable IPsec security for data replication between clusters and for heartbeat communication between clusters
- Ability to automatically run a script when a heartbeat-loss notification is issued

The Geographic Edition software provides tools for managing data replication between geographically separated clusters. The software supports the following data replication products:

- EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility
- MySQL
- Oracle Data Guard, for use with HA for Oracle and Oracle Real Application Clusters (Oracle RAC) only
- Geographic Edition script-based plug-ins, to integrate user-written replication modules
- The Availability Suite feature of Oracle Solaris
- Sun ZFS Storage Appliance from Oracle

Geographic Edition software supports HA for Oracle and Oracle Real Application Clusters with Oracle Data Guard.

The Geographic Edition product provides highly available services within a cluster by utilizing Oracle Solaris Cluster resource management features.

Administration and Configuration Tools

You can configure, control, and monitor partnerships, heartbeats, and protection groups through the command-line interface (CLI).

The Geographic Edition CLI contains a set of dedicated commands.

Key Concepts for Geographic Edition

This chapter describes the key concepts for using the Geographic Edition product. These concepts can help you understand the relationships between the Geographic Edition components.

This chapter contains the following sections:

- “Data Replication” on page 13
- “Cluster Partnerships” on page 16
- “Protection Groups” on page 17
- “Heartbeat Monitoring” on page 20

Data Replication

This section provides the following information:

- “Overview of Data Replication” on page 13
- “Sun Availability Suite Feature” on page 14
- “EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility Software” on page 14
- “Oracle Data Guard Software” on page 15
- “Sun ZFS Storage Appliance Software” on page 15
- “Resource Groups and Device Groups” on page 15

Overview of Data Replication

Data replication enables controlled migration of production services from a primary cluster to a secondary cluster either in the event of a disaster or as part of a planned procedure. Data is continuously replicated from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster either synchronously or asynchronously, or a combination of both, depending on the recover point objectives of the application services that are supported by the clusters.

The Geographic Edition software supports the following software for data replication:

- The Availability Suite feature of Oracle Solaris
- EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility software
- MySQL software
- Oracle Data Guard software (for use with HA for Oracle and Oracle RAC only)
- Sun ZFS Storage Appliance from Oracle
- Geographic Edition script-based plug-ins

Sun Availability Suite uses a host-based data replication facility which replicates data at the file system or logical volume level within the operating system. EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility software and Sun ZFS Storage Appliance software use a storage-based data replication facility which replicates data at the storage system level and provides a transparent service to applications. Oracle Data Guard software and MySQL software are application-based data replication facilities that maintain one or more standby databases as synchronized replicas of a production database.

Sun Availability Suite Feature

The Sun Availability Suite feature of Oracle Solaris software is a host-based replication facility that replicates disk volumes between geographically separated primary clusters and secondary clusters in real time. Remote mirror replication enables data from the master volume of the primary cluster to be replicated to the master volume of the geographically separated secondary cluster through a TCP/IP connection. A remote mirror bitmap tracks differences between the master volume on the primary disk and the master volume on the secondary disk.

The remote mirror software continually replicates the data to remote sites while your applications are accessing the data volumes. You can also manually update the data on the secondary site volume by issuing a command to synchronize the primary and secondary site volumes. You can also restore data from the secondary volume to the primary volume by issuing a command to reverse-synchronize the volumes. For more information about Sun Availability Suite, see the Availability Suite man pages such as [dscfg\(1M\)](#).

EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility Software

EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility software provides remote storage replication for disaster recovery and ensures data and systems availability through remote site failover. EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility devices are configured in pairs. The mirroring relationship between the pairs becomes operational as soon as the EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility links are online. The EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility global memory stores information about the pair state of operating EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility devices. For information about EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility software, see the product documentation.

Oracle Data Guard Software

Oracle Data Guard software is an application-based replication facility that maintains one or more standby databases as synchronized replicas of a production database. Geographic Edition supports the use of Oracle Data Guard replication only with Oracle RAC and HA for Oracle data services.

You add an Oracle Data Guard Broker configuration that is controlled by the Oracle Data Guard software to a protection group. The Geographic Edition software creates a shadow RAC server proxy resource group for each Oracle Data Guard Broker configuration, regardless of whether you use Oracle RAC or HA for Oracle. The shadow RAC server proxy resource group “shadows” the real Oracle RAC server proxy resource group or HA for Oracle resource group to manage and monitor the Oracle databases that are under the control of Oracle Solaris Cluster software. For more information about Oracle Data Guard software, see the product documentation.

Sun ZFS Storage Appliance Software

Sun ZFS Storage 7000 appliances support snapshot-based replication of projects and shares from a source appliance to any number of target appliances manually, on a schedule or continuously. The replication includes both data and metadata. Remote replication, or just replication, is a general-purpose feature optimized for disaster recovery, data distribution, disk-to-disk backup and data migration. For more information about Sun ZFS Storage 7000 appliances, see the product documentation.

Resource Groups and Device Groups

This section provides the following information:

- [“Overview of Resource Groups and Device Groups” on page 15](#)
- [“Replication Resource Groups” on page 16](#)
- [“Device Groups” on page 16](#)

Overview of Resource Groups and Device Groups

Resource groups and device groups enable the Geographic Edition software to manage data replication and takeover between clusters. You can also configure a protection group to replicate data from a primary cluster to a secondary cluster. For more information about configuring data replication, see the guide for the data replication product you are using:

- [Chapter 1, “Replicating Data With the Availability Suite Feature of Oracle Solaris,” in *Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Data Replication Guide for Oracle Solaris Availability Suite*](#)

- Chapter 1, “Replicating Data With EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility Software,” in *Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Data Replication Guide for EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility*
- Chapter 1, “Replicating Data With Oracle Data Guard Software,” in *Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Data Replication Guide for Oracle Data Guard*
- Chapter 1, “Configuring and Administering Sun ZFS Storage Appliance Protection Groups,” in *Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition Remote Replication Guide for Sun ZFS Storage Appliance*

Replication Resource Groups

The Geographic Edition software extends Oracle Solaris Cluster resource management features to integrate the data replication products. When you configure a protection group, the Geographic Edition software creates replication resource groups for monitoring and controlling data replication.

Device Groups

A device group is a hardware resource that Oracle Solaris Cluster software manages. A device group is a type of global device that the Oracle Solaris Cluster software uses to register volume manager disk groups. The Geographic Edition software configures Oracle Solaris Cluster device groups to include replication. For information about configuring device groups in Oracle Solaris Cluster configurations, see the guide for the data replication product you are using.

Cluster Partnerships

A partnership establishes heartbeat monitoring between two clusters that are running Geographic Edition software. Clusters in a partnership exchange heartbeats to monitor each other's presence and health. You can configure a partnership between only two clusters, and only one partnership can be defined between the clusters.

If the partnership uses either application-based replication, such as Oracle Data Guard, or no replication, a member of the partnership can be either a global cluster or a zone cluster. Such a partnership can consist of two clusters of the same type or consist of one global cluster and one zone cluster.

If the partnership uses storage-based replication, only global clusters can be members of the partnership.

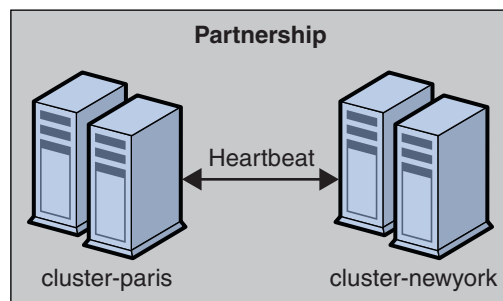
The two clusters must have an Internet connection with each other. A partnership establishes heartbeats between the clusters.

The Geographic Edition software uses the IP interconnect between partner clusters for management as well as heartbeats. For additional security when a public network is in use, use IPsec to secure the IP interconnect.

The Geographic Edition software enables you to specify a command to execute when a heartbeat-loss notification is issued. This command is executed with root permissions. You can also specify a list of email addresses to notify when a heartbeat-loss notification has been issued.

The following figure illustrates a partnership between two clusters.

FIGURE 2-1 Partnerships Between Clusters



A single cluster can participate in more than one partnership with other clusters, but two clusters cannot be in more than one partnership with each other.

Protection Groups

This section provides the following information:

- [“Overview of Protection Groups” on page 17](#)
- [“Relationship Between Partnerships and Protection Groups” on page 18](#)
- [“Protection Group Status” on page 19](#)
- [“Application Resource Groups” on page 19](#)

Overview of Protection Groups

Protection groups enable a set of clusters to tolerate and recover from disaster by managing the resource groups for services. Protection groups can exist only in a partnership. You must create a partnership before you can create a protection group for that partnership. One partner cluster is the primary cluster of the protection group, and the other partner cluster is the secondary cluster. A protection group contains application resource groups and properties for managing data replication for those application resource groups. You must duplicate the application resource group configuration on partner clusters. The configuration for a protection group is identical on partner clusters, so partner clusters must have the application resource groups of the protection group defined in their configuration. The Geographic Edition software propagates protection group configurations between partners.

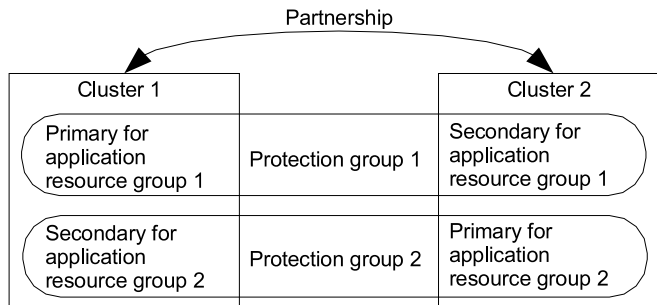
You can specify a data replication type in the protection group to indicate the mechanism that is used for data replication between partner clusters. A protection group supports only one data replication type. A protection group can manage one or more application resource groups. When a service is protected from disaster by data replication, the protection group also contains replication resource groups. Protection groups link an application in a resource group with the application data that should be replicated. This linkage and replication enable the application to fail over seamlessly from one cluster to another cluster.

Relationship Between Partnerships and Protection Groups

Clusters in a protection group must be defined as partners. Protection groups require a partnership that defines the clusters that can host the protection group. A cluster can be defined in more than one protection group, and the cluster can have a different role in each protection group. For example, the primary cluster of one protection group can also be the secondary cluster of another protection group. A partnership can have any number of protection groups.

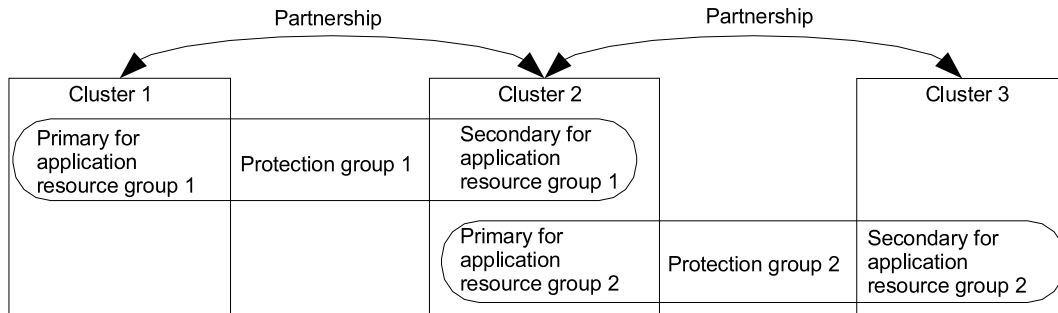
The following figure illustrates two clusters that are defined in one cluster partnership and two protection groups.

FIGURE 2-2 Example Configuration of Two Clusters in Protection Groups



The following figure illustrates three clusters that are defined in two cluster partnerships and two protection groups.

FIGURE 2-3 Example Configuration of Three Clusters in Protection Groups



Protection Group Status

The Geographic Edition software monitors the status of a protection group on each cluster. The software then combines the local status of each cluster into a global view of the protection group status. The global status reflects the overall status of the protection group.

You can view the protection group status through the CLI.

For more information about the status of protection groups, see the [Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition System Administration Guide](#).

Application Resource Groups

To be highly available, an application must be managed as a resource in an application resource group. You can configure an application resource group for a takeover application or a scalable application. You must also configure application resources and application resource groups on both the primary cluster and the secondary cluster. The data that the application resource accesses must be replicated on the secondary cluster.

The replication for the data volumes that an application resource accesses must be in the same protection group as the applications.

Support for data replication might limit how you configure application resource groups. These requirements and limitations vary with the data replication type you choose. For more information about these requirements, see the [Oracle Solaris Cluster Geographic Edition System Administration Guide](#).

Heartbeat Monitoring

Geographic Edition software uses heartbeats to monitor the state between partner clusters. Heartbeats are sent over the public network to detect cluster failures at geographically separated sites. Heartbeat monitoring is part of a partnership configuration. For example, a cluster failure occurs when all nodes of a cluster shut down. Geographic Edition software uses the heartbeat status to notify administrators of failures or to trigger a failover to a secondary cluster at an alternate site. Heartbeats could also be lost when a cluster loses access to the public network and no communication occurs between the partner clusters.

Heartbeat Plug-ins

The heartbeat monitor uses plug-in modules to query the heartbeat status of its partners. Geographic Edition software offers default plug-ins for monitoring through a TCP/UDP connection.

You can use customized plug-ins to provide a data path over alternate communication links, such as email, HTTP, satellite, and microwave towers.

Geographic Edition Architecture

Geographic Edition software enables a group of clusters to be managed and viewed as a single, large system. This chapter presents a high-level overview of the Geographic Edition architecture, which you can use in preparation for installing, configuring, and administering Geographic Edition software.

This chapter contains the following topics:

- “Geographic Edition Software Environment” on page 21
- “Geographic Edition Hardware Environment” on page 22
- “Data Replication Configuration” on page 22
- “Geographically Distributed Cluster Topology” on page 25
- “Three-Data-Center (3DC) Topologies” on page 27

Geographic Edition Software Environment

Geographic Edition software provides tools for managing geographically separated clusters. The Geographic Edition product also provides highly available services within a cluster by utilizing Oracle Solaris Cluster resource management features.

The following software components form a Geographic Edition cluster:

- Oracle Solaris software
- Oracle Solaris Cluster software
- Geographic Edition software
- Application data service agents
- Data replication software
- Solaris Volume Manager

You can install and remove the Geographic Edition software independently of the underlying Oracle Solaris Cluster installation. The installation and the uninstallation processes do not require an additional node reboot or cluster downtime.

Geographic Edition Hardware Environment

The Oracle Solaris Cluster hardware configuration is the basis for a Geographic Edition cluster.

The following additional hardware components form a Geographic Edition cluster:

- Oracle Solaris Cluster hardware installations, with attached data storage
- Internet connections for inter-cluster management communication between the Oracle Solaris Cluster installations
- Internet connections for inter-cluster heartbeats
- Connections for data replication
- Connections for custom heartbeats

The Geographic Edition hardware environment supports the following topologies:

- N+1, where multiple clusters that are located at multiple sites are communicating with a single backup cluster
- Cluster pair, where both clusters are online and providing services

[Figure 3–2](#) illustrates a high-level view of the Geographic Edition hardware architecture.

Data Replication Configuration

The Geographic Edition software does not limit the distance between partner clusters. Partner clusters require data replication connections to support the protection groups that are hosted by the partnership. Partner clusters must be compatibly configured to support data replication between the clusters.

The Geographic Edition software supports replication from a single-node cluster to a single-node cluster, from a multinode cluster to a single-node cluster, and from a multinode cluster to a multinode cluster.

While you can use a single-node cluster at both the primary and backup sites, a single-node cluster offers no internal redundancy. To ensure no single point of failure, you must have a minimum of two nodes in a cluster at the primary site. Use a single-node cluster at the secondary site as a cost effective backup solution if the secondary site is used only for backup purposes. Do not use single-node cluster to run mission critical applications.

Primary clusters and secondary clusters can have any configuration that is supported by the Oracle Solaris Cluster product if the data replication characteristics of these clusters are compatible. The level of compatibility varies with each data replication product.

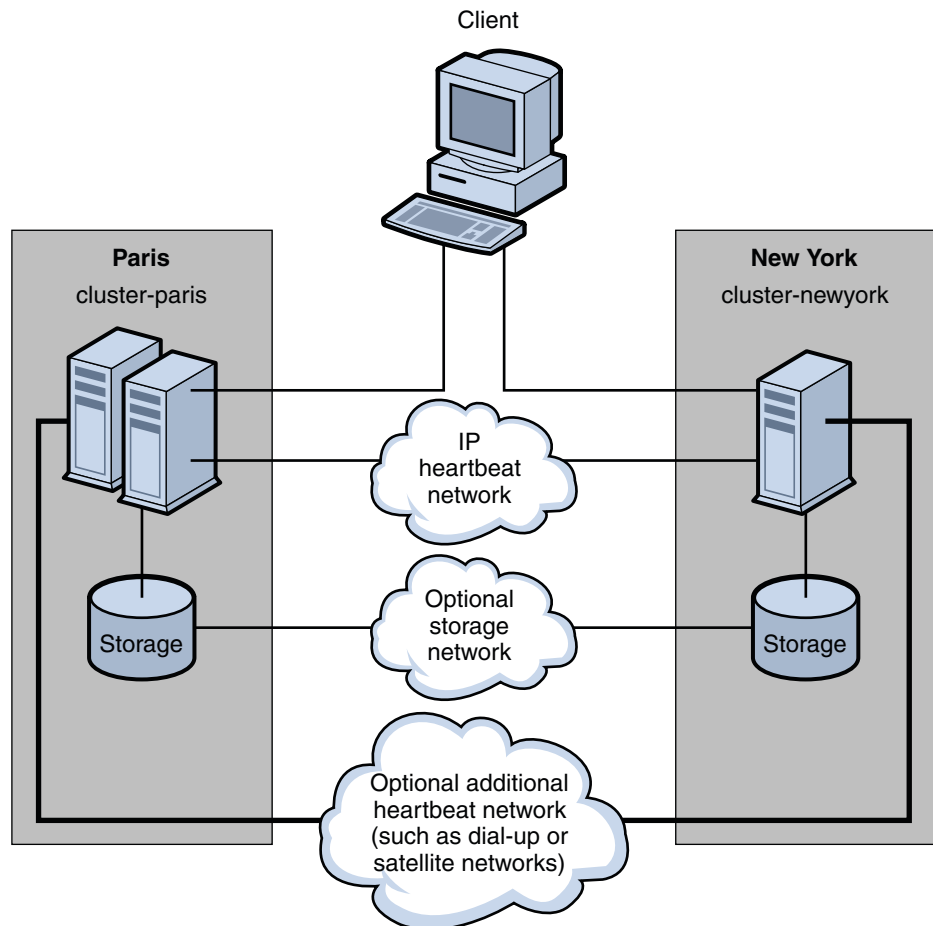
The following requirements determine the data replication connection:

- The distance between the partner clusters
- The amount of data that is being replicated
- Data replication configuration parameters

The Geographic Edition product enables you to balance between data consistency and the cost of the connection, where data consistency is the acceptable amount of data loss.

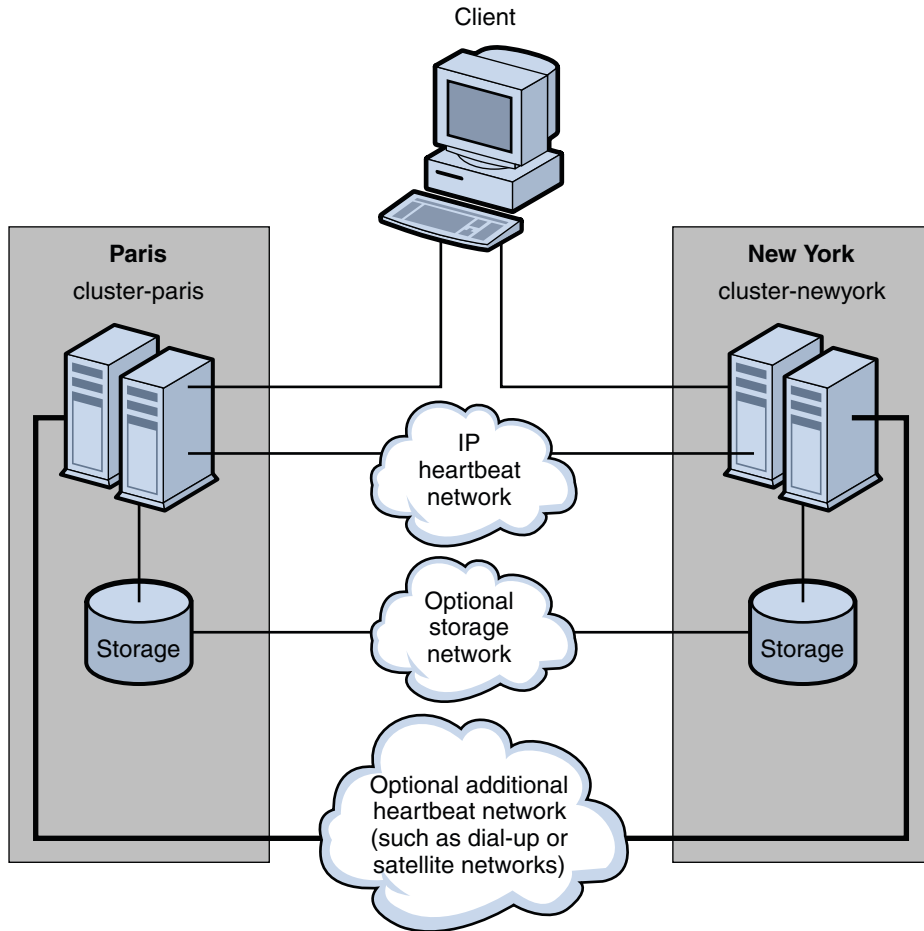
The following figure illustrates a data replication configuration from a two-node cluster to a single-node cluster.

FIGURE 3-1 Data Replication From a Two-Node Cluster to a Single-Node Cluster



The following figure illustrates a data replication configuration from a two-node cluster to a two-node cluster.

FIGURE 3-2 Data Replication From a Two-Node Cluster to a Two-Node Cluster

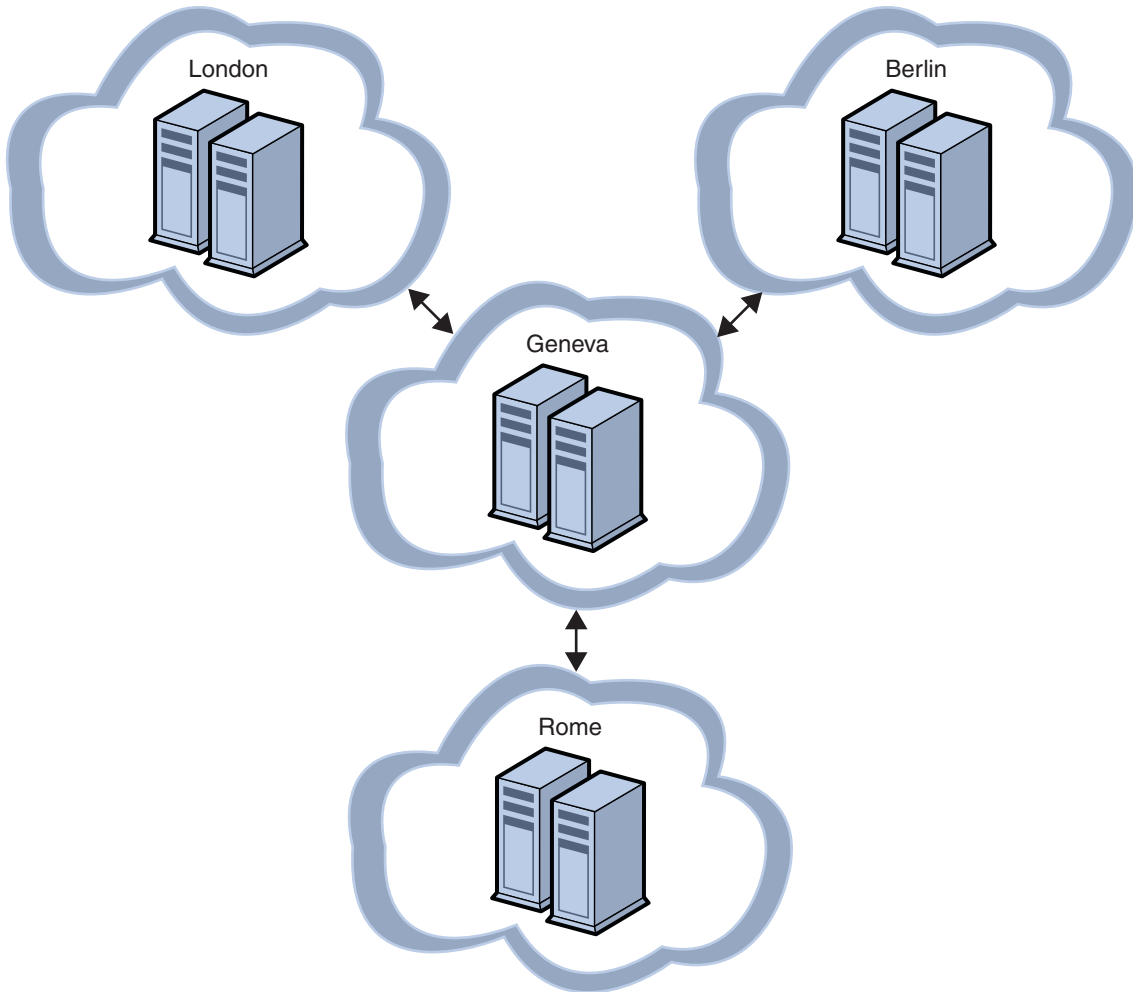


Geographically Distributed Cluster Topology

A partnership establishes communication and a heartbeat between clusters. One cluster can participate in several partnerships. A protection group establishes data replication between partner clusters. You can configure several protection groups for a partnership, with each protection group replicating different data between the partner clusters.

The following figure illustrates a geographically distributed topology that demonstrates intercluster relationships.

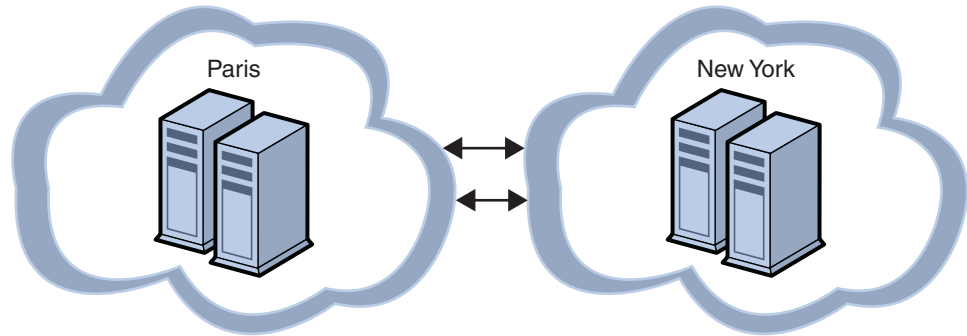
FIGURE 3-3 Geographically Distributed Topology



The Geographic Edition software enables you to configure multiple partnerships for a cluster with heartbeats between partner clusters. For example, the Geneva-London-Rome-Berlin topology contains a central cluster in Geneva that forms three separate partnerships with clusters in London, Rome, and Berlin. The partnerships require two-way Internet connections between the following cluster pairs: London and Geneva, Rome and Geneva, and Berlin and Geneva. These partnerships enable the cluster in Geneva to detect failures of the clusters in London, Berlin, and Rome by exchanging heartbeats.

Each partnership has a protection group so that the primary clusters in London, Rome, and Berlin can replicate data to the cluster in Geneva as a secondary cluster.

The following figure illustrates a geographically distributed topology that demonstrates intercluster relationships.



The Paris-New York topology has two clusters that form a partnership with two protection groups. Each cluster is the primary cluster for one protection group, and the secondary cluster for the other protection group. The partnership requires a two-way Internet connection between the two clusters for intercluster management and heartbeats. The two clusters must have a data replication link to support data replication for two protection groups.

In the Geneva-London-Rome-Berlin topology, the cluster in Geneva could become the primary cluster for any of the three protection groups. However, the cluster in Geneva must have adequate provisioning to run all the services that are offered by the application resource groups.

For example, if the cluster in Rome is shut down for maintenance, the cluster in Geneva could be the new primary cluster by using a controlled switchover for the Rome-Geneva protection group. As the new primary cluster for the Rome-Geneva protection group, the cluster in Geneva would host the services that are provided by the application resource groups of the Rome-Geneva protection group. The cluster in Geneva would simultaneously serve as the secondary cluster for the clusters in London and Berlin.

Similarly, in the Paris-New York topology, either cluster could take over as the primary cluster to both protection groups if the partner cluster were unexpectedly lost.

Three-Data-Center (3DC) Topologies

You can use a campus cluster for the primary cluster and a secondary cluster for disaster recovery, which creates a three-site or three-data-center (3DC) configuration of primary, backup, and disaster recovery sites.

There are two ways to perform 3DC replication:

- Use volume-manager mirroring within the campus cluster. Use Sun Availability Suite or application-based replication, such as Oracle Data Guard or MySQL software replication, to the disaster recovery site.
- Use storage-based replication within the campus cluster, such as EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility. Use application-based replication, such as Oracle Data Guard or MySQL software to replicate the application from the campus cluster to a disaster recovery site.

You cannot create a daisy chain of Geographic Edition pairs (for example, London-Paris-Rome) for the same managed application.

Glossary

active-active clusters	Two clusters where each cluster is both the primary cluster for some services and the secondary cluster for other services.
application resource	An application that is managed as a resource to its increased availability.
application resource group	An Oracle Solaris Cluster resource group that is configured by the user to make an application highly available in an Oracle Solaris Cluster configuration. An application resource group can be configured into a protection group to make it disaster tolerant and highly available.
campus cluster	A cluster that supports data replication between geographically separate nodes within <i>one</i> cluster. The maximum distance between nodes is limited.
data replication	<p>The copying of data from data storage devices in a primary cluster to data storage devices in a secondary cluster. Through data replication, the secondary cluster has a recent copy of the data on the primary cluster. The primary and secondary clusters can be geographically separated.</p> <p>In a campus cluster, the two data storage devices are on the same cluster. In a geographically separated cluster that runs the Geographic Edition software, the two data storage devices are on different clusters.</p>
data replication resource	An Oracle Solaris Cluster resource that monitors the state and status of data replication.
disaster tolerance	The ability of a system to restore an application on a secondary cluster when the primary cluster fails. Disaster tolerance is based on data replication and failover.
disconnected partnership	An error scenario in which two clusters in a protection group act as the primary cluster. In a disconnected partnership, the system administrator must execute a takeover, making one cluster the primary cluster and the other cluster the secondary cluster.
HASStoragePlus resource	A resource that enforces the switchover of the device group when the replication resource group is switched over or failed over.
heartbeat	A signal that is emitted from a cluster and detected by its partner cluster. Heartbeats enable a cluster to monitor the presence and failure of its partner cluster.
inactive cluster	A primary cluster where an application is not running and data is not being replicated to a secondary cluster. Alternatively, a secondary cluster where data is not being replicated from the primary cluster.

partnership	A relationship between two geographically separated clusters that are installed with the Oracle Solaris Cluster software and Geographic Edition software. These two clusters monitor each other's health by exchanging heartbeats.
primary cluster	A cluster that is in a cluster partnership, that hosts the application resources, and that holds the primary copy of replicated data. Protection groups define whether a cluster is primary or secondary. For example, the primary cluster of one protection group can also be the secondary cluster for another protection group.
protection group	<p>An entity that manages application resource groups for services that are protected from disaster. Clusters in a protection group must be defined as partners. A cluster can have different roles in different protection groups. For example, the primary cluster of one protection group can also be the secondary cluster for another protection group.</p> <p>A protection group has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A set of resource groups and resources for services that are protected from disaster▪ Device group entries▪ A primary cluster that hosts the protection group▪ A secondary cluster that is able to host the protection group▪ A data replication service
replication resource group	A resource group that contains data replication resources.
resource	An Oracle Solaris Cluster resource.
resource group	An Oracle Solaris Cluster resource group. A resource group can be an application resource group or a replication resource group.
scalable application	An application that runs on several nodes of one cluster to create a single, logical service. If a node that is running a scalable application fails, failover does not occur. The application continues to run on the other nodes of the cluster.
secondary cluster	<p>A cluster in a cluster partnership that is capable of hosting a protection group. The secondary cluster receives mirrored data from the primary cluster. If the primary cluster fails, the secondary cluster can become the new primary cluster.</p> <p>A secondary cluster can be associated with a protection group. If a primary cluster fails, the protection group is migrated to a secondary cluster. Protection groups define whether a cluster is primary or secondary. For example, the primary cluster of one protection group can also be the secondary cluster for another protection group.</p>
secondary node	A node that is in a cluster, but does not host the application services. If the primary node fails, the secondary node becomes the new primary node.
site	A location that houses one or more clusters that run the Geographic Edition software. To participate in the disaster recovery environment, a cluster must have a partner cluster on a geographically separated site.

standby cluster	A cluster with a minimal configuration that acts as a secondary cluster. A standby cluster can take over from the primary cluster in an emergency situation, but supports a reduced service only. A standby cluster is a low-cost alternative to a secondary cluster.
switchover	<p>The planned migration of services from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster.</p> <p>Unlike a takeover, the primary cluster is connected to the secondary cluster during a switchover. During a switchover, the primary cluster is connected to the secondary cluster and coordinates the migration of services with the secondary cluster. This coordination enables the data replication to be completed and ensures that services can be transferred from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster with minimal loss or corruption of data.</p>
takeover	<p>The emergency migration of services from the primary cluster to the secondary cluster. A system administrator can initiate a takeover to recover from a disaster scenario.</p> <p>Unlike a switchover, the primary cluster is not connected to the secondary cluster during a takeover. Therefore, the primary cluster cannot coordinate with the secondary cluster to migrate the services. Because of this lack of coordination, the risk of data loss and data corruption is higher than with a switchover. During a takeover, dedicated recovery procedures are used to minimize data loss and data corruption.</p>

Index

Numbers and Symbols

3-site topologies, 27–28
3DC topologies, 27–28

A

applications
 fault-tolerant, 10
 resource groups, 19
architecture
 hardware, 22
 software, 21

C

clusters, topologies, 25–27

D

data replication
 configuration, 22–24
 description, 10
 resource groups, 13–16
 supported products, 11–12
data service agents, 21
device groups, 16
disaster tolerance, 10, 17–19

E

EMC Symmetrix Remote Data Facility, 11–12

F

failure, hardware and software, 10–11

H

hardware
 architecture, 22
 failure, 10–11
heartbeats
 description, 11–12, 20
 plug-ins, 20

I

IPsec, 11–12

M

monitoring, failure, 10–11

O

Oracle Solaris Cluster, 10, 21, 22

P

- partnerships
 - data replication in, 22–24
 - description, 16–17
 - protection groups and, 18
- plug-ins, heartbeats, 20
- protection groups
 - description, 17–19
 - partnerships and, 18
 - states, 19

R

- RBAC, 11–12
- recovery, disaster, 10–11
- replication resource groups, 16
- resource groups
 - application, 19
 - replication, 16

S

- software
 - architecture, 21
 - configuration, 22–24
 - failure, 10–11
- Solaris Volume Manager, 21
- SSL, 11–12
- states, protection groups, 19

T

- Three-Data-Center (3DC) topologies, 27–28
- three-site topologies, 27–28
- topologies, 25–27