

WARP Handles All Internet Connections

BY LES FREED

Do you need to keep your business connected to the Internet, no matter what? **FatPipe WARP 3.0** (50-Mbps model, \$14,500 list) is a load-balancing router-clustering device that sits between your LAN and the Internet, using two or more connections to your ISP(s). If one connection goes down, FatPipe WARP instantly switches traffic to the other connections.

WARP's claim to fame (and the justification for its hefty price) is its ability to provide reliable, redundant connections for any mix of Internet connections with an aggregate total bandwidth of 50 or 155 Mbps. WARP's load-balancing and fail-over features work on both inbound and outbound connections and will work even with IP connections from two or more ISPs using separate IP address spaces.

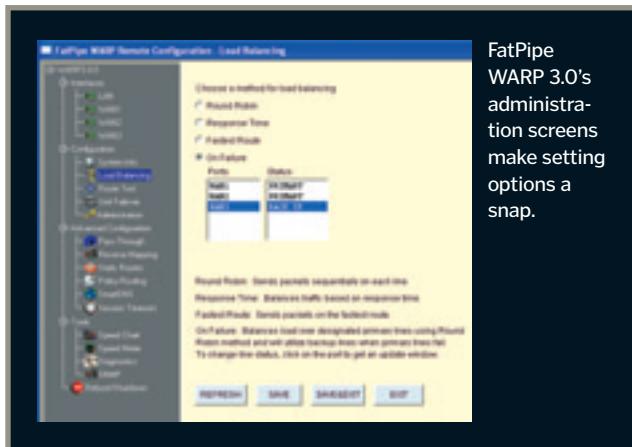
The unit can handle virtually any type of Ethernet-connected WAN device—from a 64-Kbps ISDN link all the way up to a 44-Mbps T3 line. It is designed to install with minimal impact on your existing LAN and WAN and does not require you to modify your existing IP addressing scheme.

We tested WARP using a 1-Mbps DSL line and a 1.5-Mbps cable modem con-

nection. In most cases, you simply connect WARP between your existing routers or firewalls and your WAN connections and then use WARP's browser-based interface to configure the IP address for each of WARP's Ethernet interfaces.

We hit a snag with our test setup, though. Our DSL provider uses PPP over Ethernet (PPPoE) for user authentication, but WARP doesn't handle the necessary PPPoE log-on; we overcame the problem by putting an inexpensive DSL router between the WARP box and the DSL line. Even with that minor hiccup, setup and installation took less than an hour.

Once we connected and configured everything, WARP worked flawlessly. Under normal conditions with both ISP connections working, WARP balanced inbound and outbound traffic on our two ISP connections. When we intentionally caused a failure on one of the links, WARP immediately (and transparently)



FatPipe WARP 3.0's administration screens make setting options a snap.

switched traffic over to the other link.

Its browser-based user interface is simple to navigate and has excellent status and traffic-monitoring screens that let you monitor your WAN traffic. So if Internet accessibility is your business's lifeblood, WARP is a worthy investment.

FatPipe WARP 3.0

Direct price: For 50-Mbps model, \$14,500; for 155-Mbps model, \$19,500. FatPipe Networks, 800-724-8521, www.fatpipeinc.com. ●●●●●

