Performance Summary

> Improve application launch time for FastLook Plus installed on a remote server by more than 5 times

> Reduce document viewing operations from over 60 minutes to under 30 seconds – effectively a 160 times improvement

> Reduce bandwidth utilization by 99% or more

> Blue Coat MACH5 securely accelerates all FastLook Plus operations

Test Scenario

These tests were performed on a Windows XP client, with a Windows 2003 server used as the FastLook server. The tests were run on a simulated 128 kbps WAN link with 1600ms latency.

> Cold test, starting condition: no traffic has passed through Blue Coat appliances.

> Warm test starting condition: the same or similar traffic has already passed through the Blue Coat appliances once.

Blue Coat Accelerates and Optimizes FastLook Plus

IT organizations need to ensure that global users in distributed enterprises can effectively collaborate and remain productive when dependent on timely and accurate information in the form of drawings or documents. FastLook Plus from Kamel Software helps with these tasks, allowing users a fast and accurate method for viewing and printing different file formats, such as CAD drawings, scanned documents, word processing documents and spreadsheets. However, to mitigate risks and comply with regulations and standards, companies also need to ensure they are able to manage important documents and files from a central location. Accessing these files over a Wide Area Network (WAN) can degrade performance, causing users to become less productive and increasingly frustrated, and in some cases, adding to risks by maintaining multiple instances of files on laptops or remote machines. Blue Coat Systems provides an end-to-end solution based on MACH5 technology to regain performance, minimize bandwidth usage, and significantly reduce the time to complete all FastLook operations, whether it is for markup and annotation, printing, or AutoCAD Data Extraction.

FastLook Plus over the WAN

FastLook Plus provides an easy-to-use interface that is fully customizable to help users collaborate and work more efficiently Drawings and documents can be reviewed and marked-up with comments, corrections, or instructions. Normally used to access files on a local PC, FastLook Plus can also access files on a remote Windows server (via CIFS). An optional Active-X plug-in is also available to integrate FastLook with Internet Explorer, allowing for users to open and annotate files within their web browser.

Due to consolidation and other IT trends, users are now often required to access files on a remote file server over a Wide Area Network (WAN). Because of the reduced bandwidth and high latency associated most WANs, performance and application response times are severely degraded. As an example, launching FastLook Plus on a remote server may take more than 10 minutes to load and start. In some cases, using FastLook Plus to open a remote file may even take more than one hour.

Performance Results

In a test launching Fastlook Plus from a remote server, Blue Coat ProxySG appliances reduced the application start time by more than 5 times. In another test using Fastlook Plus to open an 8.6 MB AutoCAD file, Blue Coat Proxy SG appliances opened the file more than 160 times faster.

Launching network version of FastLook over a 128 kbps WAN with 1600ms latency Time taken: (without=707 secs, COLD=289 secs, WARM=133 secs)

More than 5 times faster
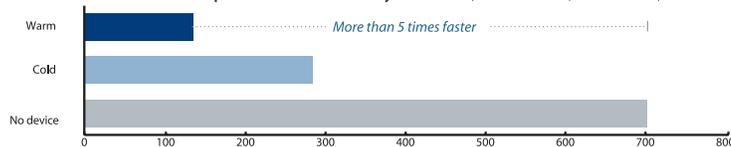
Opening an 8.6 MB AutoCAD file over a 128 kbps WAN with 1600ms latency Time taken: (without=3720 secs, COLD=764 secs, WARM=23 secs)

More than 160 times faster
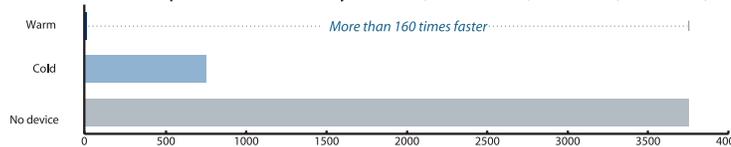
How Blue Coat Accelerates and Optimizes FastLook Plus

Blue Coat's MACH5 (Multiprotocol Accelerated Caching Hierachy) Application Delivery Network improves and accelerates all FastLook operations and tasks. Object caching, byte caching and compression technologies allows users to launch the application more quickly. Through the use of object caching and byte caching, accessing static and dynamic content on remote servers to markup or edit can now be done in seconds instead of 60 or more minutes, with a reduction in bandwidth utilization by more than 99%. When combined with protocol optimizations, nothing does more to offload application servers and provide users with a LAN-like experience. Users can now complete all FastLook tasks and operations over a WAN

Blue Coat Benefits

Improve User Productivity

Protocol optimizations, object caching and byte caching significantly reduce the time required to complete all FastLook operations.

Reduce Bandwidth Usage

Object caching, byte caching and compression significantly reduce the time required to access drawings and documents.

Reduce Server Utilization

Object caching and protocol optimizations reduce the load on the server, allowing for greater scalability and ROI.

QoS and Bandwidth Management

Deploy Blue Coat to intelligently prioritize and bandwidth-shape FastLook operations relative to other business-critical traffic.

in seconds, even for large file retrievals of documents or AutoCAD drawings. Additionally, the Blue Coat solution also provides the ability to employ bandwidth management/QoS (Quality of Service) for any class of traffic to be appropriately prioritized. The Blue Coat solution is also the only solution capable of integrating into your existing IT infrastructure, allowing for flexible authentication and deployment options.

About Blue Coat MACH5 Acceleration Technology

Blue Coat MACH5 technology is a patent-pending combination of five separate application management and tuning technologies that provide unrivaled improvements in application performance and bandwidth utilization. Whether at the edge of your network, or right in the heart of it, MACH5 technology provides a powerful toolkit for meeting any application delivery challenge. These technologies include:

Bandwidth Management

Assign priority and network resources based not only on port or device, but on users, applications and content to more accurately reflect your corporate policies on the network. Works by itself, or integrates with your infrastructure QoS to provide application intelligence to the packet switching network.

Protocol Optimization

Improves the performance of protocols that are inefficient over the WAN through specific enhancements that make them more tolerant to the higher latencies typically found there. Blue Coat has been optimizing network protocols for over a decade, and offers multiple improvements for TCP, CIFS, HTTP, HTTPS, MAPI and most streaming video and IM protocols.

Byte Caching

Cache repetitive traffic found in the byte stream and serve it locally to reduce the amount of traffic that actually uses the WAN at all. Works like a customized compression algorithm for your network traffic, and leads to dramatic bandwidth savings.
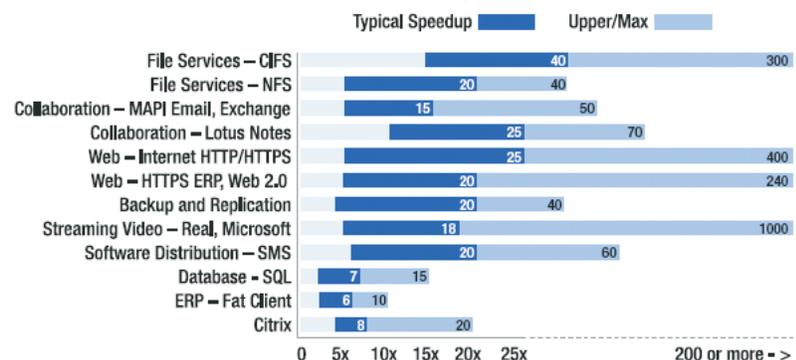
Object Caching

Store files, videos and web content locally, providing LAN-like performance for WAN users, without the overhead and risk of traditional wide area file services. For content delivery, no technology does more to reduce latency and bandwidth to improve the end user experience.

Compression

Inline compression can reduce predictable patterns even on the first pass, making it an ideal complement to byte caching technology.

About the Blue Coat ProxyClient

ProxyClient builds on Blue Coat's secure web gateway and acceleration technologies to extend application delivery to the desktop. Using MACH5 technology, including caching, compression and protocol optimization, ProxyClient accelerates web and office applications for roaming and small branch users. ProxyClient delivers LAN-like user experience and Blue Coat web filtering with a simple and easy footprint for installation, configuration, deployment and ongoing maintenance.

	Typical Speedup	Upper/Max
File Services — CIFS	40	300
File Services — NFS	20	40
Collaboration — MAPI Email, Exchange	15	50
Collaboration — Lotus Notes	25	70
Web — Internet HTTP/HTTPS	25	400
Web — HTTPS ERP, Web 2.0	20	240
Backup and Replication	20	40
Streaming Video — Real, Microsoft	18	1000
Software Distribution — SMS	20	60
Database - SQL	7	15
ERP — Fat Client	6	10
Citrix	8	20

0   5x   10x   15x   20x   25x   200 or more - >