



PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TECH NOTE #025

FCP Partner Path Misconfigured

The Concept

On clustered storage controllers serving out LUNs over FCP there are two paths a client can use to access a LUN. The primary path is the FCP port on the storage controller serving up the LUN file (e.g., port 0b on FAS1). The partner path is a FCP port on the partner storage controller (e.g., port 0d on FAS2). MPIO or DSM software on the client systems can be configured to use the multiple paths to access the LUN. Generally, the partner path is intended to be used only during a cluster failover or SAN connection failure. An error in the configuration of the multipath software or in the SAN configuration can cause the partner path to be chosen as the primary path which triggers this error message when the cluster is not in failover mode.

Examples

In most cases, this error message will generate an AutoSupport email. You can find the full text of the error in the system log:

```
[hostname: scsitaraget.partnerPath.misconfigured:error]: FCP Partner Path Misconfigured.  
[hostname: scsitaraget.partnerPath.misconfigured:error]: FCP Partner Path Misconfigured - Host  
I/O access through a non-primary and non-optimal path was detected.
```

What It Means To You

When you experience a failure with the SAN switch or the cabling you want traffic to travel over the cluster interconnect. During normal operations this imposes a fairly significant delay which impacts I/O to the LUNs. Fixing the cabling or port configuration of your SAN switch to resolve this error should be a high priority.

More Information

See Knowledge Base article KB30541 on the NOW website:

<https://now.netapp.com/Knowledgebase/solutionarea.asp?id=kb30541>

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