



Marathon Technologies Corporation

everRun

Frequently Asked Questions

Can everRun 2G support physical to virtual configurations?

everRun 2G does not install directly into a Windows operating environment but instead is a Linux kernel based on Xen. It is this architecture that enables the automated simplicity and fault tolerance benefits that everRun provides. Regardless of the base platform, a single Windows workload can be configured on one host while multiple Windows workloads can be configured on the secondary host, allowing a many-to-1 configuration.

What is the benefit of running just a single workload?

Running a single workload isolates it from other factors and creates a single fault tolerant environment for a critical application.

Does everRun 2G require identical servers?

everRun 2G requires Intel VT-enabled servers with similar processor models and stepping. Please speak with your reseller or call Marathon for a list of supported processors.

Is there a list of qualified servers that everRun 2G can be run on?

everRun 2G supports the latest Intel processors. Please refer to *include link here to qualified processor list*.

Does everRun 2G require a SAN?

everRun offers two storage configuration options; mirrored storage and a shared-storage model. When using mirrored storage, everRun will synchronously mirror all storage between paired hosts; this includes the OS, the application, data, etc. This does not require similar storage vendors or types. One host can have SAN-attached storage while the other has local SCSI storage.

In a shared-storage configuration, the everRun paired hosts must be connected to the same storage device with access to the shared LUN's. In this configuration, everRun does not mirror the data or protect against failures within the storage subsystem. Because of this, it is critical that you ensure proper configuration of the storage devices to protect against failures.

Do I need to have identical storage on each host?

No. everRun can mirror between dissimilar storage devices.

Does everRun 2G require customization for my various Windows applications?

Because of the unique everRun architecture, there are no restrictions on the Windows applications that can be protected. everRun sits below the OS layer, and therefore can support any standard or home-grown Windows applications. No matter what the application is, there is no additional configuration required, thus allowing you to protect any Windows application within minutes and without manual configuration, setup, testing, or ongoing maintenance.

Do I need to have identical resources on the paired or secondary host?

To help reduce costs of deploying high availability, everRun 2G allows you to allocate fewer resources on the secondary host, thus reducing the amount of RAM and CPU required. Note, however, that should that secondary host be promoted to primary, your application will be running with fewer resources. Consideration should be given to this fact to ensure your application performs adequately when running on the secondary host.

What is the difference between the three levels of protection?

Please see the whitepaper that provides an overview of the different protection levels. *Insert link to 3-levels WP.*

What is the difference between everRun HA/FT and everRun 2G?

everRun 2G is the next generation of everRun HA and FT, enabling multiple levels of protection within a single solution. While there are a number of new capabilities within everRun 2G, one of the most significant enhancements is the ability to protect multiple Windows workloads on a single pair of servers. With everRun HA and FT, only a single Windows workload could be protected on a pair of servers. everRun 2G allows multiple workloads to be protected on the same pair of servers to help reduce hardware costs and take advantage of more powerful servers.

From a supported platform standpoint, everRun HA and FT support Windows Server 2003 32-bit Standard and Enterprise. everRun 2G supports Windows Server 2003 32-bit and 64-bit Standard and Enterprise as well as Windows Server 2008 64-bit Standard and Enterprise.

How many application licenses are required once I protect them with everRun?

As all applications and license agreements can vary, we recommend that you consult the specific license agreements for the applications being protected.

How many operating system licenses are required for each application environment I want to protect?

Windows Server licensing requirements vary depending on the edition being used. However for each protected application environment within everRun 2G, two Windows licenses are required. Windows Enterprise and Datacenter editions allow for fewer licensing requirements within a multi-workload environment. Please review Microsoft's licensing guidelines for their Server operating systems for details.

What version of Windows does everRun 2G support?

everRun 2G supports Windows Server 2003 SP2 Standard and Enterprise Editions, 32-bit and 64-bit, as well as Windows Server 2008 Standard and Enterprise Editions, 32-bit.

Does everRun 2G support non-English Windows editions?

Yes

Does everRun 2G support Windows Small Business Server?

everRun 2G supports Windows Server 2003 Small Business Server Edition. Windows Server 2008 SBS has not yet been qualified.

Can the physical servers be separated geographically?

Yes. This requires the addition of the add-on product SplitSite.

How far can the physical servers be separated?

Distance is determined by the network latency. everRun 2G is a synchronous solution and requires maximum 10ms roundtrip latency between physical servers.

Can everRun help minimize planned downtime as well as unplanned?

Yes. everRun maintains two identical operating environments on two paired systems. This provides an excellent testing environment wherein one of the hosts can be taken offline for upgrading and testing while the other continues to execute the application.

Is the SplitSite product included in everRun?

No. SplitSite is sold as an incremental add-on to everRun 2G, everRun FT, and everRun HA.

How does everRun 2G differ from VMware HA?

HA solutions provide 'best effort' recovery with no guarantees that the necessary resources will be available on the target host to successfully fail over. Other areas to consider are protection against storage and networking failures

everRun 2G provides a comprehensive solution that protects against network, storage, and system failures. With everRun fault tolerance, hardware failures are transparent to the application and are handled by everRun without impacting the application. everRun 2G also allows synchronous data mirroring between dissimilar storage types to provide redundant copies of data without requiring like hardware or SAN infrastructure. everRun can provide fault tolerant and data protection in a single location or in separate locations to deliver disaster tolerance.

everRun 2G for XenServer

Does everRun 2G for XenServer support the Free version of XenServer?

Yes, everRun 2G for XenServer supports the Free version of XenServer as well as Essentials for XenServer Enterprise and Platinum Editions.

What is the benefit of running just a single VM? I thought the benefit of XenServer was to consolidate servers?

The value of everRun is in protecting critical applications from downtime. Consolidation is a tremendous benefit of XenServer however there are times when performance requirements dictate that an application should be run on its own server or with just a few others. With everRun, multiple single-VM XenServer hosts can be

configured with all of them protected to a single XenServer host with multiple VM's, thus providing a many-to-1 configuration.

This architecture also offers simplified manageability and ease of provisioning and maintenance with a common platform for all applications.

If I already have XenServer installed, can I install everRun on top of it or do I need to reinstall XenServer?

everRun can easily be installed on an existing XenServer installation. Please check the technical product requirements for supported versions of XenServer.

Does everRun require customization for my specific applications, including some that are home-grown?

No, everRun is completely transparent to the application and can support any and all Windows applications without any modifications, customizations, or scripting.

everRun HA & FT

What operating systems are supported with everRun HA and everRun FT?

Windows Server 2003 32-bit Standard and Enterprise

When will everRun HA and FT support Windows Server 2008 and 64-bit applications?

everRun HA and FT will not be updated to support the latest Windows operating environments. Our latest generation fault tolerant solution, everRun 2G, does support these operating environments.

Do I need to have identical servers to run everRun HA or FT?

everRun HA does not require identical servers, however similar processors is recommended. everRun FT does require some likenesses, including processor and motherboard.

How many operating system licenses are required to run everRun HA or FT?

everRun HA and FT require 4 licenses of Windows for each application being protected. Windows Enterprise Edition provides some licensing benefits to reduce licensing costs. Please reference your Windows licensing information for details.

Does everRun HA and FT support Windows Small Business Server?

No, however everRun 2G does support Windows Small Business Server.

How does Marathon qualify Windows security patches?

Because of their critical nature, we screen and test Microsoft Security Updates that apply to Windows 2003 and are posted on Microsoft's automatic update website area. In the majority of cases, Windows security updates are fully compatible with Marathon products. In the rare cases where an issue is

found, we post an advisory on our support website knowledgebase and provide an update to resolve the issue.

Do everRun HA and FT support a shared-storage environment whereas only a single copy of the data is maintained?

No, everRun HA and FT maintain redundant storage on each host and synchronously mirror data between them. This does not mean that a shared storage environment such as a SAN cannot be used. You will, however, be required to have storage on both hosts to allow the mirror to occur. everRun 2G supports both mirrored storage and shared-storage/shared-LUN configurations.

Do everRun HA and FT support non-English versions of Windows?

No. However everRun 2G does support non-English Windows environments.