

SUN COBALT™ CacheRaQ 4 - Frequently Asked Questions



RATHER THAN INVESTING IN INCREASED BANDWIDTH, THE CACHERAQ 4 AVOIDS TRAFFIC OVERLOADS BY STORING FREQUENTLY REQUESTED FILES, FREEING BANDWIDTH FOR NEW REQUESTS AND OTHER TRAFFIC.

Q. WHAT IS THE SUN COBALT CACHERAQ?

A. The CacheRaQ 4 is a server appliance that improves network response time by providing local storage for Web content. Simply put, if you don't have to go as far for the information, you get it faster and more users can access the system.

The Cobalt CacheRaQ 4 is rewriting the economics of the caching industry. Cobalt is driving T1 level (1.5Mbps) caching performance down to new price points appropriate for any service provider as well as small-to-medium sized businesses or remote branch offices.

The CacheRaQ 4 is typically deployed at the client site. It saves Web pages that might otherwise be requested repeatedly, tying up valuable network resources. When requested again, the file is served from the local CacheRaQ 4 not the Web, so the response is dramatically faster than a Web request. The additional benefit is more available bandwidth for new and unique Web requests. By eliminating the repetitive traffic, the CacheRaQ provides more bandwidth for new requests, which also makes response time faster.

The Cobalt CacheRaQ 4 is based on the Cobalt RaQ architecture. It is pre-configured with the appropriate suite of hardware and software designed for Web caching. As with all Cobalt products, installation takes minutes. All setup and administration is browser-based for easy operation. The entire solution can be online and saving time in as little as 15 minutes after installation.

The Cobalt CacheRaQ 4 delivers:

- High performance
- Appliance ease-of-use
- Plug and play caching simplicity
- Instant edge-of-the-network caching deployment
- Ideal for reducing wide area bandwidth traffic
- Unparalleled performance/price features.

Q. WHAT ARE THE KEY CACHING FEATURES?

A. CacheRaQ 4 has the following key features -

- Caches HTTP and FTP traffic (HTML pages, images, MPEG files, etc.)
- Configurable for transparent or traditional proxy caching mode
- Supports SSL tunneling and cookies
- Supports Cobalt's proprietary InstaCache Cluster technology for scalability.
- Includes Internet Caching Protocol (ICP) support.
- Creates log files compatible with Harvest, Squid and CERN Proxy standards.
- Extensive reporting and usage statistics.
- Filtering/URL blocking, automatic usage email reports.

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Q. WHAT PERFORMANCE SHOULD I EXPECT FROM THE CACHERAQ 4?

- A. CacheRaQ 4
- Supports a single T1 or E1 (1.5 Mbps) wide area connection line.
 - Additional scalability is available through Cobalt InstaCache™ Clustering.
 - Supports Level-4 switches for fail-over and scalability.
 - Stores metadata and hot objects in main memory for fast cache lookups.

Q. WHAT SYSTEM MANAGEMENT FEATURES ARE AVAILABLE ON CACHERAQ 4?

- A. CacheRaQ 4 comes with the following management features:
- Browser-based management interface.
 - Online ActiveAssist real-time help.
 - Advanced management using Telnet.
 - Performance and usage reporting and logging.
 - SNMP agent.
 - ActiveMonitor maintenance daemons with e-mail.
 - 15-minute installation via LCD panel and web.

Q. WHAT OTHER CACHE FEATURES ARE AVAILABLE WITH CACHERAQ 4?

- A. The CacheRaQ 4 can be configured for optimal performance by selecting -
- User-definable content refresh interval.
 - User-definable maximum size for cache objects.
 - Selectively disabling caching of specified HTTP servers.

Q. HOW DO I BUY CACHERAQ 4?

- A. CacheRaQ 4 is now available from select Cobalt resellers. For more information, please contact Cobalt at 888-702-6225 or visit the Cobalt Web site at <http://shop.cobalt.com>

Q. WHAT CACHERAQ 4 CONFIGURATIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

A.

R46CJ4KCU	CacheRaQ 4 with 128MB, DRAM 20GB IDE disk, dual Ethernet
R46GJ4KCU	CacheRaQ 4 with 256MB, DRAM 20GB IDE disk, dual Ethernet
R46H30KCU	CacheRaQ 4 with 512MB, DRAM 30GB IDE disk, dual Ethernet

Q. HOW EASY IS IT TO INSTALL A CACHERAQ 4 SERVER APPLIANCE?

- A. Installation requires less than 15 minutes to setup the server. The two-step process requires an IP address, netmask, and a default gateway using the LCD console while the rest of the configuration is entered with a simple Web-based wizard.

Q. WHAT IS INVOLVED IN THE INSTALLATION OF CACHERAQ 4?

- A. It is as simple as connecting the power and the Ethernet Port, configuring the IP address from the LCD screen, and configuring a single setup screen.

Q. CAN I UPGRADE THE FIRMWARE?

- A. Cobalt provides updates and patches to the software through the Cobalt website at <http://www.cobalt.com/support/download/>

Q. WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM STORAGE CAPACITY OF CACHERAQ 4?

- A. CacheRaQ 4 comes standard with one 20GB or 30GB internal hard drive.

Q. WHAT ABOUT CACHERAQ 4'S WARRANTY AND SUPPORT?

- A. 30 day consulting, 1 year parts and labor. Additional warranty and support available. For more information on Cobalt support packages, please visit the website at <http://www.cobalt.com/support>

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Q. WHAT NETWORK PROTOCOLS DOES THE CACHERAQ 4 SUPPORT?

A. TCP/IP.

Q. HOW DO I CONFIGURE THE CACHERAQ 4 FOR TCP/IP?

A. IP address, netmask and gateway address are configured through the front panel LCD screen. Additional parameters are configured through the browser-based user interface.

Q. DOES THE CACHERAQ 4 SUPPORT TRANSPARENT CACHING MODE?

A. Yes. CacheRaQ 4 can operate in both Transparent Caching Mode and Traditional Proxy Caching Mode.

Q. DOES THE CACHERAQ 4 SUPPORT THE USE OF A PAC FILE?

A. Yes. CacheRaQ 4 supports two uses of the auto-configuration (PAC) file:

- 1) It provides a proxy.pac file that client web-browsers can use to configure themselves.
- 2) It can utilize a proxy auto-configuration file that resides on another proxy server. With this feature, the CacheRaQ 4 can provide transparent proxy redirection for client machines. This can simplify administration of clients in environments that have multiple proxies.

Q. WHAT TYPE OF TRAFFIC IS CACHED BY THE CACHERAQ 4?

A. CacheRaQ 4 caches HTTP and FTP traffic (HTTP traffic only in transparent mode) and DNS requests.

Q. DOES CACHERAQ 4 SUPPORT CISCO'S WCCP PROTOCOL?

A. Yes. CacheRaQ 4 supports Web Cache Communication Protocol (WCCP) version 1.

Q. DOES CACHERAQ 4 SUPPORT CLUSTERING?

A. Yes. The CacheRaQ 4 supports a variety of clustering methods: Cobalt InstaCache (based on Cache Array Routing Protocol [CARP]), Inter-Cache Communication Protocol (ICP) and Web Cache Communication Protocol (WCCP). WCCP works in Transparent Caching mode only.

Q. HOW MUCH MEMORY CAN I PUT IN?

A. The CacheRaQ 4 is expandable up to 512MB. The memory type is PC-100 SDRAM DIMMs (2 slots) (3.3V, 168 pin, non-parity, unbuffered). Be aware that there is a memory module 1.15" height limit inside the case, so check with your memory vendor, and be sure to specify low profile memory when you order.

Q. HOW MUCH POWER DOES THE CACHERAQ 4 DRAW?

A. The CacheRaQ 4 power supply is rated at 80 watts, and runs continuously at much less than 60W. This is far less than other rack mountable servers.

Q. DOES THE CACHERAQ 4 FIT IN A STANDARD SIZED (19") SERVER ROOM RACK?

A. Absolutely! The CacheRaQ 4 ships with mounting ears, so it's very easy to install. You can stack up to 40, in a standard rack.

