GPO Access Operating System

The GPO Access service resides on multiple Digital AlphaServer 1000 and 1000A computers, running processor speeds of 233Mhz up to 400Mhz. Many of these servers contain integral Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks (RAID) units for high performance, high availability data storage. All servers utilize the Digital UNIX Operating System. The Web and application servers run Web server software created by Netscape Communications Corporation, while the database servers are running WAIS server software by WAIS, Incorporated. These servers are all directly connected to a 100 megabits per second (Mbps) FDDI ring which is connected to the Internet over two fully redundant load sharing and balanced T-1 connections provided by GTE Internetworking, formerly BBN Planet. The T-1 connections currently average 30% capacity during peak usage of the GPO Access information services. The GPO Access service also includes fallback systems should GPO experience primary server failures or server shutdowns for routine maintenance. The backup systems are located in a geographically separate secure GPO facility, and reside on a 10Mbps Ethernet LAN segment which in turn is connected to the primary service FDDI ring via a 100Mbps fiber optic uplink.

The Kentucky backup/archival site is hosted on an Alpha 3000/4000 platform running Digital UNIX. The primary application in use is WAIS. The 56Kbps Internet connectivity is provided by the University of Kentucky.