



Port Following

Feature Description

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Table of Contents

1 Introduction	4
1.1 Document Purpose	4
1.2 Intended Audience	4
2 Port Following	5
2.1 Configuring Port Following	6
2.1.1 Create the Virtual Service for HTTP	6
2.1.2 Create the Virtual Service for HTTPS/SSL Offloading	8
2.1.3 Configure Port Following for the HTTPS Virtual Service	11
2.1.4 Configure Port Following for the HTTP Virtual Service	12
References	14
Last Updated Date	15

1 Introduction

Kemp leads the industry in driving the price/performance value proposition for application delivery and load balancing to levels that our customers can afford. Our products' versatile and powerful architecture provide the highest value, while enabling our customers to optimize their businesses that rely on Internet-based infrastructure to conduct business with their customers, employees and partners.

Kemp products optimize web and application infrastructure as defined by high-availability, high-performance, flexible scalability, security and ease of management. They maximize the total cost-of-ownership for web infrastructure, while enabling flexible and comprehensive deployment options.

1.1 Document Purpose

This document describes various aspects of the port following feature of the Kemp LoadMaster. It describes in detail how to configure the port following feature using the LoadMaster Web User Interface (WUI).

For descriptions on each of the LoadMaster WUI fields, please refer to the [Web User Interface \(WUI\), Configuration Guide](#).

1.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended to help anyone who wishes to learn about or implement the port following feature within the Kemp LoadMaster.

2 Port Following

Port following is set when two services need to share persistence records. Typically this is done for HTTP and HTTPS services so users maintain a server session, regardless of whether they connect securely or not.

If the Real Server for one of the Virtual Services fails, the persistence records for the same Real Server on the other Virtual Service will be cleared.

Port following has several requirements:

- The Virtual Services must have the same set of Real Servers
- The Virtual Service must be using the same persistence options

After meeting these conditions, in the Virtual Service modify screen there will be an option under **Advanced Properties** for **Port Following**. Ensure to set this on both Virtual Services to ensure that port following is done bi-directionally. Port following must be set up bi-directionally to ensure that, regardless of whether the client connects using HTTP or HTTPS, the persistence and session is saved.

Here is an example scenario where port following may be used:

- When using “shopping cart” like services where a user selects items and adds them to a list, any persistence method can be used.
- When the user decides to pay for the items, this is normally performed using a secure SSL (HTTPS) service.
- When port following is turned on, the Real Server where the “shopping cart” connection is active will be selected for the SSL session.
- This selection will only occur when a connection is still open from the same client (as determined by the source IP address), and if the SSL service has the same IP address as the “shopping cart” service.
- For example, if a connection is made to the HTTP service of www.somewebsite.com, and then a new SSL connection is made to the same address, then the SSL session will be directed to the same Real Server as the original HTTP service.

2.1 Configuring Port Following

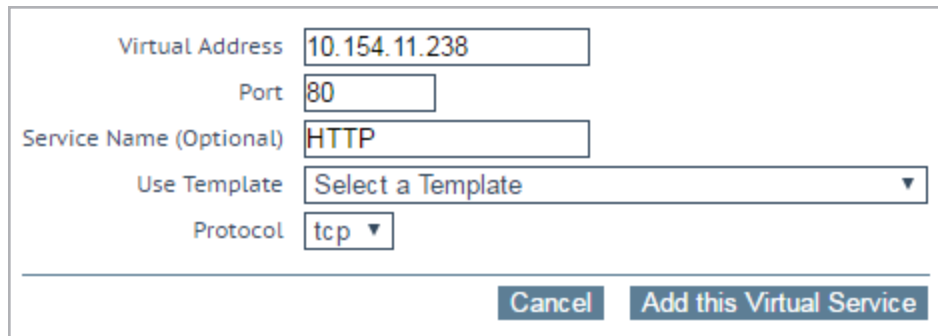
Port following is not available on SubVSs.

Follow the steps in the sections below to create the Virtual Services and configure port following. It does not matter what order the Virtual Services are created in – as long as they have the same set of Real Servers and the same Layer 7 persistence mode – you should be able to enable port following.

2.1.1 Create the Virtual Service for HTTP

To create an HTTP Virtual Service, follow the steps below:

1. In the main menu of the LoadMaster WUI, go to **Virtual Services > Add New**.



2. Enter a valid IP address in the **Virtual Address** text box.
3. Enter **80** in the **Port** text box.

It is possible to use port following with Virtual Services using wildcard ports.

4. Enter a recognizable **Service Name**.
5. Click the **Add this Virtual Service** button.
6. Expand the **Standard Options** section.

2 Port Following

▼ Standard Options

Force L7 ☒

Transparency ☒

Extra Ports [Set Extra Ports](#)

Persistence Options

Mode:

Timeout:

Scheduling Method

Idle Connection Timeout (Default 660) [Set Idle Timeout](#)

Use Address for Server NAT ☐

Quality of Service

7. Select an L7 persistence mode. This is the persistence mode that will be used for any Real Servers which are added to this Virtual Service.

8. Expand the **Real Servers** section.

▼ Real Servers

Real Server Check Parameters

Checked Port

[Set Check Port](#)

URL:

[Set URL](#)

Status Codes:

[Set Status Codes](#)

Use HTTP/1.1: ☐

HTTP Method:

Custom Headers: [Show Headers](#)

Enhanced Options: ☐

9. Click the **Add New** button.

Please Specify the Parameters for the Real Server

Real Server Address

Port

Forwarding method

Weight

Connection Limit

[<-Back](#)

[Add This Real Server](#)

10. Enter the relevant address in the **Real Server Address** text box.

11. Click **Add This Real Server**.

12. Click **OK**.

Real Server Address	<input type="text" value="10.154.11.237"/>
Port	<input type="text" value="80"/>
Forwarding method	<input type="text" value="nat"/>
Weight	<input type="text" value="1000"/>
Connection Limit	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value=" <-Back"/> <input type="button" value=" Add This Real Server"/>	

13. For the second Real Server, enter the address in the **Real Server Address** text box.

14. Click **Add This Real Server**.

15. Click **View/Modify Services** in the main menu.

16. Check that the Virtual Service has the correct **Virtual IP Address**, port number and **Real Servers** and that the **Status** is **Up**.

2.1.2 Create the Virtual Service for HTTPS/SSL Offloading

To create a HTTPS Virtual Service with SSL offloading, follow the steps below:

1. In the main menu, go to **Virtual Services > Add New**.

Please Specify the Parameters for the Virtual Service.	
Virtual Address	<input type="text" value="10.154.11.238"/>
Port	<input type="text" value="443"/>
Service Name (Optional)	<input type="text" value="HTTPS with SSL offload"/>
Use Template	<input type="text" value="Select a Template"/>
Protocol	<input type="text" value="tcp"/>

2. Enter the IP address in the **Virtual Address** text box.

3. Enter a recognizable **Service Name**.

4. Enter **443** as the **Port**.

It is possible to use port following with Virtual Services using wildcard ports.

5. Click the **Add this Virtual Service** button.

6. Expand the **SSL Properties** section.

SSL Properties

SSL Acceleration

Enabled: ☒ Reencrypt: ☐

Supported Protocols

☐ SSLv3 ☒ TLS1.0 ☒ TLS1.1 ☒ TLS1.2

Require SNI hostname

☐

Self Signed Certificate in use.

Available Certificates

None Available

Assigned Certificates

None Assigned

Set Certificates

Manage Certificates

Cipher Set

Default

Modify Cipher Set

Assigned Ciphers

ECDHE-RSA-AES256-SHA384

ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-SHA384

DHE-RSA-AES256-SHA256

DHE-DSS-AES256-SHA256

DH-RSA-AES256-SHA256

DH-DSS-AES256-SHA256

Client Certificates

No Client Certificates required

Strict Transport Security Header

Don't add the Strict Transport Security Header

7. Select **Enable**.

8. Click **OK**.

9. Expand the **Standard Options** section.

Standard Options

Transparency

☒

Extra Ports

Set Extra Ports

Persistence Options

Mode:

Source IP Address

Timeout:

6 Minutes

Scheduling Method

round robin

Idle Connection Timeout (Default 660)

Set Idle Timeout

Use Address for Server NAT

☐

Quality of Service

Normal-Service

10. Select the same L7 persistence mode that was selected in the HTTP Virtual Service. This is the persistence mode that will be used for any Real Servers which are added to this Virtual Service.

11. Expand the **Real Servers** section.

Real Servers

Real Server Check Parameters

HTTP Protocol

Checked Port

Set Check Port

URL:

Set URL

Status Codes:

Set Status Codes

Use HTTP/1.1:

☐

HTTP Method:

HEAD

Custom Headers:

Show Headers

Enhanced Options:

☐

12. Click **Add New**.

Please Specify the Parameters for the Real Server

Real Server Address

10.154.11.239

Port

80

Forwarding method

nat

Weight

1000

Connection Limit

13. Enter the relevant address in the **Real Server Address** text box.

14. Enter **80** as the **Port**.

15. Click **Add This Real Server**.

16. Click **OK**.

Please Specify the Parameters for the Real Server

Real Server Address

10.154.11.237

Port

80

Forwarding method

nat

Weight

1000

Connection Limit

17. For the second Real Server, enter the address in the **Real Server Address** text box.

18. Enter **80** as the **Port**.
19. Click **Add This Real Server**.
20. Click **OK**.
21. Click **Back**.
22. Select View/Modify Services under Virtual Services in the main menu.
23. Check that the Virtual Service has the correct **Virtual IP Address**, port number and **Real Servers** and that the **Status** is **Up**.

2.1.3 Configure Port Following for the HTTPS Virtual Service

To configure port following for the HTTPS Virtual Service, follow the steps below:

1. In the main menu, go to **Virtual Services > View/Modify Services**.
2. Click the **Modify** button for the Virtual Service with port **443**.
3. Expand the **Advanced Properties** section.

▼

Advanced Properties

Content Switching

Disabled

Enable

HTTP Selection Rules

Show Selection Rules

HTTP Header Modifications

Show Header Rules

Response Body Modification

Show Body Modification Rules

Port Following

Follow:

tcp/10.154.11.238:80 ▼

Enable HTTP/2 Stack

☐

Enable Caching

☐

Enable Compression

☐

Detect Malicious Requests

☐

Add Header to Request

:

Set Header

Copy Header in Request

To Header

Set Headers

Add HTTP Headers

Legacy Operation(X-ClientSide) ▼

"Sorry" Server

Port

Set Server Address

Not Available Redirection Handling

Error Code:

▼

Redirect URL:

Set Redirect URL

Default Gateway

Set Default Gateway

Service Specific Access Control

Access Control

4. Select the port 80 Virtual Service from the **Port Following** drop-down list.

If the **Port Following** drop-down list is not visible – remember that both Virtual Services must have the same set of Real Servers and both Virtual Services should have a Layer 7 persistence method enabled.

To turn off port following, change the **Follow** drop-down list to **No VIP Selected**.

5. Wait 10 seconds, or uncheck and check the **Activate or Deactivate Service** checkbox in the **Basic Properties** section for immediate activation.

2.1.4 Configure Port Following for the HTTP Virtual Service

To configure port following for the HTTPS Virtual Service, follow the steps below:

1. In the main menu, go to **Virtual Services > View/Modify Services**.
2. Click the **Modify** button for the Virtual Service with port **80**.
3. Expand the **Advanced Properties** section.

▼

Advanced Properties

Content Switching

Disabled

Enable

HTTP Selection Rules

Show Selection Rules

HTTP Header Modifications

Show Header Rules

Port Following

Follow:

tcp/10.154.11.238:443 ▼

Enable Caching

☐

Enable Compression

☐

Detect Malicious Requests

☐

Enable Multiple Connect

☐

Add Header to Request

:

Set Header

Add HTTP Headers

Legacy Operation(X-ClientSide) ▼

"Sorry" Server

Port

Set Server Address

Not Available Redirection Handling

Error Code:

▼

Redirect URL:

Set Redirect URL

Default Gateway

Set Default Gateway

Alternate Source Addresses

Set Alternate Source Addresses

Service Specific Access Control

Access Control

4. Select the port 443 Virtual Service from the **Port Following** drop-down list.

If the **Port Following** drop-down list is not visible – remember that both Virtual Services must have the same set of Real

2 Port Following

Servers and both Virtual Services should have a Layer 7 persistence method enabled.

To turn off port following, change the **Follow** drop-down list to **No VIP Selected**.

5. Wait 10 seconds, or uncheck and check the **Activate or Deactivate Service** check box in the **Basic Properties** section for immediate activation.

References

Unless otherwise specified, the following documents can be found at <http://kemptechnologies.com/documentation>.

Web User Interface (WUI), Configuration Guide

Last Updated Date

This document was last updated on 27 July 2023.