



FAQ# 24-04200107  
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## Considerations for Parallel Crystal behind a Firewall

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Most Dynamalivery customers consider Parallel Crystal Report Server as an extension of their Web/Portal Servers and place them together on the same side of their firewall.

In cases where this architecture is not practical, here are some options are available to you:

1. Configure your firewall to pass traffic between the ip addresses of the Report Server and the Web/Portal a Server.
  - a. [Similar to other CORBA-based products, Parallel a Crystal uses dynamically allocated ports. Therefore, it is not possible to secure the report server by a providing a range of ports which it *might* use. We are often asked this question. Sometimes we are asked if it is possible for customers to specify a large enough range of ports! We assure you that we have a researched this issue thoroughly and that the common security technique of specifying port ranges is not appropriate for Parallel Crystal. Thank you in advance for considering the other alternatives.]
2. Intermediate Proxy Server for the report server.
3. Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) for the report server.
4. Virtual Private Network (VPN) for the report server. See the following article on the web site of Checkpoint Software's, "Cost effective solutions for protecting a single server,"

<http://www.checkpoint.com/products/vpn1/secureserver.html>

Dynamalivery's customer service department would be happy to schedule a phone conference with customers who would like to discuss security architecture in greater detail.

Parallel Crystal v2.5 (due at the end of April 2001) will use IIOP instead of FTP for file return. We are testing this configuration for security and will have some guidance for customers shortly.