Drop-in Mode for Digi Cellular Solutions

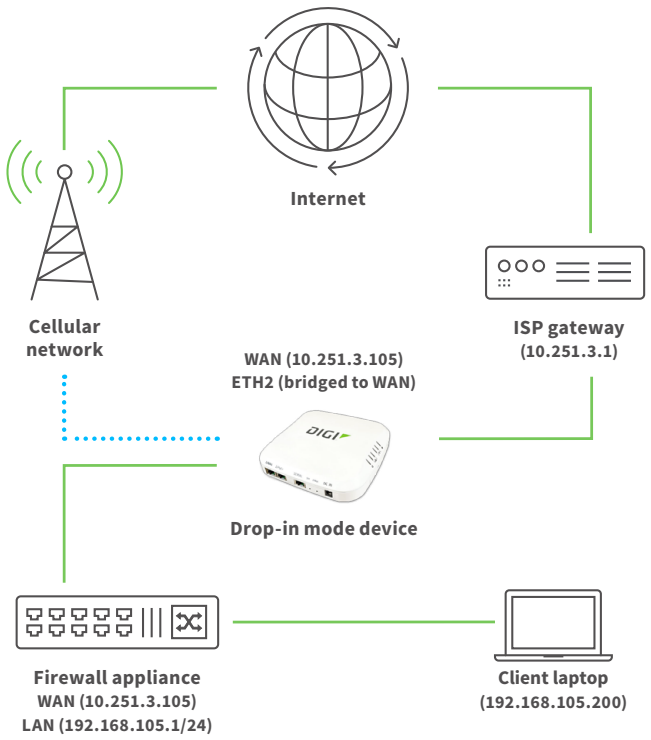
This tech brief describes how to implement “drop-in mode” with Digi cellular products. In this mode, you can insert the Digi cellular router into the customer network between the firewall and the existing network access router to provide cellular backup and WAN bonding services without affecting the customer network architecture or firewall configuration.

Drop-in mode requires two available Ethernet ports and an Internet connection with a static IP address. The router uses the static IP address on one Ethernet port, the WAN interface, and then uses pass-through mode to pass that address through to a second Ethernet port. This second Ethernet port then connects to the WAN port on the existing customer firewall.

Figure 1 shows a configuration employing a Digi EX50 router. The original ISP gateway’s static IP address is 10.251.3.1. This IP address is set up as a static IP on the Digi EX50 WAN interface, and then ETH1 connects to the ISP gateway.

A new interface, called “DIM” in the example, is configured with type ***passthrough*** and device ***ETH2***. A high metric (10 or more) is assigned so that it does not take priority over WAN interfaces. Then ETH2 is connected to the WAN port on the firewall. Note: You must ensure ETH2 is removed from the default bridge.

Figure 1. Drop-in mode example



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Follow these steps to configure drop-in mode as shown in Figure 1. Figure 2 shows the relevant sections from the device configuration menu.

A Under ***Network → Interfaces → WAN***, configure the 10.251.3.105 static IP address.

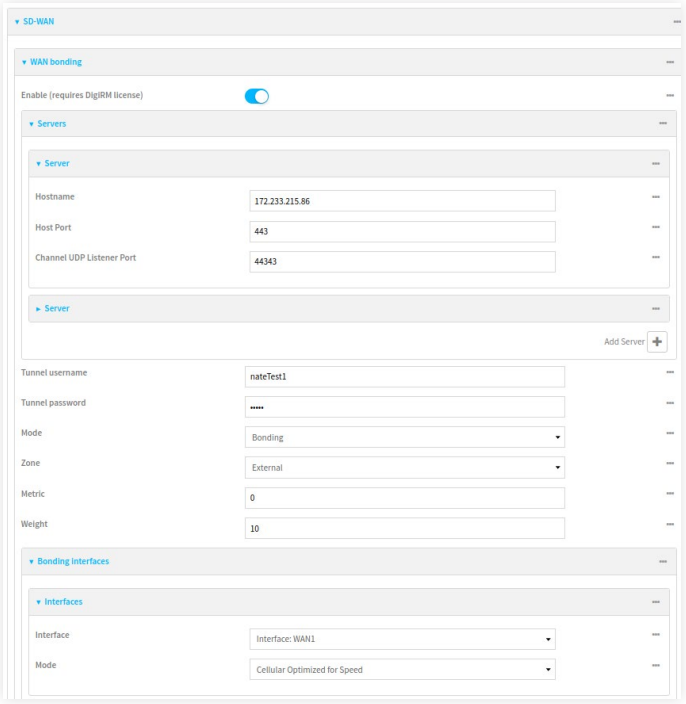
B Under ***Network → Interfaces***, create a new interface (named "DIM" in this example) and make the following changes:

- Interface type: Passthrough
- Zone: Internal
- Device: ETH2
- Source interfaces: WAN
- IPv4 metric: 10 (or any high number so it doesn't take priority over the WANs)

C Under ***Network → Bridges → LAN***, make sure the ETH2 interface is removed from the default bridge.

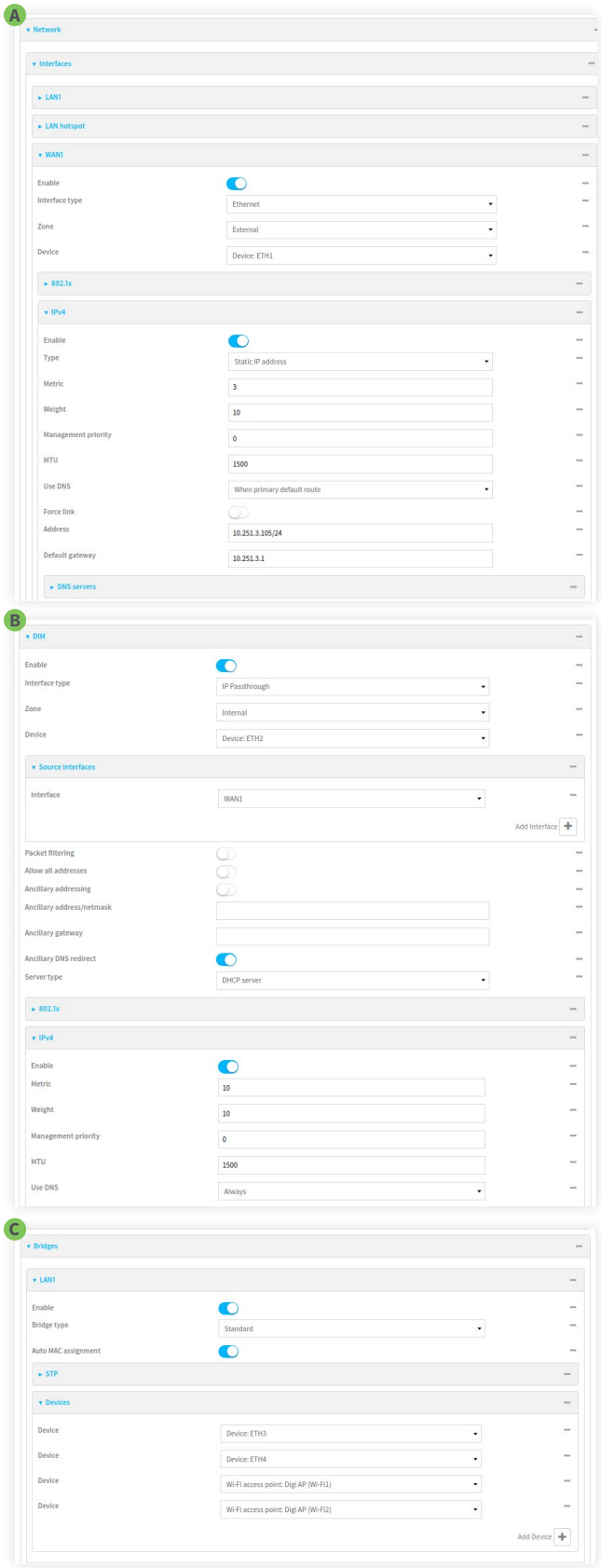
D Configure WAN Bonding using the instructions provided in the Digi user guide.

Drop-in mode enables a Digi router to provide wireless network backup services, including seamless failover with WAN bonding, to an existing network without needing to make any changes to the firewall or network configuration.



Contact your Digi representative for more information on drop-in mode or any other Digi products and services.

Figure 2. Device Menu Sections Implementing drop-in mode



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