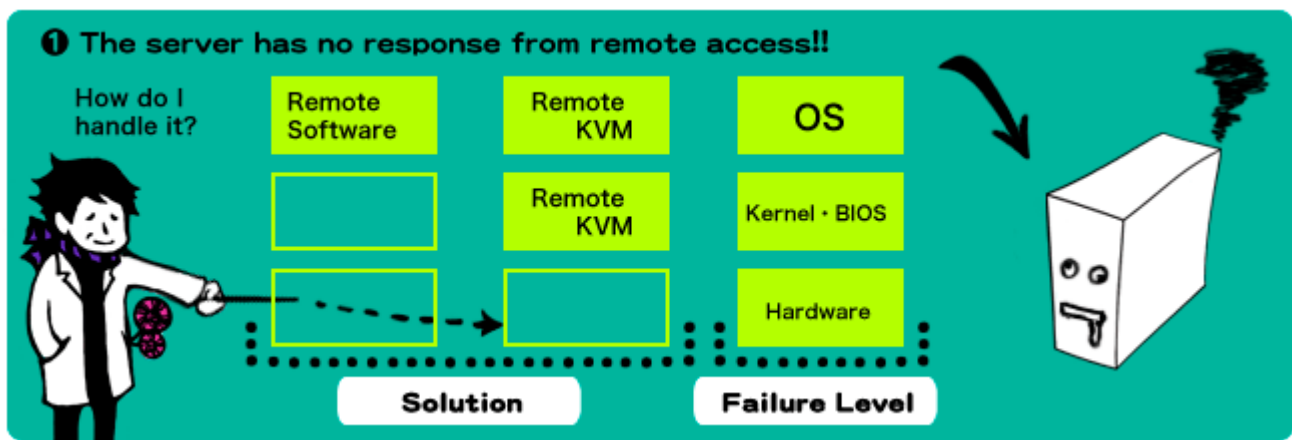# KVM TRIVIA Vol.4

Newsletter from the S Laboratory Vol.4
The Inside Story of the Remote Power Control

## [The Inside Story of the Remote Power Control]

This column named "Newsletter from the S Laboratory" presents the inside story of the mechanism of KVM switches and Over-IP products. In relation to remote access that has been explained in the last two articles, I would like to explain in volume 4 how to control the power from a remote place.

When the behavior of a device is unstable, it is common knowledge that rebooting the OS makes it recover. But what do you do when trouble occurs at the driver or the kernel that operates in the lower level and cannot accept commands at all? Turning off/on the power supply is needed in such a situation. In this case, it is possible to handle it at once if the device is located near your place. It is not easy to do so, however, if the device is located away from you. You have to visit the field site only for rebooting. I guess there may have been a lot of readers who have thought, "If only I could reach the power switch!"

❶ The server has no response from remote access!!

How do I handle it?

| Remote Software | Remote KVM | OS |
| Remote KVM | Kernel · BIOS |
| Hardware |

Solution   Failure Level

A remote power controller device can be your strong ally at such a time. This device works at the power supply tap, not at the internals of the machine, and enables remote control of the power supply. When the power cable of the server is connected to this device, you can control the power (on/off) remotely through TCP/IP network.

The important thing is that this product does not only turn on/off the power supply to the machine, but also can turn on the power to the server using the BIOS setting. In other words, it can do the same thing remotely: not only plugging in/out the power cable, but also turning on/off the power supply button.
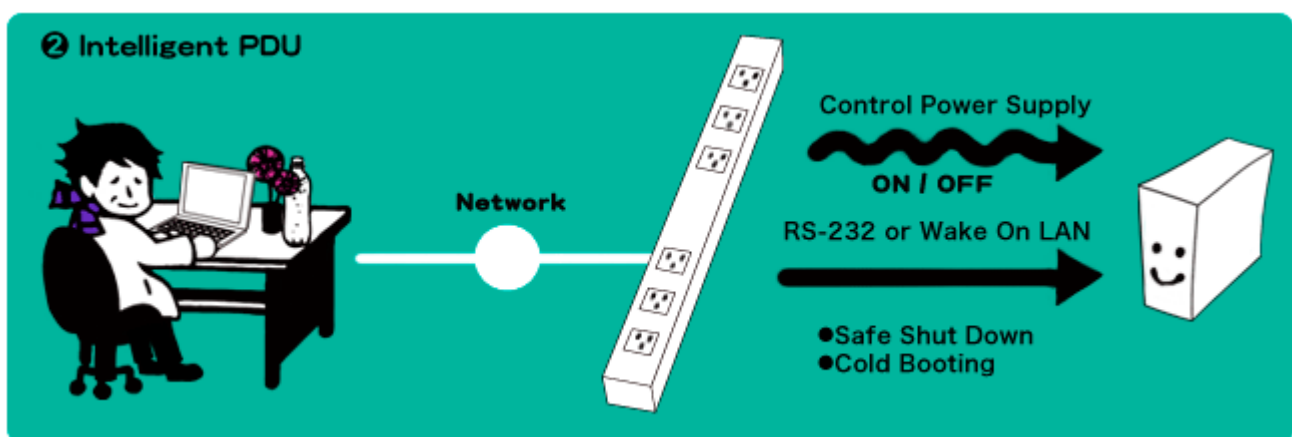
Some of you may be concerned about such a control method, but you don't have to worry about it. If you use a Windows server, you can execute it to safety shut down. If you do this, you can turn off the server according to a safe procedure, as well as locally operate it, because it receives the control signal sent from the device and enters into the shut down sequence.

You will be able to do not, only the operation of the server, but also the power supply control from a remote place using such a device. You don't have to visit the field site each time you need to reboot the server. When you need to create an environment that uses KVM remote access, please consider introducing remote power control at the same time.