Netfinity 8500R delivers best 2-way and 4-way Pentium III Xeon performance for SPECweb99

December 12, 2000 ... The IBM® Netfinity® 8500R server achieved new number-one results for SPECweb99 performance. Using two 700MHz(1) Intel® Pentium® III Xeon® processors with 2MB L2 cache and 8GB of memory, and running Red Hat Linux 7.0 with Red Hat Threaded Web Server Add-On (TUX 1.0), the Netfinity 8500R demonstrated the capability to support a total of 2,399 simultaneous connections. In a 4-way configuration, the Netfinity 8500R supported 4,248 simultaneous connections. Both results set a new record for Intel-based 2-way and 4-way SPECweb99 performance.

All configurations used Alteon WebSystem's ACEnic PCI 1000Base-SX Adapter as the network controller.

A great value in 8-way servers, the Netfinity 8500R maximizes uptime and provides superior manageability for compute-intensive business intelligence, transaction processing and server consolidation projects. The Netfinity 8500R's mainframe features bring extraordinary performance and reliability to a rack-optimized 8-way server.

About SPECweb99

SPECweb99, developed by Standard Performance and Evaluation Corporation, is the successor to SPECweb96 and is intended to provide the most objective, most representative benchmark for measuring Web server performance. As such, the benchmark disclosure is governed by an extensive set of run rules to ensure fairness of results.

SPECweb99 measures the maximum number of simultaneous connections, requesting the predefined benchmark workload that a Web server is able to support while still meeting specific throughput and error rate requirements. The connections are made and sustained at a specified maximum bit rate with a maximum segment size intended to more realistically model conditions that will be seen on the Internet during the lifetime of this benchmark.

The SPECweb99 workload simulates the accesses to a Web service provider, where the server supports the home page for a number of different organizations. Each home page is a collection of files ranging in size from small icons to large documents or images. As in the real world, certain files within the home page are more popular than others. The dynamic GETs simulate the common practice of "rotating" advertisements on a Web page. The POSTs simulate entry of user data into a log file on the server, such as might happen during a user registration sequence.

SPECweb99 results should not be compared with SPECweb96 results. Although the benchmarks are similar, SPECweb99 uses an entirely different metric than SPECweb96, and it also has different file-access distributions and a mix of different types of server queries. The dynamic part of the SPECweb99 workload has no SPECweb96 equivalent, so there is no way to make meaningful comparisons between the two.

SPECweb99 reports are available on the World Wide Web at http://www.specbench.org/osg/web99.

Specific information about IBM Netfinity products, services and support is located at **ibm.com**/pc/ww/eserver/xseries.

[1]MHz only measures microprocessor internal clock speed, not application performance. Many factors affect application performance.

Results referenced in this document are current as of December 12, 2000.