

IBM posts first 2-way result on new industry-standard SPECweb2005 benchmark

June 22, 2005 ... The IBM® eServer® xSeries® 346 delivered the first performance score for a 2-way Intel® Xeon™ processor-based server running SPECweb2005, which made its debut June 21. (See “About SPECweb2005” for a description of the benchmark and the defined metrics.)

The x346 server achieved a supermetric score of 3,416 simultaneous sessions. This score is derived from the submetric scores of the three workloads measured:

- SPECweb2005_Banking - 6,150 simultaneous sessions
- SPECweb2005_Ecommerce - 3,820 simultaneous sessions
- SPECweb2005_Support - 3,760 simultaneous sessions

The x346 achieved these results using two 64-bit Intel Xeon 3.2GHz processors, each with an 800MHz front-side bus and a 1MB L2 cache; 16GB of memory; and 64-bit SUSE® Linux® Enterprise Server 9 SP1 operating system; SunJava 1.5.0-03 Java Virtual Machine; 64-bit Zeus Web Server V4.2r4 HTTPS software; and Apache Tomcat 5.5.9.

About SPECweb2005

SPECweb2005 is a software benchmark product developed by the Standard Performance Evaluation Corporation (SPEC), a non-profit group of computer vendors, system integrators, universities, research organizations, publishers, and consultants. It is designed to measure a system's ability to act as a Web server servicing static and dynamic page requests.

SPECweb2005 is the successor to SPECweb99 and SPECweb99_SSL. The benchmark enables the measurement of both SSL (secure socket layer) and non-SSL request/response performance, and it continues the tradition of giving Web users the most objective and representative benchmark for measuring Web server performance.

Rather than offering a single benchmark workload that attempts to approximate the breadth of Web server workload characteristics found today, SPECweb2005 has chosen a benchmark design that incorporates three workloads: banking, e-commerce and support. Additionally, the change from a concurrent connection -based workload metric to a simultaneous session-based workload metric is intended to offer a more direct correlation between the benchmark workload scores and the number of users a Web server can support for a given workload.

The reported metric, SPECweb2005, is derived from a set of compliant results from all three workloads in the suite:

- Banking, where all the requests use HTTPS (SSL)
- Ecommerce, which includes both HTTP and HTTPS requests
- Support, which uses only HTTP requests

The SPECweb2005 metric is a “supermetric” that is the geometric mean of the three normalized submetrics for each workload. The normalized submetric for a given workload is defined as the ratio of the workload metric for the SUT to the workload for the reference platform multiplied by 100.

For more details about the benchmark and to view other results, go to www.spec.org.

Results referenced are current as of June 22, 2005.

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