IBM @server xSeries 350 sets NotesBench performance record for network storage solutions

January 14, 2002 ... IBM's xSeries 350 server, configured with IBM TotalStorage Network Attached Storage (NAS) 300, demonstrated leadership performance running Lotus® Domino™ Server Release 5.04a on Microsoft® Windows® 2000 Advanced Server. The xSeries 350 server supported 8,300 R5Mail users ($20.32/user) and delivered 10,578 transactions per second ($15.95/NotesMark) running NotesBench. This configuration is currently available.

The xSeries 350 server under test was configured with four 900MHz/2MB Intel® Pentium® III Xeon™ processors and 4GB of memory. The NAS 300 storage subsystem, connected to the xSeries 350 via Gigabit Ethernet, consisted of:

- Two IBM 5187 NAS Engines, each of which used two 933MHz Pentium III processors, 1GB of memory, one 9.1GB[1] hard disk, one integrated IBM 10/100 Ethernet Adapter, one IBM 10/100 Ethernet Server Adapter, and one IBM Gigabit Ethernet SX Adapter. Microsoft Cluster Services was run for failover control for the two engines.
- Two IBM 5191 NAS RAID Storage Controller units, each of which held ten 36.4GB 10K rpm hard disks
- Two IBM 5192 NAS Storage Units, each of which held ten 36.4GB 10K rpm hard disks
- Two 3534 SAN Fibre Channel Managed Hubs.

As the growth in the number and type of e-mail messages -- and subsequently, the capacity needed to store the messages and attachments -- continues almost unabated, businesses today are looking for an easier, more flexible way to plan and manage their storage. The result is that many customers are shifting to storage networking technology and the adoption of network-attached storage. Also, many IT organizations are working to consolidate their server technologies and platforms to maximize processing power while reducing their total cost of ownership.

This benchmark is designed to show how the IBM TotalStorage NAS 300 can be used with confidence in a Lotus Domino and Lotus Notes® environment. The TotalStorage NAS 300 is a high-performance solution that can be deployed in existing networks to help IT managers effectively meet and manage their storage needs.

IBM's xSeries Performance Laboratory in Research Triangle Park, NC, conducted the benchmark in December 2001, and KMDS Technical Associates, Inc., audited the results in January 2002.

NotesBench provides an objective method for evaluating the performance of different platforms running Lotus Domino Server. NotesBench generates a transactions-per-minute (tpm) throughput metric, called a NotesMark, for each test, along with a value for the maximum capacity (number of users) supported, and the average response time.

For a comprehensive list of NotesBench results, visit: www.notesbench.org