IBM Enterprise Linux Server

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Executive Summary

Our Understanding of Your Goals

Challenges in many of today's IT organizations

Often, data center had become filled with large numbers of servers over time. Then, multiple underutilized servers take up more space and energy than can be justified by their workloads and the data center is experiencing server sprawl. This is the case where "inexpensive" x86 or UNIX® servers were chosen to reduce costs. The result is skyrocketing facility, power and cooling, and administrative costs—but the servers are underutilized. In the end, the IT organization may have difficulty managing all those servers, and the ability to quickly and efficiently respond to changing business needs suffers.

IT organizations may feel the squeeze from market factors, such as globalization, emerging technologies, continued explosive information growth and the associated growing costs to manage and support the IT infrastructure. At the same time, IT organizations have to realize near-term cost reductions, driving total cost of ownership (TCO) improvement, driving up resource utilization, driving down cost structures, while continuing to drive the structural IT change.

IT organizations may want more confidence and clarity in how to address resiliency and security concerns in this highly connected world. With global competition and customers in multiple time zones, the transactions with clients and business-to-business transactions need to complete successfully with good performance and protection against security threats. Organizations desire an IT infrastructure that can agilely respond to consumer demands, has integrated security, is resilient to threats, meets compliance requirements, and meets service level expectations while delivering 24x7 availability.

Disasters and unplanned interruptions can have a profound impact on IT organizations and the company's business. But many companies lack on established processes for successfully recovering data systems from disruptions. The infrastructure architecture should provide the capabilities for effective backup and archiving, and response to disruptions while minimizing the costs and time associated with recovery.

Our Approach to Meeting Your Goals

The IBM® Enterprise Linux® Server is providing a scalable and flexible virtual infrastructure, customized for server virtualization and workload consolidation inside a single IBM server. This infrastructure is designed for today's instrumented, interconnected and intelligent world, transforming virtualization into higher qualities.

The Enterprise Linux Server provides:

- Potential cost reduction through improved utilization, speed of server provisioning, less power and space requirements

- Superior management of a large scale-out virtual server environment

- Dynamic growth options to respond to changing needs

- Industry leading security to protect sensitive data

- 24x7 business continuity and disaster recovery

- Opportunity to "do more with less"

Solution Overview

The IBM Enterprise Linux Server is addressing infrastructure simplification and optimization through industry-leading virtualization and outstanding server capacities, while providing high availability, scalability, security, and reliability. The Enterprise Linux Server environment offer flexibility and management characteristics that can make it possible for you to satisfy the requirements of a dynamic Infrastructure. The complexity of maintaining large numbers of x86 or UNIX server environments can be relieved with a single Enterprise Linux Server.

The Linux® distribution partner, Novell SUSE and Red Hat, are partnering with IBM for the Enterprise Linux Server.

Why IBM?

The IBM Enterprise Linux Server offers an ideal platform for applications in midsized and large enterprises. It combines the industry-leading IBM System z10™ servers with IBM z/VM® virtualization software and maintenance, subscription and support to create a simplified, secure and highly available infrastructure for your server virtualization and workload consolidation, that can easily scale to meet your needs adding efficiencies to drive down the cost of operations or at least control it.

IBM Global Services (IGS) offers a comprehensive services portfolio to support the Enterprise Linux Server deployment, migration and implementation.

IBM Maintenance and Technical Support solutions can help you get the most out of your IT investment by reducing support costs, increasing availability and simplifying management with integrated support for your multiproduct, multivendor hardware and software environment. For more information on hardware maintenance, software support, solution support and managed support, visit: ibm.com/services/maintenance

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Solution Brief Content

IBM Enterprise Linux Server

Industry-leading virtualization, built with advanced security and availability

A Linux®-ready, enterprise-class server solution with advanced virtualization support to help you consolidate more work with superior levels of manageability and cost control.

Highlights

The IBM Enterprise Linux Server offers an ideal platform solution for server virtualization and workload consolidation for midsized and large enterprises.

The Enterprise Linux Server provides:

- A highly scalable and flexible virtual infrastructure inside a single IBM server

- The ability to share all system resources with all virtual servers with unmatched levels of efficiency and security

- Business continuance and disaster recovery that help minimize your expenses

- The ability to grow your virtual server workload "on demand" by adding resources to a running environment without disruption

- A solution that helps you achieve a quick return on investment without sacrificing enterprise-class qualities of service

- The ability to deploy and manage a large scale-out virtual server environment on the industry's best scale-up, share-everything system architecture

- Attractive pricing for adding capacity when it is time to grow your environment or host new virtual server solutions—pay less as you consolidate more

The **IBM® Enterprise Linux Server** is a proven server consolidation platform that helps you control costs while improving virtual server availability, workload management, and energy efficiency.

With the virtualization capabilities of the Enterprise Linux Server, your business can consolidate applications and servers, share system resources at extreme levels of utilization, and provide a more flexible and dynamic IT infrastructure that will help you achieve superior levels of service and greater control in managing the growth of your business.

Simplify your IT operations and gain control of virtual server sprawl.

The IBM Enterprise Linux Server builds on the robust and reliable virtualization capabilities available with IBM System z10™ servers and z/VM® virtualization software to greatly enhance the economic attractiveness of hosting Linux workloads in a single, easy-to-scale, easy-to-manage system. The Enterprise Linux Server includes anywhere from two to 64 processor cores, memory, I/O connectivity, and z/VM software with three- to five-year solution pricing that helps accelerate return on investment.

Life-cycle management costs for an Enterprise Linux Server solution can be considerably less expensive than competitive system alternatives.

Business Value

The cost and complexity of managing a sprawl of real and virtual servers on x86 or UNIX® systems can be a drain on budgets and hinder a company's ability to maximize the business value of its IT investment.

A single Enterprise Linux Server can greatly simplify the hardware and software infrastructure, and operational tasks, needed to host a large number of virtual server images. In fact, the Enterprise Linux server is able to consolidate hundreds of distributed server images into a single, space and energy efficient footprint, saving up to 70 percent of corresponding competitive systems costs.*

Enterprise Linux Server virtualization offers the flexibility, scalability, reliability and security that clients need to meet customer expectations for dynamic access to new services. A Linux on z/VM environment offers server provisioning in minutes, rock solid workload isolation, an extensive set of virtualization management features, and cost-attractive business resilience and failover solutions.

A hallmark of z/VM virtualization support is the ability to share and over-commit system resources at high levels of efficiency every hour of every day. This allows clients to "do more with less," and realize savings in the area of software licensing in particular.

Look to the Future

By exercising this solution, you have the ability to deploy a server infrastructure that takes virtual server hosting to the next level of availability, security, and simplicity, at a price, designed to lower your Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) and achieve a quick return on investment (ROI).

For more information

To learn more about the IBM Enterprise Linux Server, please contact your IBM representative, IBM Business Partner or visit us at: ibm.com/systems/z/os/linux/els.html

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