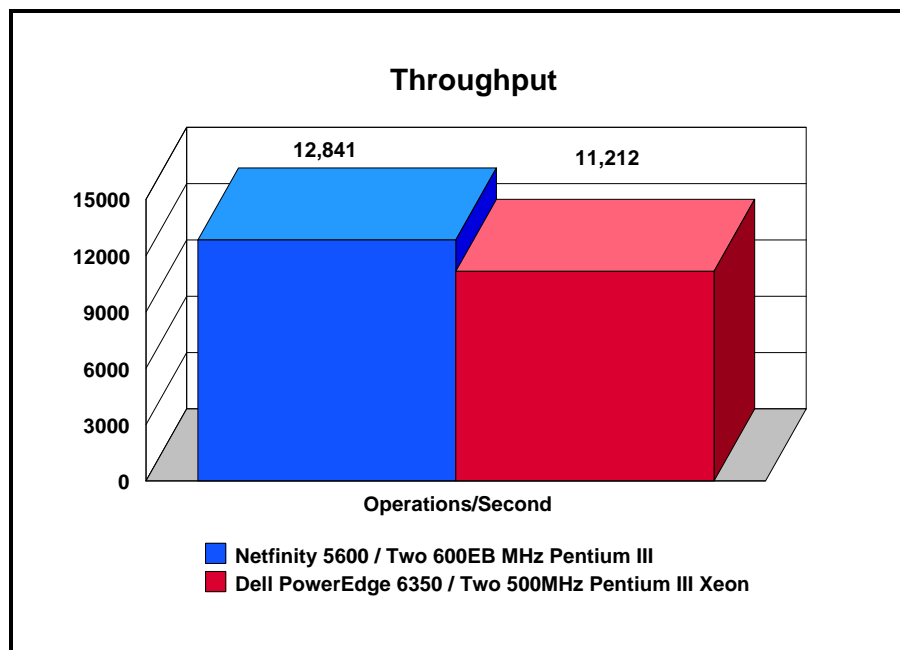


Netfinity 5600 Delivers Industry-Leading, Two-Way SPECweb96 Performance

December 22, 1999 ... The IBM* Netfinity* 5600 server, announced worldwide in October 1999, demonstrated outstanding throughput of 12,841 operations per second on the SPECweb96** benchmark. The Netfinity 5600 server was configured with two 600EB(1) MHz(2) Intel** Pentium** III processors with a 256KB L2 advanced transfer cache and 4GB of memory, running Microsoft's Windows** 2000 Advanced Server Edition(3), Internet Information Server 5.0, and Scalable Web Cache 2.0.

Incorporating the latest Pentium III technology with 133MHz front-side bus to memory, which significantly improves network server performance, the Netfinity 5600 makes an ideal and highly affordable choice for handling Web page delivery and e-commerce at heavily trafficked Web sites. For applications characterized by high processor utilization, the 133MHz front-side bus can provide up to 15 percent more performance than a system with a comparable-speed processor using a 100MHz front-side bus.

The following graph illustrates the Netfinity 5600 server's performance advantage compared to the Dell PowerEdge 6350 using two processors and running Windows 2000 Advanced Server Edition, Internet Information Server 5.0, and Scalable Web Cache 2.0.



This Netfinity performance milestone was achieved using Alteon Networks' ACEnic** Gigabit Ethernet Adapter and the ACESwitch** 180 GbE, a per-port-selectable 10/100/1000 Mbps switch.

About SPECweb96

SPECweb96, with its standardized workload and implementation, measures a system's ability to perform as a World Wide Web server for static pages. The workload simulates the accesses to a Web service provider, where the server supports multiple pages for a number of different organizations. This benchmark is useful in evaluating systems that handle millions of hits per day and multiple hits per second. SPECweb96 provides the most objective, most representative benchmarks for measuring Web server performance.(4)

Visit <http://www.specbench.org/osg/web96/results> for SPECweb96 reports. Visit <http://www.ibm.com/netfinity> for specific information about IBM Netfinity products, services and support.

The IBM Fax Information Service allows you to receive facsimiles of prior IBM product releases. Simply dial 1-800-IBM-4FAX and enter "99" at the voice menu.

Results referenced in this document are current as of December 22, 1999. Competitors' results are provided for comparison. All competitive results shown are based on the benchmark measurements conducted by the respective companies. IBM did not test or in any way verify the results obtained by these companies. The configuration of the server under test as well as the test environment may vary. Readers are encouraged to examine the companies'

published disclosure reports for details concerning the server configuration and the methodology used to obtain the published results.

Data on competitive products was obtained from publicly available information and is subject to change without notice. Contact the manufacturer for the most recent information.

(1) Intel uses EB to designate the attributes of its new 533MHz and 600MHz processors. E stands for advanced transfer (full-speed) cache, and B stands for 133MHz front-side bus.

(2) MHz only measures microprocessor internal clock speed, not application performance. Many factors affect application performance.

(3) Windows 2000 Advanced Server Edition is planned to be generally available February 17, 2000.

(4) SPECweb96 defines two metrics: operations per second and average response time in milliseconds per workload. What we call a "Web page request" is actually an "operation," which is an HTTP request for an HTML file or an object referenced in an HTML file.

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