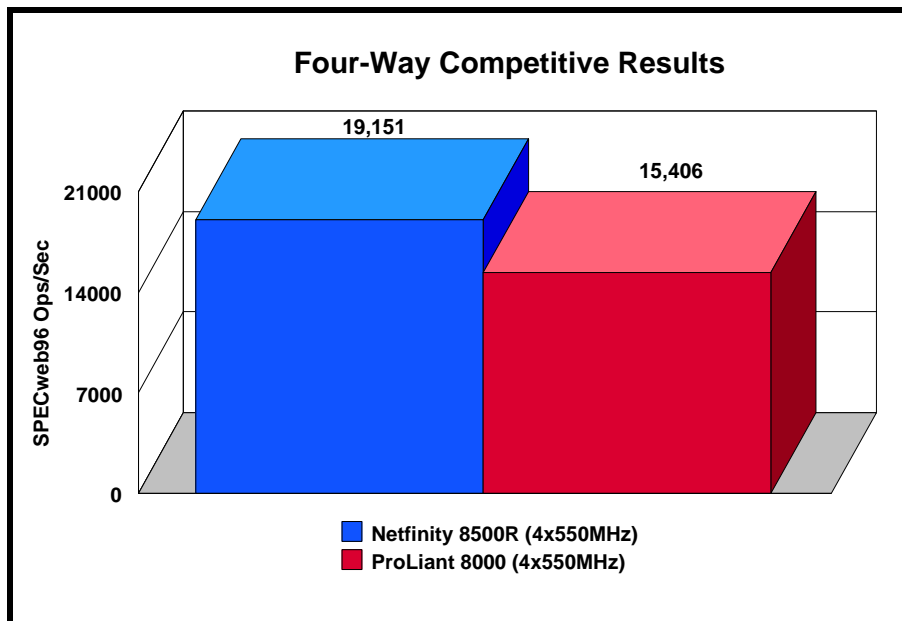


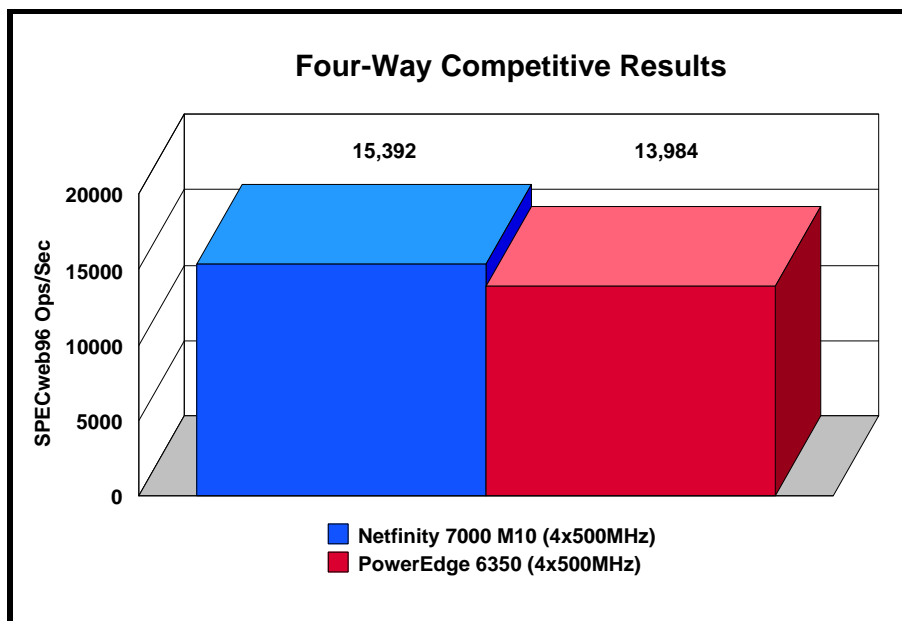
Netfinity server delivers record-breaking performance for SPECweb96

March 14, 2000 ... IBM's Netfinity® 8500R, an eight-way SMP server, produced another industry-leading SPECweb96® result. The Netfinity 8500R set a new record for Intel-based servers running Windows™ 2000, surpassing the performance of the Compaq ProLiant 8000 by 24 percent.

Configured with four 550MHz¹ Pentium® III Xeon™ processors with 2MB L2 cache and 4GB of memory, running Windows 2000 Advanced Server Edition and Microsoft® Scalable Web Cache 2.0, the Netfinity 8500R achieved peak results of 19,151 Web page requests per second.² The Compaq ProLiant 8000 was similarly configured using four 550MHz Pentium III Xeon processors and 4GB of memory, as well as Windows 2000 Advanced Server Edition and Microsoft Scalable Web Cache 2.0.



The Netfinity 7000 M10, a four-way SMP server, also set a new SPECweb96 performance record, delivering 15,392 operations per second, beating the Dell PowerEdge 6350 by 10 percent. The Netfinity 7000 M10 was configured with four 500MHz Pentium III Xeon processors and 4GB of memory, Windows 2000 Advanced Server Edition and Microsoft Scalable Web Cache 2.0. Using a similar configuration, the PowerEdge 6350 achieved 13,984 operations per second.



These SPECweb96 benchmark results demonstrate the robust capabilities of Netfinity servers for handling Web page delivery and e-commerce at heavily trafficked web sites. These results demonstrate the clear performance advantage of the Netfinity line of servers.

This Netfinity performance milestone was achieved using Alteon Networks' ACEnic Gigabit Ethernet Adapter with Jumbo Frame support, which improves bulk data transfer performance and minimizes packet-processing overhead on servers. Also used was the ACEswitch 180, a per-port-selectable 10/100/1000 Mbps switch.

About SPECweb96

SPECweb96 has been retired as of February 17, the last date results could be submitted. SPECweb99² supersedes 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.

SPECweb96 reports are available on the World Wide Web at www.specbench.org/osg/web96.

Specific information about IBM Netfinity products, services and support can be located at www.ibm.com/netfinity.

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

²SPECweb96 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.

Results referenced in this document are current as of March 14, 2000. 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.

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