

IBM's Intel processor-based servers provide exceptional performance using PeopleSoft Campus Solutions

November 11, 2003 ... IBM® *eServer*® xSeries® 445, x440 and IBM *eServer* BladeCenter™ servers demonstrated exceptional performance delivering the first and leading result on a benchmark conducted by PeopleSoft, Inc., to measure the online performance of PeopleSoft Campus Solutions. A key component of PeopleSoft's Enterprise Campus Solutions, Student Administration enables the real-time campus by making student services and business operations accessible through common Web pages with a single intuitive interface.

At the maximum of 5,000 concurrent users, the average processor utilization was less than 60 percent for the x445 application server, 10 percent for the BladeCenter Web servers, and 35 percent for the x440 database server.

Eric Gray, Director of Performance and Benchmarking at PeopleSoft, noted, "The recent PeopleSoft Campus Solutions benchmark demonstrates just how far the xSeries family has come. The x445 provided a processing capability that we have never seen before on Intel servers. By combining the xSeries family of products – x445, x440 and BladeCenter – we were able to produce unprecedented results for this benchmark."

The measured configuration used two 8-way x445 servers as applications servers, a 4-way x440 as the database server, and three 2-way BladeCenter blades as Web servers. The Microsoft® SQL Server 2000 database held the student records, the course catalog, the schedule for all classes, and student financial accounts. The online student accounts were maintained for a total of four terms for each of four years.

For this benchmark on the Student Administration module, the purpose is to determine a baseline measurement, at varying user loads, of the average response time for a transaction mix that included changing an address, adding or dropping a class, calculating tuition, viewing a transcript and searching for a class. Other benchmark metrics obtained include the average response times in seconds for each tested business process and the transaction rate per minute for each load level (e.g., single user; 1,000 users up to 5,000 users). The benchmark also measures the average processor utilization for each of the servers in the test. This result is based on the average processor utilization across two, four or eight of the processors in each server. Testing was conducted in a controlled environment with no other applications running. The tuning changes, if any, were approved by PeopleSoft Development and will be generally available in a future release or update.

PeopleSoft's benchmarks are designed to demonstrate the performance characteristics of its software, using a range of processing volumes with a specific platform configuration. The benchmark results help customers plan the software, hardware and network configurations they need to support their processing volumes. The main objective for the benchmarks is to collect as many data points as possible to enable a customer to make a decision. For this benchmark, all jobs were initiated from a Web browser, which demonstrates the direction of PeopleSoft's Pure Internet Architecture.

For more information about PeopleSoft's products, visit www.peoplesoft.com. Members of PeopleSoft's Customer or Partner Connection can view the certified report of these results at www.peoplesoft.com/corp/en/login.jsp.

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