

Vendor Spotlight

IBM Offerings Help Make Smarter Computing a Reality

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Scott Hawkins reports on new offerings from IBM based on the Intel® Xeon® processor E5 family that deliver increased performance and cloud and analytics capabilities across the x86 portfolio, helping to make smarter computing a reality for customers.

While cloud computing is top of mind for most IT organizations, we hear major concerns from our customers about the challenges of deploying a solution that can keep up with constant change and growing workloads, as well as deliver the quickest possible return on investment. In today's IT environment, cloud solutions need to deliver a short time to value while still having performance to spare for the future. To get the full value out of the cloud, IT managers are looking for integrated solutions built on a solid infrastructure that are easy to deploy, reliable, secure, and simple to manage.

IT managers are also looking for ways to manage the exploding rate of data growth—in and out of the cloud. Like the cloud, enterprise-level analytics solutions require an integrated and scalable architecture and software that are easy to deploy and manage, and deliver optimal performance for business intelligence and information management.

Cloud and Analytics Solutions from IBM

IBM delivers robust infrastructure and software capabilities that support comprehensive cloud environments, analytics, and big data workloads across the IBM x86 portfolio. IBM x86 cloud solutions are specifically designed to help IT managers overcome complexity through simplified management and support for heterogeneous environments.

IBM has a long-standing partnership with Intel, and the experience gained working together converts into solutions that really matter to our customers.

Innovation Powered by the Intel Xeon Processor E5 Family

We can't minimize the need for a high-performing infrastructure to effectively execute on cloud, analytics, and big data workloads. That's why we love the dramatic increase in performance delivered by the Intel® Xeon® processor E5 family—up to 80 percent¹ over the previous generation. When you couple this performance gain with innovations from IBM, such as our new integrated 10 gigabit Ethernet (GbE) Virtual Fabric* technology and our exclusive IBM* eXFlash high-performance solid-state storage in our IBM System x3650 M4 server, you can see why we're excited.

The significant increase in performance enables our cloud solutions and analytics capabilities to leverage new systems, such as the IBM

System x3650 M4 and IBM System x* iDataPlex 360 M4, to deliver:

- Increased scalability and adapt better to changing requirements
- Improved networking by lowering storage and network latency
- Increased bandwidth with improved I/O throughput for faster access to data
- Improved infrastructure security and data protection
- Reduced power and cooling requirements
- Lower data center operations costs

Optimizing the Data Center

IBM has a long-standing partnership with Intel, and the experience gained working together converts into solutions that really matter to our customers. Our unique relationship extends from the hardware level to IBM software, enabling us to take advantage of the new processor capabilities across the entire x86 portfolio.

In conjunction with the release of the Intel Xeon processor E5 family, IBM is excited to offer new infrastructure products—high-performance servers, system software, and networking capabilities—that optimize data center operations and simplify cloud

administration. Our new offerings take a full ecosystem approach to deliver cloud solutions that customers can deploy with confidence, and analytics that provide faster access to data to improve decision making.

To learn more about IBM cloud solutions, go to ibm.com/systems/bladecenter/solutions/cloud/.

To learn more about IBM analytics solutions, go to ibm.com/systems/bladecenter/solutions/database/.

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¹ Software and workloads used in performance tests may have been optimized for performance only on Intel microprocessors. Performance tests such as SYSmark* and MobileMark* are measured using specific computer systems, components, software, operations, and functions. Any change to any of those factors may cause the results to vary. You should consult other information and performance tests to assist you in fully evaluating your contemplated purchases, including the performance of that product when combined with other products.

Source: Performance comparison using best publications of SPECfp*_rate_base2006 benchmark available as of March 6, 2012. Score of 271 published on prior-generation 2S Intel Xeon processor X5690–based platform. Score of 488 published on new 2S Intel Xeon processor E5-2690–based platform. For additional details, please visit spec.org.

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