



Success Brief

Intel® Xeon® processor
5500 series

Developing a competitive edge

Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series delivers best performance for virtualised test infrastructure



Company

Capgemini UK plc is a global leader in consulting, technology, outsourcing and local professional services. Headquartered in Paris, France it operates in more than 30 countries and has 92,000 employees across North America, Europe and the Asia Pacific region.

Challenge

Capgemini UK plc's development team solves customers' critical business and technology problems, and improves service delivery for outsourced customers, through the development of custom software and applications. This involves a rigorous testing process, which requires the provision of many physical machines at specific points throughout the development cycle. The provisioning and licensing of these machines is extremely time consuming and can slow down the development process. What's more, the very nature of the developers' work results in broken machines, which again, take time to fix. To address these issues, Capgemini UK plc was keen to roll out a virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI), which would enable the development team to provision and repair test environments much more quickly, at the touch of button.

Solution

Capgemini UK plc compared the performance of the Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series with that of a previous generation Intel® Xeon® processor running two suites of compilers. In a virtualised environment it returned a response on the first suite in just 5.56 seconds compared to 12.46 seconds; and on the second suite in just 6.95 seconds compared to 12.5 seconds. In both instances the Intel Xeon processor 5500 series performed better in a virtual environment than the previous generation did in a physical environment. These results are expected to improve further using the next-generation virtualisation products which will leverage the Intel® Virtualisation Hardware Assist technology (Intel® VT-x) incorporated into the Intel Xeon processor 5500 series.

Benefits

By eliminating any performance degradation the Intel Xeon processor 5500 series now makes it possible for Capgemini UK plc to roll out a VDI to its development team. This will make it much easier for them to provision new test environments as and when needed, thereby improving productivity and encouraging them to run projects that would previously have been considered too time-consuming. In turn, customers receive their software and applications more quickly. Ultimately this presents more opportunities for them to save costs in areas that they previously could not.

"The superior virtualisation performance of the Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series will enable our development team to be more productive, strengthening our customer offering and improving our competitiveness."

Steve Boulding,
Technical Architect,
Capgemini UK plc

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