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SAS doubles business intelligence power with new Dual-Core Intel® Itanium® 2 Processors

SAS®9 running on dual-core Intel® Itanium® 2-based server delivers faster business intelligence

CARY, N.C. (July 17, 2006) – SAS, the leader in business intelligence, today announced that the SAS® Enterprise Intelligence Platform has been optimized to support the new Dual-Core Intel® Itanium® 2processors (formerly codenamed Montecito). This optimization will significantly improve the performance of SAS' leading business intelligence software running on Intel Itanium 2-based systems.

The new Dual-core Intel Itanium-2 processors were designed to handle the compute-intensiveness of business analytics, making it an ideal platform for SAS Enterprise Business Intelligence. "SAS®9 leverages the breakthrough capabilities of the new dual core Intel Itanium 2 processor to deliver the performance and reliability needed to serve our business intelligence customers," said Keith Collins, chief technology officer at SAS. "A solution based on SAS®9and the dual-core Intel Itanium 2-based servers brings a comprehensive BI platform to the enterprise, maximizing resources for greater flexibility and lowering operational costs to help drive better decisions faster throughout an organization."

SAS customers using Intel Itanium 2 processors can take full advantage of 64-bit business intelligence applications, such as data mining. Leading analyst firm IDC has stated that, "Increasingly, organizations are relying on Itanium to address some of the most critical needs of their business."* The collaboration between SAS and Intel gives businesses a competitive edge by providing solutions that help them make quick and accurate decisions based on efficiently analyzing the vast amounts of data available.

"Intel and SAS continue to work closely together to deliver scalable business intelligence solutions on Intel-based platforms to advance the way people use information. We do this by helping customers realize

increased performance and reliability in SAS applications running on the new dual-core Intel Itanium® 2 series 9000 processor," said Kirk Skaugen, vice president, digital enterprise group, Intel Corporation. "We will also continue joint optimization efforts on the latest Intel platforms which include innovative features like dual-core, multi-core, and virtualization designed specifically to address enterprise-scale IT requirements."

About SAS

SAS is the leader in business intelligence software and services. Customers at 40,000 sites use SAS software to improve performance through insight into vast amounts of data, resulting in faster, more accurate business decisions; more profitable relationships with customers and suppliers; compliance with governmental regulations; research breakthroughs; and better products. Only SAS offers leading data integration, intelligence storage, advanced analytics and traditional business intelligence applications within a comprehensive enterprise intelligence platform. Since 1976, SAS has been giving customers around the world ***The Power to Know***®. www.sas.com

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*Source: IDC white paper sponsored by HP, "End-Users Feedback: Transform IT and Increase Business Performance Through Itanium-based Standardization," August 2005 (Nathaniel Martinez and Thomas Meyer)