

Re: New Hardware Functionality

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/AIX-L/2007-02/msg00076.html>

- *From:* "Hunter, Mark" <Mark.Hunter@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 15 Feb 2007 09:27:15 -0600
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Well, checking the net, IBM is supposed to be getting ready to release the POWER6 processor soon

<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20070212-8823.html>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/POWER6>

http://news.com.com/2100-1006_3-6158739.html

No, it's not a firm announcement, but yes, the POWER5 systems may be "obsolete" soon. Your time frame for machines on the floor means that if the above articles are accurate, the POWER6 will be announced as you go live with your upgrades. Given your site holds on to machines for a while (H80s are probably 5 years+), you might want to see if it is possible to wait a few months to buy at the beginning of the hardware lifecycle (POWER6) instead of at the end of the hardware lifecycle (POWER5+). Of course, even if they are announced in mid 2007, true availability for your site might be more than a few months. Reading the tea leaves is hard.

On the other hand, as Simon indicates, your needs are modest. 3 x H80 = 1 x 510Q.

Unless you really need to LPAR for some reason, I am not sure that a 3 system LPAR is useful. Hard to tell the application architecture though.

Assuming you want some redundancy in hardware, a pair of 510Q should easily handle your current environment.

If you want to switch to a single machine, consider the 550Q. An HMC is not needed, but makes life easier to remote manage the box.

Prices for each are very reasonable. They may go down with the POWER6 announcement some time this year. Negotiate with IBM.

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-----Original Message-----

From: IBM AIX Discussion List [<mailto:aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>] On Behalf Of Green, Simon

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2007 5:52 AM

To: aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Subject: Re: New Hardware Functionality

Unless the manufacturer has made a firm announcement, with guaranteed dates for availability, I wouldn't worry about it. Technology is always advancing so you'll seldom if ever have the very latest hardware. Whatever you buy will be out-of-date within 12 months.

I think it's only at the very cutting edge that anybody needs to care: your needs are rather modest, by current standards, and should be easily met. The only attention you should pay to new technology is to use it to get a bigger discount on the "old" stuff.

Simon Green

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-----Original Message-----

From: IBM AIX Discussion List [<mailto:aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>] On

Re: New Hardware Functionality

Re: New Hardware Functionality

Behalf Of Yard, John
Sent: 15 February 2007 00:34
To: aix-1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: New Hardware Functionality

Today (02-14) there was an article in the New York Times describing advances in computer memory speed that IBM intends to implement in its new commercial mid range processors.

I am tasked with ordering a replacement system for our current h80 data warehousing system. We would like to have a new system in house July/August 2007. I am concerned that if we order now we may be too early to reap the benefit of this and some other hardware innovations.

Does anyone have any suggestions on how to ensure we don't order 'too early' , or are this concern misplaced ?

We currently have 3 h80's , probably replacing it with an lparable system, supporting Oracle , ~ .75 terrabte of data.

JYard
UCLA

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