

Re: HP announces new Integrity servers

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Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.vms/2006-09/msg01908.html>

- *From:* "Andrew" <andrew_harrison@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 28 Sep 2006 05:19:02 -0700
-

Main, Kerry wrote:

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

From: Bill Todd [<mailto:billtodd@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>]
Sent: September 19, 2006 1:04 PM
To: Info-VAX@xxxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: Re: HP announces new Integrity servers

Main, Kerry wrote:

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

From: Bill Todd
[\[mailto:billtodd@xxxxxxxxxxxxx\]](mailto:billtodd@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)
Sent: September 14, 2006 7:03 PM
To: Info-VAX@xxxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: Re: HP announces new Integrity servers

Main, Kerry wrote:

...

Imho, consolidating HW is one small piece, but unless you can consolidate OS instances, you are not addressing the real

issues of

FTE counts – the biggest slice of the IT budget pie.

You're still stuck in Buzzword Heaven, Kerry. I keep

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asking exactly

how Itanic differs in this regard from
x86-64 (since

their hardware

features are comparable and the available
software,

including OSs, is

pretty much the same on each of them –
except that there's so much
more software available on x86), and you
keep dancing

around that

question and waving your hands vigorously.

The difference is the overall package.

What difference, dammit?

If a company wants to reduce the biggest slice of their IT costs (headcount), then they need to look closely at how they can do that. If you have an application that only runs on Windows/Linux, it is extremely difficult to do this as you can consolidate HW and save a few \$'s, but that does not reduce your FTE requirements. The one-app, one server culture, combined with the high number of *monthly* security patches makes it almost impossible to do this.

So, the question is "can a company afford to continue with the one-app, one server with monthly security patch strategy if they are really serious about reducing their largest piece of the IT budget? At what point do they say "enough is enough?"

Higher end OS's like OpenVMS hve a much more stable Application stacking environment and culture. With the possible exception of some kind of real time manufacturing app, how many OpenVMS ISV's would tell an OpenVMS Customer they need a dedicated server?

With the Wintel on any platform,

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you have many FTE`s maintaining many OS instances, so even with consolidation using VMware or Virtual Server, you still have a very high FTE counts – the biggest slice of the IT budget.

So what? That's not a difference between the Itanic platform and the x86-64 platform, that's a difference between running Windows (whether on x86-64 or on Itanic) and running some more competent OS (whether on x86-64 or on Itanic).

So it's no difference between x86-64 and Itanic at all, and you've tried to dodge the question yet again.

See earlier response – I am not talking about low level HW stuff. I am talking about the HW + OS + culture + security + stacking + stability environment as a package. If they choose x86 whatever, their only real options are Linux or Windows and the one-app one server culture. Yes BSD is available, but for whatever reason, that just does not come up much in a business environment.

Yes, Solaris is also available, but as I stated earlier, every Solaris Customer I have talked to has stated that if they were changing platforms, it was moving Solaris to Linux. If they were staying on Solaris to consolidate, they were staying with higher end SPARC servers.

ctually we are beginning to see the reverse. That is large customers moving from Linux to Solaris on x86. As I said earlier one of Europes largest banks has just standardised on Solaris x86 as their mid ter **IX offering. Of course that doesn't mean a wide scale migration from Linux to Solaris instead new platforms will be Solaris. Investment banking was one of the first major verticals to adopt Linux in a big way, its interesting that its also where we are now seing large Solaris x86 deployments.

There are some good reasons for this, they have good internal Solaris skills which are completely transferable, they can get one point of support for both platforms and Solaris x86 is a "cool" platform if you are a techie in the same way that Linux was once a "cool" platform.

It was being held back by lack of SW support but with major ISV's like IBM caving in under customer pressure that is no longer the issue it was.

Its interesting that your whole case hinges on discounting Solaris x86 as an OS platform when the reality is that the customers who are at the

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end of the day the only people who count don't agree with you.

Regards
Andrew Harrison

Yes, there are more applications on Windows, but you can not
run more

than one in any single instance (technical, culture and ISV
support
issues), hence high OS instances and high FTE counts to
maintain these.

Just think of the monthly security patches and all of the
associated

pain these have on all of these many OS instances.

With App stacking on OS's like OpenVMS, you can get
away with much
reduced FTE counts from an Operations perspective.

And Solaris on x86-64 offers exactly the same advantage. So,
once again, there's no beneficial difference (at least
according to the philosophy advanced in the article which you
promoted - i.e., that Solaris = HP-UX = VMS = OS/400...) to
buying a ticket on Itanic.

C'mon: surely you can come up with
something significant
(other than VMS per se, which is only an
unfortunate quirk of
fate that the article you directed us to pay
heed to
considers irrelevant in today's IT
climate) that Itanic can offer and x86-64
platforms cannot.

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The point of the article was emphasizing looking at IT from
a business
perspective and not low level HW.

And (surprise, surprise) once again we get no answer to the direct
question about what significant advantage Itanic can offer
that x86-64
cannot.

Already answered.

[snip..]

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(remove the DOT's and AT)

OpenVMS – the secure, multi-site OS that just works.