

IBM'S NEW SMART SERVER GUARDS AGAINST SYSTEM CRASHES

Submitted by: Pleon

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IBM today announced a "smart" new Windows-based server that detects when the operating system is about to crash and automatically resets itself, avoiding costly downtime.

The new Netfinity 5600 is the first server to use IBM-exclusive Software Rejuvenation - advanced monitoring technology that calculates when the operating system may reach a critical point and schedules a system reset, clearing the memory and preventing system failure.

"Software Rejuvenation goes a long way toward eliminating server downtime, making Netfinity servers capable of handling the most critical business applications," said Tony John, Netfinity server brand manager, IBM PSG UK and Ireland. "This innovation helps strengthen standards-based hardware and software and smash the barriers that had limited Wintel-based systems to all but the most critical computing chores."

New Netfinity 5600 Server

Designed with IBM customers' help the Netfinity 5600 is rich in availability features with redundant, hot-pluggable components including drives, fans, power supplies and PCI adapters. The server supports Light Path diagnostics, making it one of the easiest servers to service and maintain.

Other unique features include:

Up to two 550/600MHz(1) Intel Pentium III Processors with 512KB L2 Cache;

Up to 4GB 133MHz ECC SDRAM;

Integrated Advanced System Management Processor for added remote workgroup management capability;

Five available hot-swap/hot-add Active PCI adapter slots;

Hot Swap Redundant Power with new, easy to use hot plug installation, designed by customers;

Integrated Dual Channel Ultra SCSI LVD Controller and 10/100 Ethernet;

5U rack height;

Netfinity Manager management software, ServerGuide setup and installation software, and Lotus Domino Application Server software.

Pricing and availability

The Netfinity 5600 will be available by the end of September starting at 3960.00 UK Pounds (2).

New Netfinity 8500R Server

A Storage Area Network (SAN) -optimised server for the datacentre. Smart management and availability features deliver superior performance for non-stop, compute-intensive business intelligence, transaction processing, enterprise resource planning, and server consolidation applications.

Other highlights of the Netfinity 8500R include:

Profusion-based 8-way using 550MHz Intel Pentium III Xeon processors with 512KB, 1MB or 2MB L2 Cache;

Support for 16GB of 100MHz ECC memory; planned support for 32GB of memory when available;

12 available hot-swap/hot-add 64 bit Active PCI adapter slots;

8U rack height;

Integrated Netfinity Advanced Systems Management PCI Adapter;

Light-Path Diagnostics for easy serviceability and maintenance;

Cluster optimised;

Optional 99.9 per cent Netfinity Availability Guarantee Programme(3).

Pricing and availability

The Netfinity 8500R will be available by the end of September starting at 13008.00 UK Pounds (1).

New Netfinity SP Switch

High speed-low latency interconnect for clustered servers. Adopted from its bigger brother the IBM RS/6000 SP, the Netfinity SP switch features:

Support for 14 node server clusters;

High speed 2.4Gb/sec bi-direction throughput per port;

Small 2U rack height.

Built-in management processor integrates with IBM's Advanced Systems Management PCI Adapters, processors and Netfinity Manager software for single point of control.

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Editors notes

Specific information about IBM Netfinity products, services, and technical whitepapers can be located at <http://www.ibm.com/netfinity>. For more information about Options by IBM, visit <http://www.ibm.com/pc/us/accessories>.

(1) MHz only measures microprocessor internal clock speed, not application performance. Many factors affect application performance.

(2) Estimated reseller price to end users. Actual reseller prices may vary and all prices are exclusive of VAT.

(3) Available only on selected Netfinity servers that have completed Microsoft Cluster Server certification as listed on the ServerProven web site. This only includes the Netfinity 5500 series and above; the programme includes mandatory services from IBM Global Services. IBM reserves the right to change the terms and conditions at any time, without notice. For more details, refer to

www.pc.ibm.com/us/solutions/netfinity/999guarantee.html or your IBM PSG sales representative.

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About Netfinity

IBM Netfinity provides customers with the industry's most reliable foundation for their networked businesses by delivering power, scalability, control and service. The IBM Netfinity product lines enable small, medium and large companies to manage their networked business systems - from file and print capabilities to the most advanced applications - anytime and anywhere.

For more information about Netfinity, visit the IBM Netfinity Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.uk.pc.ibm.com/netfinity.html>

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