

New Dell PowerEdge 2950 Outperforms HP and IBM in Exchange Server 2003 Benchmark



In June of 2006, the new 2U Dell™ PowerEdge™ 2950 achieved a higher Exchange MMB3 result than both HP and IBM.

- Dell raises the bar with its latest Exchange messaging server performance for dual processor servers
- The PowerEdge 2950 achieved a result of 12,700 MMB3
- The high performance in this benchmark is the result of system-wide improvements in I/O architecture, memory speed, processor technology advances and high-performance hard drives
- In a rack-optimized 2U form factor, the Dell™ PowerEdge™ 2950 server delivers an excellent balance of outstanding performance, availability and flexibility for growing network infrastructure applications as well as web, messaging, database and file/print consolidation

Outstanding Dual Processor Microsoft Exchange Performance

In June of 2006, the Dell PowerEdge 2950 recorded higher Exchange performance than all previous submissions from Dell, HP and IBM in the MMB3 Benchmark for a dual processor server. The MMB3 benchmark is designed by Microsoft® to measure the relative performance of servers running the Microsoft Exchange® messaging application. As more and more organizations rely on groupware and messaging applications to drive their business, the performance of a server running Microsoft Exchange is of critical importance.

System	Processor	No. of Processors	Speed	Result
Dell PowerEdge 2950	Dual Core Xeon	2	3.0GHz	12,700
Hewlett Packard ProLiant DL585	Dual Core Opteron	4	2.4GHz	12,000
IBM System x 3650	Dual Core Xeon	2	3.0GHz	11,600
Hewlett Packard ProLiant DL385	Dual Core Opteron	2	2.4GHz	11,000
Hewlett Packard ProLiant BL25p	Dual Core Opteron	2	2.4GHz	10,652

Source: Source: Top Microsoft MMB3 single-node benchmark results from Dell, HP, and IBM as of 6/20/2006. See <http://www.microsoft.com/exchange/evaluation/performance/default.asp> for current results.

The PowerEdge 2950 server includes several high performance features designed specifically to drive higher performance for business critical applications such as Exchange that are critical to businesses.

High Performance and Availability to Maximize Uptime

The Dell PowerEdge 2950 server supports up to two of the latest dual-core Intel Xeon processors and the Intel 5000X chipset. The 2950 with these latest Intel dual core processors has shown dramatically increased performance and performance/watt versus previous generation PowerEdge servers using Intel Xeon dual core 2.8GHz processors¹. With the new capability to support eight 2.5" SAS drives, the 2950 also provides enough room to stripe data onto multiple drives for high performance in demanding environments.

Additionally, exceptional memory throughput and capacity is achieved with as much as 32GB of fully-buffered DIMM memory. The server includes PCI Express technology for excellent I/O throughput, and TCP/IP Offload Engine (TOE) which offloads the TCP/IP processing to a dedicated processor on the embedded NIC's for CPU performance gains. And with features like hot plug power supplies/fans, RAID configurations with battery backed cache, and an internal tape drive option for local data backup, the Dell PowerEdge 2950 helps ensure your data is protected and accessible.

About the MMB3 Benchmark

The MMB3 benchmark is designed to mimic the workload requirements of the typical email/messaging user. Results should be interpreted as a benchmark for messaging throughput and should not be confused with deployment recommendations. Factors such as backup/restore, topology and other issues should be considered when planning a deployment.

Results are based on the MMB3 benchmark results posted at <http://www.microsoft.com/exchange/evaluation/performance/default.asp>.



¹ Performance results: SPECjbb2005 benchmark, Dell Labs, 12/05 and 4-5/06, PE2950 w/2 dual core Intel Xeon 5080 (3.73GHz) processors, 8GB 533Mhz FBD memory, 1x SATA 80GB/7.2K rpm HDD, Windows Server 2003 Enterprise x64 Edition OS, versus PE2850 w/2 dual core Intel Xeon 2.8GHz processors, 8GB 400Mhz DDR2 memory, 1x SCSI 36GB/15K rpm HDD, Windows Server 2003 Standard Edition, SP1 OS. Performance/Watt results: SPECjbb2005 benchmark, Dell Labs, PE2950 w/2 dual core Intel Xeon 5160 (3.0GHz) and 5080 (3.73GHz) processors, 4GB 667Mhz and 533Mhz FBD memory, 2x SAS 73GB/15k rpm HDDs, Windows Server 2003 Enterprise x64 Edition OS, versus PE2850 w/2 dual core Intel Xeon (2.8GHz) processors, 4GB 400Mhz DDR2 memory, 2x SCSI 36GB/15K rpm HD's, Windows Server 2003 Enterprise x64 Edition OS. Actual performance and power consumption will vary based on configuration, usage and manufacturing variability.

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