IBM posts first SPECpower benchmark score of more than 3,000 overall ssj_ops/watt

dx360 M3 demonstrates superior power efficiency with leadership performance per watt

March 16, 2010 ... IBM® today announces a leadership SPECpower® benchmark result for the IBM System x® iDataPlex™ dx360 M3 server. Demonstrating exceptional performance per watt, the dx360 M3 server achieved a Performance to Power Ratio of 3,038 overall ssj_ops/watt on the SPECpower_ssj™2008 benchmark.

Using the new Intel® Xeon® Processor X5670 and a 900-watt high-efficiency power supply, the dx360 M3 has demonstrated that it can deliver outstanding performance and reduce energy consumption in the data center. Compared to its previous leadership 2-processor score of 2,231, the dx360 M3's new score represents a power-efficiency improvement of 36%. (1)

The dx360 M3 was configured with the Intel® Xeon® Processor X5670 (2.93GHz with 256KB L2 cache per core and 12MB L3 cache per processor—2 chips/12 cores/6 cores per chip), 12GB of memory, one 50GB solid state drive, and IBM J9 Java 6 (using a 1500MB heap), and Microsoft® Windows® Server 2008 R2 Datacenter Edition. (2)

IBM System x iDataPlex is the next-generation computing solution for clients who find limitations in their scale-out computing environments. IBM delivers customized solutions that help reduce overall data center costs and address the business-growth challenges in the massive scale-out marketplace. iDataPlex incorporates innovative server designs that integrate Intel processor-based technology at the node, rack and data center levels with efficiency in mind.

Result referenced is current as of March 16, 2010, and has been submitted to SPEC® for review. Upon successful review, the result will be posted at www.spec.org. View all published results at www.spec.org/power_ssj2008/results/power_ssj2008.html.

(1) IBM System x iDataPlex dx360 M2 with the Quad-Core Intel Xeon Processor L5530 (2.40 GHz with 256KB L2 cache per core and 8MB L3 cache per processor—8 cores/2 chips/4 cores per chip), 8GB of DDR3 PC3-10600R memory, IBM J9 Java 6 Runtime Environment, and Microsoft Windows Server 2008 Datacenter x64 Edition. This score was leadership for a 2-processor system when it was published on August 4, 2009.

(2) The dx360 M3 model using the Intel Xeon X5670 processor is planned to be generally available March 31, 2010. The dx360 M3 as configured for this benchmark will be available June 16, 2010.