To borrow a well-worn analogy, servers are the heart of your company’s network. Although you can take countless preventive steps to ensure that your company’s servers are always available, one of the simplest things you can do is use servers that are suited to work in your company’s network environment. To help you find servers that are best suited to work with Novell products, this article highlights several servers that have received Novell, Yes Tested and Approved certification and Novell Directory Enabled certification.

Of course, this article cannot mention all of the servers that have received Novell, Yes Tested and Approved certification or Novell Directory Enabled certification. Instead this article features top-of-the-line servers that sport some of the hottest features available on servers today (such as the ability to add more processors, hot swappable components, and loads of storage space). Even if you’re not in the market for a high-end server, you can always dream, right?

NETFINITY 8500R

The Netfinity 8500R enterprise server from IBM Corp. supports up to eight Pentium III Xeon 550-MHz processors and up to 16 GB of error correcting code (ECC) SDRAM memory. Caching features in the Netfinity 8500R include up to 2 MB of level-two cache. The Netfinity 8500R is optimized to support RAID storage and high-availability systems, including Fibre Channel environments.

The Netfinity 8500R provides twelve 64-bit PCI slots (four 66-MHz slots and eight 33-MHz slots) and an external Wide Ultra2 SCSI port. The I/O ports include a keyboard port, a mouse port, a parallel port, a video port, two serial ports, and two Universal Serial Bus (USB) ports. The Netfinity 8500R includes a CD-ROM drive (up to 40x) and a 1.44 MB floppy disk drive. In addition, the Netfinity 8500R includes six redundant, hot-pluggable fans and redundant power supplies.

The Netfinity 8500R rack-mount 8U chassis measures 14 x 17.3 x 29.4 inches. To help you manage and troubleshoot server operations, the Netfinity 8500R comes with Netfinity Manager software and an Advanced System Management PCI Adapter. In addition, light-path diagnostics help you quickly and easily identify the location of failed components. The Netfinity 8500R also ships with Lotus Domino Application Server and five Lotus Notes client licenses.

With the Netfinity 8500R, IBM offers a three-year limited warranty, 90-day IBM Start Up Support, the IBM HelpCenter, and Remote Connect, which is the capability for the server to automatically “call home” (to IBM) to initiate technical support.

For more information about the Netfinity line of servers, visit IBM’s web site (http://www.pc.ibm.com/us/netfinity). You can shop online at IBM’s web site or through an authorized reseller. You can also call 1-888-SHOPIBM in North America. In other areas of the world, visit IBM’s web site for contact information.

PROLIANT 8500

The ProLiant 8500 enterprise server from Compaq Computer Corp. features up to eight Pentium III Xeon 550-MHz processors, a 100-MHz front-side bus, and up to 16 GB of ECC SDRAM memory. The ProLiant 8500 provides up to four hot-pluggable Wide Ultra2 SCSI hard drives (up to 18 GB each) for a maximum of 72.9 GB of internal storage. You can also add Fibre Channel host adapters, hubs, and Array Storage Subsystems for up to 35.2 TB of external storage. Caching capabilities include up to 2 MB of level-two cache.

Eleven 64-bit PCI slots (two 66-MHz slots and nine 33-MHz slots) offer hot-pluggable expansion capabilities. The ProLiant 8500 also includes two Ethernet ports, a serial port, a parallel port, a video port, a PS/2 keyboard port, a PS/2 mouse port, and an external SCSI tape port. In addition, the ProLiant 8500 also includes a CD-ROM drive (up to 40x) and a 1.44 MB floppy disk drive. Redundant hot-pluggable power supplies and fans help reduce the chance of a failure.

The 7U chassis measures 12.14 x 19 x 27.45 inches. To help you monitor
server operations, the ProLiant 8500 features an Integrated Management Display (IMD) and System Interconnect Status Indicators. In addition, the ProLiant 8500 includes Compaq Insight Manager software, the Compaq SmartStart configuration tool, and the Array Configuration Utility (ACU) with Smart Array Controllers.

The ProLiant 8500 supports NetWare 5.1, 5.0, and 4.2, Windows 2000 and NT, SCO OpenServer 5.x, and UnixWare 7.x. The ProLiant 8500 is covered by Compaq Services' limited three-year warranty.

For more information about the ProLiant line of servers, visit Compaq's web site (http://www.compaq.com/products/servers/platforms). You can shop online at Compaq's web site or through an authorized reseller. You can also call 1-800-888-0220 in North America. For contact information in other areas, visit http://www.compaq.com/corporate/overview/world_offices.html.

POWEREDGE 8450
The PowerEdge 8450 enterprise server from Dell Computer Corp. includes up to eight Intel Pentium III Xeon 550-MHz processors, up to 16 GB of ECC extended data output (EDO) DIMM memory, and a 100-MHz front-side bus. In addition, the PowerEdge 8450 supports redundant array of independent disks (RAID) high-availability and storage systems, including SCSI, Fibre Channel, and removable media such as tape.

The PowerEdge 8450 includes several hot-pluggable storage drives for flexible storage options—two hard drives (up to 18 GB each), a CD-ROM drive (up to 40x), and a 3.5 inch floppy disk drive. To ensure users can quickly access frequently used files, the PowerEdge 8450 also includes caching features—32 KB level-one cache and up to 2 MB level-two cache.

Ten 64-bit, hot-pluggable PCI slots ensure scalability. The I/O ports include a PS/2 keyboard port, a PS/2 mouse port, two serial ports, a parallel port, two USB ports, and a video port.

The PowerEdge 8450 rack-mountable 7U chassis measures 12.25 x 17.5 x 28 inches. The PowerEdge 8450 ships with Dell OpenManage and Hewlett-Packard (HP) OpenView Network Management software. You can also choose to have Dell load NetWare 5.1, Windows NT 4.0, Windows 2000 Server, Seagate Backup Exec, or Computer Associates' ARCserve on the server before they ship it to you.

Dell provides a three-year limited warranty, a 30-day "Getting Started" free help line (assuming you also purchase an operating system from Dell), and 24-hour technical support for as long as you own the server.

For more information about the PowerEdge line of servers, visit Dell's web site (http://www.dell.com/us/en/biz/products/lp_servers.htm). You can, of course, shop online at Dell's web site and view the status of your order online. You can also call 1-888-812-3355 or 1-512-338-4400.

NETSERVER LH 6000
The NetServer LH 6000 from HP provides up to six Pentium III Xeon 550-MHz, 700-MHz, or 800-MHz processors, a 100-MHz front-side bus, and up to 8 GB of ECC SDRAM memory. The NetServer LH 6000 offers up to 216 GB of internal storage. In addition, the NetServer LH 6000 provides up to 2 MB of level-two cache per processor.

The NetServer LH 6000 includes three peer PCI buses and eight 64-bit PCI slots (two are 66-MHz slots, six are 33-MHz slots, and four slots are hot-pluggable). High-availability features include an integrated, hardware-based HP NetRAID Controller with up to 128 MB of cache; up to 72 hours of optional battery backup; hot-pluggable disk drives; and hot-pluggable, redundant power supplies and fans.

The NetServer LH 6000 rack-mount 7U chassis measures 19 x 14 x 29.5 inches. The NetServer LH 6000 includes HP TopTools for Servers, a browser-based server management solution; HP OpenView ManageX Event Manager; HP Remote Assistant; and Automatic Server Restart (ASR). In addition, the NetServer LH 6000 comes with HP's limited three-year warranty and free telephone support for installation, set-up, and troubleshooting for the life of the product.

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The NetServer LH 6000 supports NetWare 5.1 and 4.2, Windows NT 4.0, Windows 2000, Red Hat Linux 6.1, UnixWare 7.1, SCO OpenServer 5.05, and OS/2 Warp Server for E-Business. For more information about the NetServer LH 6000, visit HP's web site (http://netserver.hp.com/netserver). You can shop online at HP's web site or through an authorized reseller. You can also call 1-800-826-4111 in the United States. In other areas, visit http://netserver.hp.com/netserver/assistance for contact information.

OCPRF100

The OCPRF100 enterprise server from Intel Corp. supports up to eight Intel Pentium III Xeon 550-MHz processors, 32 GB of ECC memory, and 4.55 GB of hard drive space. Intel's Profusion chipset manages five interconnected 100-MHz buses and keeps traffic on each bus to a minimum. Two of the five buses support four processors each, two buses support memory, and one bus supports the I/O subsystem.

Ten hot-pluggable 64-bit PCI slots offer added scalability: Four PCI slots are 66-MHz slots, and six are 33-MHz slots. Two hot-pluggable Ultra2 SCSI hard drive bays provide expandable RAID capability. The OCPRF100 includes a 1.44 MB floppy disk drive and a bay for a CD-ROM drive or other 5.25-inch half-height, IDE-supported peripheral. The OCPRF100 also features hot-pluggable load-balancing power supplies and redundant fans.

The OCPRF100 rack-mountable 7U chassis measures 12.15 x 17.5 x 28 inches. An LCD display panel supplies key monitoring information. The OCPRF100 also offers numerous management tools, including an error-logging Emergency Management Port, Intelligent Platform Management Bus (IPMB), Intelligent Chassis Management Bus (ICMB), and a Server Monitor Module (SMM).

The OCPRF100 supports NetWare 5.1 and 5.0, Windows NT Server 4.0, and SCO UnixWare 7.01. For more information about the OCPRF100, visit Intel's web site (http://developer.intel.com/design/servers/OCPRF100). You can also call 1-800-538-3373 in North America. To locate an Intel reseller in your area, visit Intel's web site at http://www.intel.com/eBusiness, and click reseller finder.

MAGNIA 7010

The Magnia 7010 from Toshiba America Inc. supports up to four Pentium III Xeon 550-MHz processors, up to 4 GB of ECC EDO DRAM, and a 100-MHz front-side bus. Caching features include up to 2 MB level-two cache.

Two of the five buses support four processors each, two buses support memory, and one bus supports the I/O subsystem.

The Magnia 7010 provides up to 16 drive bays, 12 of which are hot-pluggable. The I/O ports include two serial ports, a parallel port, a mouse port, and a keyboard port. Optional hot-swappable power supplies, RAID support, and load-balancing are available.

The Magnia 7010 supports NetWare 5.0, Windows NT 4.0, and Red Hat Linux 6.0. Toshiba provides a three-year parts and labor warranty, including 24-hour online and telephone technical support. For more information about Magnia servers, visit Toshiba's web site (http://www.toshiba.com). You can shop online: Toshiba's web site lists links to authorized online resellers. You can also call 1-800-TOSHIBA or 1-949-583-3000.

CONCLUSION

The servers highlighted in this article are just the tip of the iceberg—all of the vendors mentioned offer a variety of servers to meet the needs of different businesses. In addition, each of the servers mentioned in this article can be configured with a variety of options, enabling you to choose the configuration that meets your needs. You can also find other servers that have earned Novell, Yes, Tested and Approved and Directory Enabled certifications at Novell's DeveloperNet web site (http://developer.novell.com/solutions).

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