



IBM middleware software licensing on Sun servers with UltraSparc T1 chips

Overview

IBM and the IT industry are continuously developing improved technology to provide the market with incremental value. In this dynamic market environment, IBM provides flexible pricing and financing models to encourage you to exploit this new technology. IBM is dedicated to pricing its middleware software to the value customers are able to obtain through this continuous technological innovation.

IBM introduces software pricing for servers based on the Sun UltraSparc T1 chip. For Sun servers using a single UltraSparc T1 chip with four or six activated cores, only two IBM middleware software processor licenses will be required. Three IBM middleware licenses will be required for Sun servers using a single UltraSparc T1 chip with eight activated cores.

Except as announced in this or prior IBM announcements, IBM's middleware products currently licensed on a "per processor" basis will continue to be licensed by the processor core. IBM recognizes a core as the independent functional unit that interprets and executes software instructions.

As technology evolves, IBM will continue to align IBM software licensing and pricing commensurate with the value customers receive from IBM middleware software, encouraging the adoption of technological advances.

For more information, contact an IBM sales representative or IBM Business Partner.

Availability date

March 28, 2006

At a glance

New software licensing on the Sun servers using UltraSparc T1 chips:

- Requires two software license entitlements when running on four-core and six-core configurations of the UltraSparc T1 chip
- Requires three software license entitlements when running on eight-core configurations of the UltraSparc T1 chip
- Aligns IBM software licensing with the value you receive from these multi-core chip systems
- Helps remove software licensing as a factor in the selection of the most appropriate system for a particular workload

For ordering, contact:

Your IBM representative, an IBM Business Partner, or the Americas Call Centers at

800-IBM-CALL

Reference: YE001

Description

Multi-core chips are computer chips that have a multiple number of microprocessors on a single chip. An octi-core (eight-core) chip performs like eight independent processors, each running its threads in parallel and accessing system resources separately.

Chip manufacturers and system vendors are implementing multi-core technology for two primary reasons:

1. To drive significantly improved performance levels
2. To drive additional performance while reducing power requirements and heat generated by the chip

Multi-core chips that primarily reduce power and heat may not generate significant additional system performance when compared to the same system with a single identical core. In these cases, IBM recognizes that you are not able to derive the same additional throughput as you could from a system with the same number of single core chips. You will require only two per-processor license software entitlements for systems that contain four-core or six-core configurations of the UltraSparc T1 chip. You will require three per-processor license software entitlements for systems that contain the eight-core configurations of this chip.

IBM's licensing policy is summarized below:

Hard-ware vendor	Server family	Chip family	n-Way refer-ence	Cores per t1-wayt server(1)	Number of licenses required per t1-wayt server(1)
IBM	pSeries	POWER4	Core	1	1
		POWER5	Core	1	1
	OpenPower	OpenPower 710 and 720	Core	1	(2)
	BladeCenter JS21	PowerPC	Core	1	(2)
	iSeries	All	Core	1	1
	zSeries (Linux)	All	Core	1	1
Sun	SunFire	UltraSparc III	Chip	1	1
		UltraSparc IV	Chip	2	2
		UltraSparc IV+	Chip	2	2
	SunFire T Series	UltraSparc T1	Chip	4	2
		UltraSparc T1	Chip	6	2
UltraSparc T1		Chip	8	3	
HP	HP 9000	PA RISC 8700	Chip	1	1
		PA RISC 8800	Chip	2	2
		PA RISC 8900	Chip	2	2
	HP Integrity	Itanium 2	Chip	1	1
Intel or AMD	Multiple server families(3)	Single Core	Chip	1	1
		Dual Core	Chip	2	1

¹ Number of cores included in the vendor definition of a 1-way server

² OpenPower 710 and 720 servers, and the PowerPC 970 chip on BladeCenter JS21 servers, require only one license for each dual-core chip.

³ Intel and AMD servers include, but are not limited to, the IBM @server® xSeries®, Dell PowerEdge, HP ProLiant, and SunFire x64 servers.

All other servers will require a license for each processor core, unless IBM announces a separate licensing exception for that particular technology.

Reference information

Refer to:

- Software Announcement 206-048, dated March 7, 2006
- Software Announcement 305-080, dated May 31, 2005

Order now

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Note: Shipments will begin after the planned availability date.

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