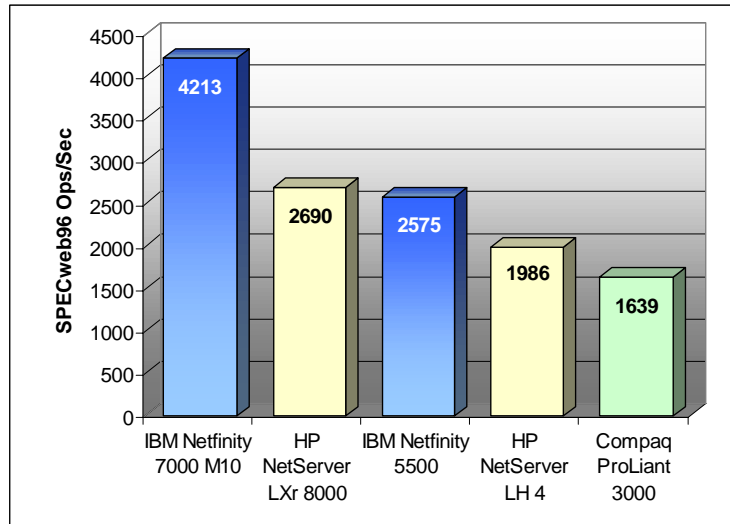


Netfinity Sets the Pace for Web Server Performance

Powered by leading-edge hardware and Web software technologies, IBM's Netfinity* 7000 M10 enterprise server achieved the highest SPECweb96*** performance results recorded for one-, two-, and four-way, Windows NT-based Web servers.

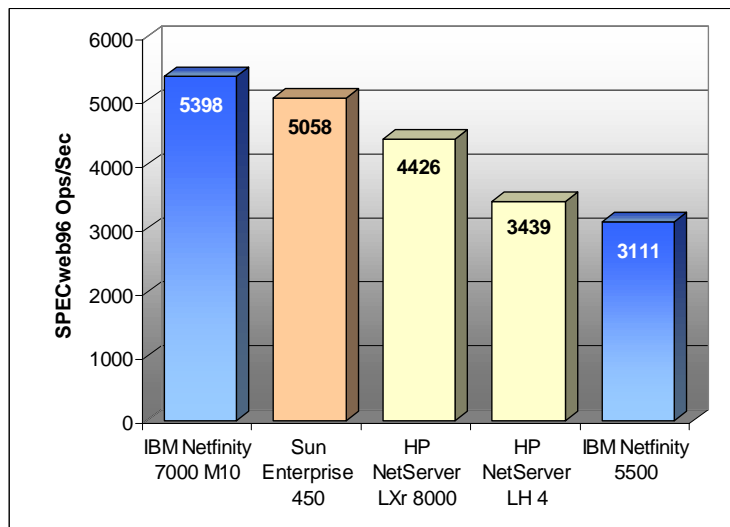
One-Way Competitive Results

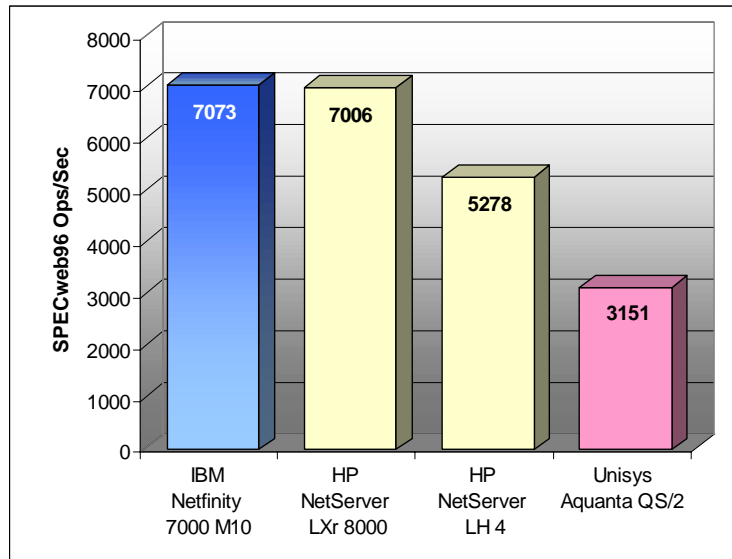
The Netfinity 7000 M10 server achieved *56 percent better performance* than Hewlett-Packard's one-way NetServer Lxr 8000. Configured with one 400MHz¹ Pentium** II Xeon** processor and 2GB of memory, running Windows NT** Server 4.0 and IBM's HTTP Web Server, which integrates IBM's patented Web server accelerator with Apache Web server technology, the Netfinity 7000 M10 achieved peak results of 4,213 Web page requests per second² -- the best result on *any* hardware/software platform to date.



Two-Way and Four-Way Competitive Results

The Netfinity 7000 M10 also achieved the highest SPECweb96 results published to date for a two-way server on any hardware/software platform, and the highest results on a four-way NT-based Web server. Configured with two 400MHz Pentium II Xeon processors and 2GB of memory, and, alternately, with four Pentium II Xeon processors and 2GB of memory, the Netfinity 7000 M10 achieved peak results of 5,398 Web page requests per second, and 7,073 Web page requests per second, respectively.





These SPECweb96 benchmark results demonstrate the robust capabilities of Netfinity servers for handling Web page delivery and e-commerce at heavily trafficked web sites. Using one processor, the Netfinity 7000 M10's Web server performance is unparalleled, even among the higher-priced RISC-based systems running UNIX. And, with a single processor, the 7000 M10 nearly matches the dual-processor performance of its closet competitor on NT. These results demonstrate the clear performance advantage of the Netfinity line of servers.

Web Server Accelerator

Two key distinctions set Netfinity Web server acceleration on NT apart from competitors' systems:

- IBM HTTP Server uses the FRCA web server accelerator, a kernel-mode accelerator developed by IBM Research.
- The second distinction arises from the first: because our accelerator is internally developed, IBM's Netfinity developers are able to work closely with the accelerator developers, resulting in accelerator technology and server hardware technology that is not merely compatible, but also *complementary*.

These latest Netfinity performance milestones were achieved using an Alteon Gigabit Ethernet network together with Gigabit Jumbo Frame technology.

About SPECweb96

SPECweb96, with its standardized workload and implementation, measures a system's ability to perform as a World Wide Web server for static pages. The workload simulates the accesses to a Web service provider, where the server supports multiple pages for a number of different organizations. This benchmark is useful in evaluating systems that handle millions of hits per day and multiple hits per second. SPECweb96 provides the most objective, most representative benchmarks for measuring Web server performance.

SPECweb96 reports for results cited in this article, as well as all other published results, are available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.specbench.org/osg/web96>.

Specific information about IBM Netfinity products, services and support can be located at <http://www.ibm.com/netfinity>.

The IBM Fax Information Service allows you to receive facsimiles of prior IBM product releases. Simply dial 1-800-IBM-4FAX and enter "99" at the voice menu.

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

²SPECweb96 defines two metrics: operations per second and milliseconds per operation. What we call a "Web page request" is actually an "operation," which is an HTTP request for an HTML file or an object referenced in an HTML file.

Results referenced in this document are current as of December 8, 1998. Competitors' results are provided for comparison. All competitive results shown are based on the benchmark measurements conducted by the respective companies. IBM did not test or in any way verify the results obtained by these companies. The configuration of the server under test as well as the test environment may vary. Readers are encouraged to examine the companies' published disclosure reports for details concerning the server configuration and the methodology used to obtain the published results.

Data on competitive products was obtained from publicly available information and is subject to change without notice. Contact the manufacturer for the most recent information.

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