

Sunday, July 22, 2007

More fun with IBM: Cores/Processors

BM talks about it's p570 system as an 8 processor system. You find this at the top full disclosure of their p570 TPC-C benchmark

But: Why do you need 16 processor activations instead of 8 ?

Besides of the real numbers of processors you find another interesting fact in this disclosure: A Power6 processor is extremely expensive. 23000\$ for the activation and 5750\$ for the hardware. A processor burns you a 28750\$ deep hole in your pocket. Only for one processor. No chassis. No RAM. Just the processor. A single processor board with two Power6 processors costs you 46.000\$ for the activation 11500\$ for the metal. Thus 57500\$.

Just as an comparison: For this amount of money (okay, 2000\$ more) you get two Sparc65 VI packaged in a M5000 chassis, power supplies and 16 GB memory. Ready to put it in a rack. When you look at the price for the 4 processor M5000 with the same amount of memory, there is an difference of 25000\$. Thus you can assume a price of 12500\$ per SPARC64 VI processor in the M5000 and 25.000\$ for the 2-proc system board.

Posted by Joerg Moellenkamp in English, The IT Business at 23:16

AFAIK, in the Power6 machines introduced so far, the activations are not per processor but per processor core. Thus, the 8 processors and the 16 activations in the full disclosure are correct.

Anonymous on Jul 23 2007, 10:00

that does not make it better at all

Anonymous on Jul 23 2007, 11:25