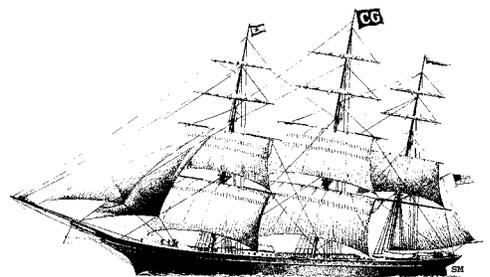


# THE CLIPPER GROUP Navigator™



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## IBM Brings Four-Way Intel Xeon Processing to the Fore

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### Four-Way Blade Servers

With their November 2003 announcement, IBM increased the processing power of the *eServer BladeCenter* with the introduction of a new mono/dual Intel Xeon blade (*HS20*), with a processing power up to 3.20GHz. They also expanded the features of BladeCenter by adding a mono/dual-PPC970 processor capability (*JS20*) to the architecture. At that time, we predicted the imminent arrival of a 4-way processor for scale-up Intel applications<sup>1</sup>. We did not have to wait long! IBM has just announced the arrival of the *HS40*, a 4-way Intel Xeon MP processor-based blade.

Using the existing architecture, IBM can install seven HS40 blades in a single drawer with each Xeon chip running at speeds ranging from 2.8GHz to 3.20GHz, for a total of 42 blades in an industry-standard 42U rack. This density equates to 168 Xeon processors in a single, scale-up blade environment. This compares quite favorably to the HP BL40p blade solution that currently supports 12 four-way blades, with 48 Xeon processors running at 2.8GHz. *And you thought that Gillette and Schick were fighting a 4-blade war?*

**If your data center is looking to consolidate its application processing into a single, on-demand, scale-up, heterogeneous architecture, the HS40 blade will provide you with the outstanding performance and scalability that you need. With the ability to combine 4-way Intel blades with high-performance PowerBlades, IBM has taken the next step up the performance ladder for enterprise collaboration.**

### Four-Way Rack Servers

If your 4-way processing needs are not as demanding to require a 168 processor blade solution, IBM has packaged the same 2.80GHz Intel Xeon MP processor design into a compact 3U rack-optimized server solution, the *eServer xSeries 365*, improving on the *eServer xSeries 360*. This drawer enables the user to double the maximum amount of memory from 16GB to 32 GB, and increase the maximum amount of storage by a factor of 4, from 220GB to 878.4GB. With an entry price of just over \$6K, and with twice the memory of the 360, the xSeries 365 will replace the 360 in IBM's product line. It will now become the integral brick in building a consolidation server to fit the application-serving or clustered-database needs of either the SMB or departmental solution for the larger enterprise.

In an effort to cover the entire 4-way node space, IBM has come out with a minor improvement with a potentially major impact for 4-way nodes. By providing multiple platforms, IBM can address the Intel processing needs of the smallest business to the largest enterprise with a scalable solution. This enables the implementation of an application specific environment across the range of customer requirements.



<sup>1</sup> See **The Clipper Group Navigator** entitled *IBM BladeCenter 2003 – Update on Promises Made and an Eye to the Horizon* dated November 20, 2003, at <http://www.clipper.com/research/TCG2003063.pdf>

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