



NonStop Computing Update October 2006



Welcome to the October 2006 edition of the *NonStop Computing Update*, a newsletter with information about HP Integrity NonStop and HP NonStop servers.

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Keep your paws off my NonStop

When your NonStop system hasn't gone down in 9 years, it must be time to toot your horn. At least that's the way it appears in a report from Robert L. Mitchell's blog ([ComputerWorld](#), September 1, 2006), in which he reports the following: "At The Pape Group, 95 percent of back-end applications run on big iron, and Shaun Swift wouldn't have it any other way. I asked Swift, director of information systems at the capital goods retailer, if he would ever consider migrating off his NonStop computers and onto distributed systems. 'That's a stupid decision,' he says flatly, adding that Pape just upgraded its NonStop hardware last November. 'Our last box we literally turned off once and we had no [unscheduled] maintenance on it. Windows platform servers cost much more money. We have some of those. I know,' he says. Pape Group originally went with a NonStop system because at the time it cost only slightly more money than other alternatives. 'It was a great decision,' he says, noting that the system hasn't gone down in nine years.' We had one prearranged downtime in the last six years. One,' he says. And his Windows environment? 'It doesn't even come close, he says.' Chiming in the next day was Michael Poplawski, who wrote 'I totally agree. I have heard people refer to the NonStop as a "legacy" system, but it is a primary system. No down time in two years.'"

New Integrity NonStop NS5000 servers for CME sectors

HP now offers two distinct Integrity NonStop servers for communications, media, and entertainment (CME): the Integrity NonStop NS5000CG and NS5000T servers. The Integrity NonStop NS5000CG server is designated as "carrier grade" and meets Network Equipment Building System (NEBS) spatial and environmental criteria, including seismic bracing; the Integrity NonStop NS5000T server uses a commercial enclosure. Both servers are built on the Intel® Itanium® 2 processor. Integrity NonStop NS5000 servers offer customers the following benefits:

- Support telecommunication business interactions with the highest levels of service
- Provide leading integrated virtual application environment, allowing for ease of resource enhancement
- Offer lowest TCO for complex mission-critical applications
- Provide a solid foundation to leverage and capitalize on change
- Supply a flexible platform tailored for dynamic business environments
- Offer one-stop accountability and a complete portfolio for the best solution
- Provide flexible financing options and services enhanced for 100 percent application availability
- Provide unmatched expertise through HP Services
- Provide a trusted platform for world-class partnerships to meet your complete solution requirements
- Enable investment protection in previous generations of NonStop server-based applications

>> [See a NonStop carrier-grade server overview.](#)

Compare system availability in the real world

Integrity NonStop systems lead the pack with 99.999% system availability, according to the latest numbers from The Standish Group comparing system availability as experienced in live production sites. The September 2006 data is based on the Standish VirtualADVISOR database, maintained by The Standish Group, and compares real-world system availability and downtime per year for a variety of enterprise computing environments.

	Average system availability	Average downtime per year
Microsoft® Windows®	98.979%	89.44 hours
WindowsCluster	98.732%	111.08 hours
Linux	99.348%	57.12 hrs

General News

Planning for resiliency

“A business continuity and availability plan is not relevant until it is tested. Testing is critical to ensure that any business continuity plan is accurate and functional under the most unfavorable conditions.” So says a recent *Computer Technology Review* article written by John Bennett, HP Worldwide Director, Business Continuity and Availability Solutions. The article presents recent cost analysis statistics for IT downtime and outlines guidelines and trends for regular testing and rehearsals needed for an effective business continuity and availability plan.

>> [See Planning for Resiliency: Why Regular Testing of Your Business Continuity and Availability Plan is More Critical Than Ever.](#)

Identify new finance industry revenue streams

Financial institutions can manage their high-value payments businesses better and identify new revenue streams through a single, real-time, enterprise-wide IT view, now available with new applications for the HP Open Payments technology framework. The new HP Open Payments Business Services Management (BSM) solution is designed with applications for monitoring, tracking, pricing, and costing, including management of information and reporting. These features provide you with a powerful business management tool to analyze business process efficiencies; identify emerging

LinuxCluster	99.202%	69.90 hours
UNIX®	99.692%	26.98 hours
UNIXCluster	99.772%	19.97 hours
Mainframe	99.962%	3.33 hours
MFCCluster (Parallel Sysplex)	99.983%	1.49 hours
HP Integrity NonStop	99.999%	0.08 hours

The difference in average downtime per year between NonStop and Windows systems is broad: 89.36 hours. Even for mainframe systems, the difference is 3.25 hours. That might not sound like much, but translated into dollars and cents, it could mean the difference between a healthy business and disaster. “A five-minute downtime could put a lot of companies out of business. Once you lose a customer, it probably takes four times as much time and resources to recover that business,” says John Sandridge, vice president of operations at Genpass, a NonStop system customer running ATM processing for more than 30,000 ATMs nationwide. Infonetics Research concurs, saying that IT downtime is costing large U.S. enterprises an average of 3.6 percent of revenue per year. For financial institutions, that number rises to 16 percent of revenue (Infonetics Research, *The Costs of Enterprise Downtime: North American Vertical Markets 2005*).

Population-based computing leaves behind expensive infrastructures

Using the Simdesk World Wide Server™, HP and Simdesk Services for population-based computing are ready to support communications in emerging markets. For example, in Vietnam, most of the population cannot afford traditional computing devices. Here, the new solution can transform the technology landscape—leaving behind expensive infrastructures to provide private services that overcome economic and technological barriers. Users throughout the world can log on to these new population-based computing services using any device that can access the Internet, including cell phones, pocket PCs, and shared desktop devices. Although users won't know it, they will be entering a multi-tier infrastructure that utilizes both Integrity NonStop servers and inexpensive HP Blade Server systems running Linux. The services also support governments and communities in the industrialized nations, as well as educational institutions and small-to-medium sized businesses. Telecommunication companies can also deploy the technology to their customers using private label branding.

>> [Find our more about the newest NonStop solution.](#)

Building a high-availability architecture across server environments

Most likely, you have a variety of IT systems, each doing one or more business processes, with particular priorities, and with applications and technology best suited for that work. Each of these environments has

problems and bottlenecks; measure performance against key indicators; and achieve a holistic, real-time view of customer information to support self-service initiatives and speed inquiry response times. The Open Payments for Target Marketing solution, also new, leverages HP Real Time Financial Services technology to generate a comprehensive customer view, identifying opportunities where payments can be converted from inter-bank payments to book transfers, lowering transaction charges and potentially generating additional revenue. The Open Payments technology framework, the foundation for both applications, runs on NonStop servers and a variety of other HP server platforms.

>> [Go to the press release.](#)

HP and Mercury: Optimizing the business outcome of IT

HP announced in July that it signed a definitive agreement to acquire Mercury Interactive Corp., one of the leading business technology optimization software companies. Recently, HP.com sat down with Tom Hogan, the senior vice president of HP Software, to learn more about the thinking behind this acquisition and what it will mean for HP customers.

>> [Go to the interview.](#)

different requirements for high availability (HA) and disaster tolerance (DT). When you consider all of the possible options, configurations, management requirements, and so forth, it can be a daunting task to ensure that each application serving its particular business process has precisely what it needs in terms of HA and DT. A new HP white paper shows you how the HP Adaptive Infrastructure can help you achieve your HA and DT objectives in multi-operating-system environments. It details how DT and HA are supported across the HP Integrity server environment, including not only Integrity NonStop servers, but also the HP-UX 11i, HP OpenVMS, Linux, and Microsoft Windows Server 2003 environments.

>> [Download the white paper.](#)

Partner News

Fidelity implements comForte's SecurFTP on NonStop servers

Fidelity Information Systems, one of the largest mutual fund companies and a leading provider of financial services, chose comForte's SecurFTP product for secure file transfer on its NonStop servers. [Read](#) Fidelity project leader Jay Archibald's comments on the excellent collaboration with comForte during the implementation phase.

Gravic awarded two new patents

Gravic Labs was awarded two U.S. patents in September. The first represents work in a keystone technology needed for viable active/active, update-anywhere distributed systems and makes collision avoidance in a synchronous database replication system work without the usual penalties of poor system performance and high latency. It is currently being fitted into Gravic's Shadowbase data replication software. The second, entitled "Method of Increasing System Availability by Splitting Systems," is discussed at length in the inventors' book, *Breaking the Availability Barrier: Survivable Systems for Enterprise Computing*. To find out more, see the [Gravic press release](#) or [download a free white paper on Shadowbase's Active/Active technology](#).

TSI provides enhanced SCSI-based ACLs

Tributary Systems, Inc. (TSI) introduces the new RoHS compliant N1526A and N1527A HVD SCSI ACLs, replacing the N1524A and N1525A respectively. These new products increase the cartridge capacity from 11 to 15. For additional information, contact Larry Meyers at +1 (817) 354 8009, ext. 32, or TSI at salesusa@tributary.com.

XYGATE Encryption SDK pre-validated for FIPS 140-2

The (Encryption Software Developer Kit) has been placed on the Pre-Validation List for the Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS) 140-2: Security Requirements for Cryptographic

Education News

November Customer ConCall: New options to secure NonStop systems

On November 2, Wendy Bartlett will discuss the new options available to secure NonStop systems. The one-hour webcast will be presented from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. PDT (U.S.) and is accessible over worldwide toll-free phone numbers for audio and the HP Virtual Classroom (HPVC) for slide display.

>> [Sign up for conference call announcements, view upcoming presentations, or replay previous calls.](#)

Service and Support News

Support Notes, September 2006

>> [View NonStop technology Support Notes released during September.](#)

Modules. FIPS 140-2 validation is a requirement for any cryptographic product that will be used in a U.S. government agency network. See the [XYPRO press release](#).

XYPRO writes the book on NonStop server security—again

XYPRO has done it again. Its newly released book provides a comprehensive reference for understanding security risks, mitigations, and best practices as they apply to the various components of business-critical computing environments. The new title, called *Securing HP NonStop Servers in an Open Systems World*, addresses the protection of the Open Systems Services environment; includes discussion of network interfaces, including TCP/IP; and explores issues around standard SQL databases. It also provides a roadmap of changes made to HP Safeguard software since the first XYPRO book, *HP NonStop Server Security: A Practical Handbook*, was published. [Find out more](#) on the XYPRO website.

User Group News

Regional User Group updates

There are more than 30 active ITUG Regional User Groups (RUGs) worldwide. Currently published meeting schedules are listed here.

- » [BITUG](#): The British Isles Tandem Users Group will hold an Education Day on November 16 in London. For further information, check the BITUG website.
- » [GTUG](#): The German Tandem Users Group will hold a fall conference on November 20 and 21 in Augsburg, Germany, at the MAN Diesel facility. For further information, check the GTUG website.

>> [See the complete 2006 ITUG calendar for RUGs and SIGs.](#)

Spotlight tHP

“I am Powerful”

In the fight against global poverty, a single image can be worth a thousand words—and a single woman can make a world of difference. To that end, HP has joined efforts with the humanitarian organization CARE’s “I am Powerful” campaign, focused on helping women through community-based programs to improve education, create microfinance groups, prevent the spread of HIV, and more. The I am Powerful campaign is a new, engaging way for CARE to present its work. To capture the essence of the campaign, HP sent five teams of two photographers—one master photographer and one advanced student—to CARE projects in Angola, Cambodia, Egypt, India, and Peru. The CARE team hopes that HP’s images will encourage people to get involved with the organization, donate, or simply start a dialogue about poverty around the world. You can [see some of the women’s stories and the images that represent them](#) online. To find out about more ways to get involved, visit the [CARE website](#)

Important Phone Numbers and Links

(Phone numbers are for North America only, unless otherwise noted.)

» [NonStop news](#)

The very latest NonStop product news.

» [Global Mission Critical Solution Center](#)

1 (800) 255 5010 (U.S. only)
Technical hardware and software defect support and usage assistance.

» [NonStop Presales Group](#)

1 (800) 282 6672
Product information, price quotations, order processing information.

» [NonStop eServices portal](#)

A convenient, password-protected portal with access to a wide variety of services .

» [NonStop partners](#)

Information on strategic partnerships, partner products, services, and solutions.

» [Integrity NonStop server partner solutions and applications search tool](#)

Interactive, cross-platform tool to quickly find NonStop solutions, services, and solutions.

» [NonStop Education & training](#)

1 (800) 472 5277 Education schedules, information, prices, and class enrollments.

» [NonStop Customer Conference Call](#)

Monthly technical updates—a “What’s New” in the NonStop world.

» [NonStop Technical Library](#)

A wide range of NonStop product publications, including technical manuals, articles, and support information.

» [Business continuity and disaster recovery solutions](#)

Basic information about business continuity, NonStop products and services for business continuity and disaster recovery, and customer successes.

» [NonStop software](#)

Information for developers of NonStop system applications.

» [Interactive Upgrade Guide](#)

An interactive tool to help plan system release migrations.

» [Web technology](#)

Preserving your investment in NonStop system business applications and databases while applying the latest Internet technologies.

» [Product information for Integrity NonStop and NonStop servers](#)

» [Better modernization for legacy mainframes](#)

» [ITUG](#), a user group for the NonStop server community:
+1 (312) 321 6851

» [NonStop Services & support](#)

» [Network & service providers](#)

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