



THEINFOPRO RESEARCH SHOWS BLADE SHIPMENTS RISING STRONGLY AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SERVER SHIPMENTS

Enterprises Expect Blades To Dominate Servers Shipped by 2009

NEW YORK, February 5, 2007— According to TheInfoPro's Wave 4 Server Study, while over half of enterprises interviewed state that Blade Servers make up less than 5% of the total servers installed, Blades as a proportion of newly installed servers are rising rapidly. 34% of users estimate that Blades make up over 50% of newly installed servers in 2006, while 66% of respondents believe that by 2009, Blades will make up over 50% of all new server units being acquired. The findings are derived from 137 hour-long interviews with TheInfoPro's TIPNetwork of pre-screened Server professionals from Fortune 1000 and Midsize enterprises that provide expert commentary for TheInfoPro's Server Studies.

To view a rich media presentation of findings visit:
http://www.brainshark.com/theinfo.pro/Wave4_Blade_Preview

"Enterprises have become increasingly receptive to Blade Servers as a standard form factor, with attitudes far more positive Wave over Wave. In Wave 1, released in 2004, users felt that Blades were an immature and over-hyped technology. Over the past three years however, the technology has advanced, user understanding of what Blades offer has grown, and management tools have appeared to spur Blade growth" stated Bob Gill, Managing Director of TheInfoPro's Server Sector.

Blade vendors gaining traction according to users include IBM, HP, and Dell. While users cite Sun for innovative engineering, and blade alternatives like Rackable as cost effective, these vendors are not achieving similar gains in shipments according to users.

"Nearly one quarter of all TIPNetwork users interviewed listed "server sprawl / unchecked server growth" as a top pain point facing them. Users are simply running out of space or are burdened by a rapidly growing number server connections and power connections. Although they cite the ease of provisioning blades, and the ability to scale up by adding blades in a chassis, the simple reduction in footprint on the data center floor is the primary driver for blade adoption. While early adopters cited failover and pooling in 2005, and provisioning and flexibility in 2006, the later mainstream adopters are simply looking to save space," adds Gill.

TheInfoPro's Wave 4 Server Study details technology adoption trends and timeframes, management techniques and trends, vendor performance data as well as management strategies for the Server sector.

Server companies covered in the Wave 4 Study include Microsoft, HP, IBM, Dell, Cisco, Sun, EMC/VMware, QLogic, APC, Brocade, NetApp, Emulex, Intel, McDATA, Blade Networks, Foundry, Adaptec, Emerson, Xiotech, Juniper, EqualLogic, Avocent, Rackable Systems, Nortel HDS, Egenera, Cyclades, MPC, Gateway, Alacritech, Penguin, and XenSource.

About TheInfoPro

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