Getting Started with the IBM Processor Capacity Reference for zSeries (zPCR)

Overview

The zPCR tool was released for customer use on October 25, 2005.

zSeries customer now have new capabilities to develop comprehensive capacity planning scenarios for their environments. Introduction of the IBM Processor Capacity Reference for zSeries (zPCR), provides in-depth information on the relative processor capacities of zSeries processors and includes the capability to size and plan for the impacts of PR/SM™ on overall capacity. The tool will also help zSeries customers plan their entire zSeries environment, including the addition of specialty processors like zAAPs, ICFs and IFLs.

The tool, downloadable and useable by customers, is provided on an "as is" basis. Support is being provided by IBM's Washington Systems Center who has provided easy to use training materials and is providing both "how to" support and FAQ support for the tool. TheWSC will also be providing defect support for the tool.

What can zPCR do for you? First and foremost it means you can now and forever burn those misleading MIPS charts. Now an easy to use tool is provided, based on LSPR benchmark data, to quickly assess relative processor capacity. The tool provides information on individual LSPR primitives but also provides data on common blended workloads such as LoIO. This allows the capacity planner to quickly identify the relative capacity relationships among different zSeries hardware configurations. Secondly, it allows the user to enter an LPAR environment, (either proposed and/or current), and determine the impacts on capacity of the specific LPAR environment. This gives capacity planners new capabilities to evaluate and size proposed zSeries configurations. And lastly zPCR can help understand the impacts of adding specialty processors to the environment. Only zPCR can do the complete job of estimating the impacts of adding a zAAP processor to the configuration, the impacts of adding CF engines, and the impacts of adding Linux or VM partitions using IFLs.

Getting Started

It's easy to get started using the zPCR tool. We've created a single getting started page to make everything easy. At this site you will be able to:

- Download the zPCR tool
- Get training materials (prerecorded lectures and handouts)
- Print a copy of the Users Guide
- Find links to the zPCR newsgroups
- Get information on how to request defect support for zPCR
- Information on zPCR Registration

Visit the zPCR URL:
http://www-03.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/PRS1381

Get started today.