

## Re: Put Back 4-way Multi-processor SMP support for SBS 2003

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2004-03/8738.html>

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**From:** westrajc (*anonymous\_at\_discussions.microsoft.com*)

**Date:** 03/25/04

Date: Wed, 24 Mar 2004 19:00:31 -0800

Mr. Fong,

The goal is to use older, often pre-owned equipment. A current generation Dell 2600 server, configured with dual Hyperthreading CPUs, a redundant power supply, a 3 drive hot-swap RAID drive array, 20/40G DLT Tape drive, 1G of RAM and two NICs prices out on the Dell website as follows:

PowerEdge 2600

>From \$4,552

A pre-owned, off-lease Dell 6300, configured with the same options, except having four PIII 600Mhz Xeon processors and 6 9G drives, can be purchased on eBay for <\$1,400! For a small business, saving \$3,000 on hardware means they can afford to purchase documentation, training, security measures, patch management, additional software, web development, etc. The value proposition of this approach includes:

- + More money for US employees (Training, IT Services)
- + More US Software Sales (Microsoft, etc.)\*
- + Healthier US Small Businesses (Money for Best Practices)
- + Better Security (Money spent on Security Best Practices)
- + More Responsible Resource Use (Recycle vs. Throw Out)
- ++++ Etc.

\* This SHOULD be of significant interest to Microsoft!

A company like Dell or HP could profit from this approach by offering extended warranties and on-site HW service for 2-4 yr/old systems. With the margin on new systems being razor thin, they would probably find it more profitable than selling a minimal amount of new equipment to the often cash-constrained SMB marketplace! This strategy

would also help educate and "addict" the SMB marketplace to "higher-value" redundant systems. As these SMB clients grow, this would translate directly into demand for NEW systems with these higher margin features!

A previous post suggested that adding more memory was more important than having more than two processors. The truth about system design is that a balanced approach is always best. The value of offering unlimited processor support for SBS is that a Small Business can continue to grow their server "bandwidth," in a balanced fashion, in order to run high-performance applications in a consolidated server infrastructure.\*\*

\*\* Yet another opportunity for Microsoft. Imagine running a four processor Dell 6300, with Microsoft's Virtual Server software, with two CPU's devoted to SBS and the other two running a standard Windows 2003 server license and Terminal Services! I know dozens of SMBs that would LOVE to be able to afford a solution like this!

Because of SBS's "Enterprise integration" and client license limitations, Microsoft should not worry that this would take anything away from their sale of more or "higher value" server software, since the savings realized by the typical Small Business would likely result, as stated previously, in more Workstation OS and Application SW sales!

>-----Original Message-----

>SBS2003 supports up to 2 physical CPU, but if your CPUs allow hyperthread,  
>then 4 is the max.

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>Ray Fong

>Microsoft SBS Product Support

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