

## Re: SBS2003 Reliability

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2004-04/2066.html>

---

**From:** root (*root\_at\_buchanangc.com*)

**Date:** 04/06/04

Date: Mon, 5 Apr 2004 19:32:46 -0700

"SuperGumby [SBS MVP]" <not@your.nellie> wrote in message  
news:%23YamlY2GEHA.2708@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...

> > *I strongly suggest using proper server class hardware rather than a  
> souped*

> > *up PC.*

> >

> > *What exactly constitutes "server class" except being rather expensive?*

> *Good*

> > *fans, a good power supply likely is all that's needed in most cases*

> *unless*

> > *there are other features of "server class" that one needs.*

>

> *I was thinking more of the mobo,*

A good brand name generic mobo(sounds odd but that's the current usage) like an Asus or Tyan or Supermicro and others are good. Workstation mobos with the appropriate features are just fine on servers. I've put some Asus P4C800-E Dlx mobos(~\$180USD) in SBS2K3 systems and they're workin fine. The generally equivalent Intel server labeled mobo costs ~\$220USD.

>*and yes price is a good indicator, do you*

> *think an AU\$120 board to be the equivalent of an AU\$450 one ?*

Very possibly if one has server in the description and the other doesn't.

> *OK, the specs*

> *of those two particular boards are quite different, but then I can also  
look*

> *at a standard Intel mobo @ AU\$180 vs their very similar server board @*

> *AU\$390.*

My point.

> *You mention fans. As well as how good they are we also want them  
positioned*

> *correctly, with maybe airflow containers to ensure heat is drawn from the*

> *places which require it.*

A second or third order consideration unless the builder is brain dead.

> *With an integrated mobo/chassis this is normal, it*

> *is harder to achieve with a white box.*

>

> *The ability to have a redundant power supply should be mentioned, though*

> *this is not an option we normally take on.*

A redundant power supply by itself is nonsensical. A redundant power supply is primarily for systems with significant other redundancy. What's the percentage of system failures using a good power supply due to a power supply failure? Not very high. Good power supplies with clean fans don't tend to fail as often as other components. Unless the other components are also redundant, a redundant power supply doesn't make sense. Tandem worked and sold all these redundancy issues/systems starting in the 70-s.