

# Middleware Software Licensing for IBM PowerPC® 970 Dual-Core Chips on BladeCenter® JS21 Servers Q&As (Updated February 21, 2006)

Q1: What are we announcing today?

A: IBM is announcing that only one IBM middleware software processor license entitlement will be required for each PowerPC 970 dual-core chip on the BladeCenter JS21 servers.

Q2: What is a processor?

A: A processor is a functional unit within a computing device that interprets and executes instructions. With multi-core technology, each core is considered a processor. For example, in a dual-core chip, there are two processors.

Q3: How does IBM Software Group (SWG) price its per processor middleware software products available through Passport Advantage?

A: IBM software products priced on a per processor metric require a license entitlement for each processor that is available in the server, or for each processor within a partition if operating under sub-capacity terms. This is the approach IBM has consistently used since we originally introduced per processor licensing.

On April 21, 2005, IBM announced an exception for x86 architecture and the OpenPower™ platform dual core chip servers\*, where only one IBM middleware software processor license was required for the two processors on each dual-core chip available in the server. Today, we are announcing another exception for the IBM PowerPC 970 dual-core chip on BladeCenter JS21 servers, where only one IBM middleware software processor license entitlement will be required for the two processors on the PowerPC 970 dual-core chip on the BladeCenter server.

Q4: Does this announcement apply to all IBM middleware software on a per processor metric offered through Passport Advantage?

A: It applies to all IBM Software Group middleware available through Passport Advantage.

Q5: Why is IBM announcing that a dual-core IBM PowerPC 970 chip running IBM software on a BladeCenter JS21 server only requires one processor license entitlement for each chip?

A: We expect the PowerPC 970 dual-core chip to provide similar performance to the x86 dual-core chip when running in a BladeCenter server. Requiring one license for the two processors on the dual-core PowerPC 970 chip on a BladeCenter is consistent with requiring only one license for the two processors on the x86 dual-core chip on a BladeCenter.

Q6: What are the factors that impact the performance of single core or multi-core chips?

A: There are many factors which impact the performance of a processor including but not limited to, the processor architecture, clock speed (Ghz), memory controller, processor cache and operating system. There are also additional factors that affect the overall system performance obtainable such as the size of the server memory, the server I/O subsystem and the number of processors available in the server.

Q7: If a customer has a dual-core Intel or AMD chip today, and they are buying a new BladeCenter JS21 server with IBM PowerPC 970 dual-core chip, can they move the existing licenses to the new PowerPC 970 dual-core chip?

A: Yes, IBM middleware licenses are fully transferable to/from all systems. The customer is allowed to move their existing licenses to the new server, as long as they are in compliance with all terms and conditions of their agreement and the customer has enough license entitlements for the new server. Please keep in mind that both the Intel or AMD dual-core chip and the PowerPC 970 dual-core chip require one (1) IBM middleware software license entitlement when running on a BladeCenter server according to our licensing policy.

Q8: What is the process to order software license entitlements for IBM PowerPC 970 dual-core chips?

A: This will simply be a change in the number of entitlements ordered. The current process, product part numbers and contracts will stay remain unchanged.

Q9: Will IBM issue refunds to customers that may replace their current single core blade servers with dual-core technology and perhaps require fewer software processor licenses than currently being used?

A: IBM's policy still allows for license transferability, therefore there will be no refunds or credits for prior sales.

Q10: When is the announcement effective?

A: The announcement is effective February 8, 2006.

Q11: If the customer has a PowerPC 970 dual-core chip, but is only running software on one core, how many software processor license entitlements do they have to acquire?

A: Under both full capacity and sub-capacity licensing requirements, the customer must acquire 1 software processor license entitlement.

\*For the OpenPower™ platform this unique pricing applies only to OpenPower™ 710 (9123-710) and OpenPower™ 720 (9124-720).