


SERVERWORKS, IBM PUT SQUEEZE ON DRAM

By Peter N. Glaskowsky {7/17/00-04}

ServerWorks has announced plans to use IBM's Memory eXpansion Technology (MXT) in future chip sets for Intel-based servers. The companies claim MXT will double the effective size of a server's main memory, allowing 128M of memory to hold as much data as

256M in today's servers. The contents of physical memory are compressed, and an L3 cache is used to store uncompressed data. Neither IBM nor ServerWorks has explained what compression algorithms are used, how the system deals with already compressed data, or what (if any) operating-system support will be required.

IBM demonstrated MXT on a Netfinity server at PC Expo in June and offers more information online at www.research.ibm.com/resources/features/mxt.html. ServerWorks plans to announce MXT-based products in the summer. 

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