

Preface Special Issue on Mission-Critical IA Server

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The expectations of the IT systems that support businesses in our rapidly changing ubiquitous society are higher than ever. For example, they must provide stable, non-stop operation; respond quickly to changes in workloads and additions of new tasks; localize the impact on work when troubles occur; enable efficient operation management of complex systems; and reduce the ever increasing costs of IT.

To meet these expectations, Fujitsu offers an integrated IT infrastructure called TRIOLE that combines the most appropriate server, network, storage, and middleware for the particular needs of users. It enables users to develop and expand their business, quickly start new business operations, enjoy stable system operation, and reduce their Total Cost of Ownership (TCO). TRIOLE provides solutions needed to build open and large-scale mission-critical systems. In TRIOLE, Linux, which has rapidly spread to servers ranging from Internet servers to application and database servers, and Windows, which is widely prevalent the world over, are two strategically-important operating systems. TRIOLE also provides mainframe and UNIX solutions for missioncritical systems.

This special issue of the Fujitsu Scientific and Technical Journal introduces Fujitsu's mission-critical IA server PRIMEQUEST — a server that was independently developed by Fujitsu and highlights our company's skill as a manufacturer.

To expand the options available to users, PRIMEQUEST integrates our long-developed, high-reliability technology for mainframes and our high-speed technology for supercomputers and high-end UNIX servers on an open platform. PRIMEQUEST incorporates a broad range of technological innovations that are based on the new Dual Synchronous System Architecture, for example, a proprietary chipset that uses our state-of-the-art 90 nm semiconductor technology, the System Mirror function and the Flexible I/O. Thanks to these innovations, PRIME-QUEST achieves an excellent balance between the stability and reliability of mainframes and the flexibility and economy of open servers.

Together with Linux and Windows, PRIMEQUEST — which carries the meanings of "Prime" and "Quest" — will pioneer a new, open-system, mission-critical environment as the world's strongest open-system server.