

Preface Special Issue on IT Platforms

Tatsuo Tomita

Corporate Senior Vice President President, System Products

Business Group

IT systems are a critical business infrastructure, providing leverage for corporations to adapt to today's unforeseeable and rapidly changing business environment in line with the famous phrase "survival of the fittest" coined by Charles Darwin. We could even say that IT systems represent the key success factor for a business to survive and thrive under this constant pressure. At the same time, expanding requirements for IT systems are diversifying because of ubiquitous Internet technology, mobile devices, Web 2.0, globalization, and the individual era or "Long Tail" phenomenon — the selling of smaller volumes to more people. Moreover, global warming and rising energy prices must also be taken into account. It is thus essential to provide IT systems that meet varying customer requirements with agility regarding adjustment, operational continuity, infrastructure security, and environmental friendliness at reasonable costs.

With TRIOLE, one of Fujitsu's most important goals is to achieve an optimum IT platform that satisfies the three key customer needs of Agility, Continuity, and Efficiency. Until now, Fujitsu has strived towards meeting those needs with high reliability, high performance IT platforms and has made ongoing efforts to solve problems arising in the cutting-edge hardware and software technologies applied to such platforms. In addition to high performance and high reliability, recent years have witnessed a growing demand to address corporate social responsibility-related requirements for information security, safety, consideration of the environment, power savings, quieter operation, and space savings. Given the higher degree of sophistication, IT systems must be made easy to understand and operate, as well as the need to integrate the diverse systems of our customers.

As we solve the technical problems in meeting such needs, there

will always be new emerging needs to address. In the process of solving problems, Fujitsu constantly strives to achieve the highest level of technology in order to provide our customers with the best systems possible. This special issue describes the efforts being made towards developing basic platform technologies to facilitate the building of an optimum infrastructure to meet these needs, and features some new hardware and software technologies used in servers, storage, and network products for IT platforms.