

The Race into the Future

One of the most interesting aspects of technology is the factor that it is changing so rapidly (within a short time span). This change is particularly well exemplified in the PCs and other technological tools. Many significant products come and then go because they cannot keep up in the race. The American companies begin the race with thorough research and financial input in hope of developing something that is original. They have succeeded almost every time but how long can this last? Only one product has broken technological norms and trend patterns. The most impressive of the new innovations to have hit the market and taken a lead in the race is the new range of Alpha products of the US Company— Digital Equipment Corporation. Digital with its new line of high speed 'Alpha Systems' has set all its competitors such as HP, IBM, Sun Systems and others, far behind technologically. In the race of the innovations, the 'Alpha Systems' are the most advanced.

The 'Alpha System' with its 64 bit architecture, (which comprised of both the Alpha Servers and Alpha Work Stations) is the world's fastest computer and it processes data 4b times faster than the fastest PC. This is why the demand is globally shifting very rapidly from the "equipments" utilising Intel processors to the 'Alpha Systems' using the high speed 'Alpha' processors. This is why, when the new Alpha Server 4100 was launched this April, there was more than 750 units sold on the very first day globally. Digital obviously provides the best, otherwise the demand would not be so astonishingly high. The most interesting thing about 'Alpha' is the fact that it provide the most competitive price for a superior floating point performance. Alpha is simply way ahead in terms of depth, performance, speed, and output.

Technically, a network will now demand a system that has a higher RAM addressing capacity as well as be able to ensure a fast setup. With its 64 bit architecture, and its facility for a multiprocessor configuration, the Alpha Servers such as the 8400, 8200, 4100, 2100, 1000, 400 and others can support network systems exceeding 10,000 terminals. Not only that, it is quite capable of supporting varieties of very advanced network setups from Internet, voluminous financial, pharmaceutical industries, newspaper industries, publications, banking central systems to other large scale environment where there is demand for a strong system support. Even the fastest Pentium PC (with their 32 Bit architecture and multi processors) will not be able to support these network environments.

Talking of networks, it was thought of that a Pentium machine would be able to support an ordinary setup of 486 and 386 machines. The question is "For how long?" The new software coming into the market automatically outgrows the systems and that is where the customers face a setback. However with Alpha, nothing can outgrow it. It will continue to grow and grow and grow. That is why it is so compelling to consider Alpha above others. With Alpha systems UNIX based network or a Windows NT network is the network of the future. Other networks have a very limited parameter of operability especially with new application software and new technology.

Alpha is not only a very powerful system. It also has the capacity of supporting many types of operating systems. These are inclusive of the Digital UNIX, Open VMS, and Windows NT. Each of these operating systems are very advanced. Now that Microsoft products are dominating the market, Windows NT is the ideal operating system for a corporate setup. However, one cannot leave Digital UNIX out because this operating system is the most advanced system and it is already the basis for the most sophisticated network systems in the whole World. The Open VMS is also a very advanced and specialised operating system which is a modified version of the VAX VMS operating system that was in use in the Digital VAX mainframes. This operating system is equally good a system as the others. The biggest advantage of Alpha is

that these systems can ensure interoperability especially between Digital UNIX and Windows NT. This is done so with the compatibility of a few things which both Digital UNIX and Windows NT conform to this in itself guarantees a multi-environment network operating system. One should not forget that the future of all network systems will rely on UNIX and Windows NT.

Well obviously if one wishes to be ahead in the technological race, where items become obsolete in a short space of time, one will choose the Alpha Systems. It can be upgraded along with its high RAM capacity plus high data storage capacity plus multi processors (up to five 300 MHz processors in its latest Alpha Servers) and other things.

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