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POWER7 IS HERE And Will Only Be Supported By V6R1 And V7R1 of i5/OS

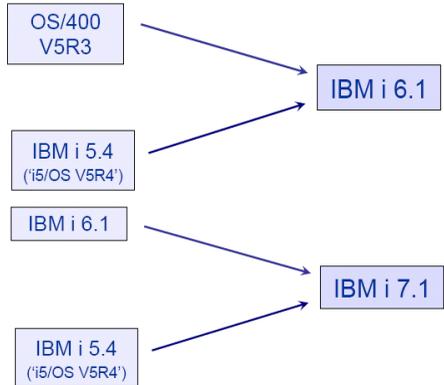
A large number of users are still running V5R3M0, this is understandable as it is very stable release, although no longer supported by IBM.

Falling behind on release-levels makes for a more difficult upgrade when this is enforced, for example by an application change or support for a necessary hardware upgrade; by the time an upgrade is actually being considered IBM may have withdrawn certain previously supported upgrade paths.

This can lead to a longer and more complex upgrade path resulting in longer downtime whilst a staged upgrade is undertaken. Note that being on an IBM supported release may well be a prerequisite to getting help after reporting a problem with the system; this could translate what appears to be a 'basic' problem into a real Business Risk while an upgrade is planned under duress.

At the time of writing releases V5R3M0 and V5R4M0 will support one step upgrades to either V6R1M0 or V7R1M0, the perfect preparation to POWER7. It should be noted that an upgrade to V6R1 or V7R1 from release V5R4 or prior would require additional planning due to object conversion similar to that required as part of the old CISC to RISC upgrade.

The new releases of V6R1M0 and V7R1M0 bring enhanced functionality into the operating system and also support for the new POWER7 architecture. Details of the current upgrade paths available are shown opposite.



How can we help here at Quattro? Well - we can provide you with quality advice in the planning and implementation of the new release taking the worry away from you, leaving you free to carry on with your day to day operations. In some cases Quattro have provided a rental machine to facilitate safe migration of Business applications and data in a controlled environment, resulting in a move to V6R1M0 or V7R1M0 with time for sufficient testing to minimise impact on day to day operations.

If you require further information regarding V7R1 enhancements then please contact us at: information@quattroconsulting.co.uk or call us on 07071 700 400

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IBM i 7.1 IS HERE!

Released on the 23rd April 2010 this new release brings a host of enhancements to an already rich operating system, here we highlight just a few of these.

DB2: Support for XML and column level encryption

PowerHA: Async Geographic Mirroring & LUN-level switching

Virtualization: IBM i 6.1 virtualization for i 7.1 partitions

Solid State Drives: Automatic movement of hot data to SSDs

Rational Open Access: RPG Extended reach to pervasive devices

Zend Server Community Edn: PHP environment preloaded with IBM i

Systems Director - Richer management of IBM i via Systems Director

Let's take a closer look at two of the most popular of these:

DB2 has seen some major enhancements for built-in security where customers are now able to define column level encryption.

Column Level Encryption: Allows for transparent (no application changes) encryption of a specific column in a database table accessed through SQL or native HL programs. Solutions from various tool providers could be used to supply the encryption algorithms.

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Cheryl	Smith	Rugby	Warwickshire	\$(%>)^

We will dive deeper into the other changes for DB2 for i in a later newsletter, in the meantime please contact for further information.

Virtualization is made more flexible with the following updates:

IBM i 6.1 and 7.1 partitions can host

IBM i 7.1 and 6.1 partitions

AIX 5.2, 5.3, 6.1 and SLES and Red Hat Linux partitions

iSCSI attached System x and BladeCenter

PowerVM VIOS can host

IBM i 7.1 and 6.1 partitions

AIX and Linux partitions

VIOS supports advanced virtualization technologies

including Active Memory Sharing and NPIV

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