



Press Release

World premiere at CeBIT 2005: HP's new Competent Cluster Service eliminates restrictions for SAP-Windows customers – multiple SAP instances can now be used

S2802K5228

BÖBLINGEN, MARCH 10, 2005 – At this year's CeBIT Fair, HP will be introducing its latest development: the HP Competent Cluster Service for mySAP Business Suite – a comprehensive solution that will be of huge benefit to SAP-Windows customers. The innovation of the SAP Alliance Team from HP allows several SAP instances to run on an SAP-Windows cluster, instead of only one SAP instance. In addition, all implemented nodes are supported without restriction in this type of cluster system. With this, the HP Competent Cluster Service (HP CCS) opens up for these SAP customers an intelligent and more efficient high availability (HA) solution for their mission critical business processes, based on the MS SQL database and the Microsoft Cluster Service.

Press contact:
Klaus Höing
PR Manager CSG
Tel.: 07031 / 14-40 97
Fax: 07031 / 14-72 04
E-Mail: klaus.hoeing@hp.com

This unique service now available from HP eliminates current limitations on clustering for companies that use their SAP IT landscapes on a Windows platform. HP CCS provides them with an effective and adaptive technology-based process from HP. This enables them to meet IT requirements flexibly, according to changing business conditions in line with Adaptive Enterprise Computing, and to achieve cost reductions at the same time – for example, with IT consolidation measures.

HP CCS: Superior and comprehensive with HP Mission Critical Support

HP Competent Cluster Service provides a comprehensive service tailored to meet customer needs. On the basis of an extended Mission Critical Support

agreement with HP, this offers companies using SAP-Windows intelligent, efficient HA clustering (fail-over solution on 64-bit basis) – with the possibility of operating several SAP instances in a single SAP-Windows cluster. SAP instance means an administrative unit where all components of an SAP solution that are started or stopped together respectively are gathered. For example, using SAP R/3 successor mySAP ERP – which cannot be run without the SAP NetWeaver application platform – calls for multiple SAP instances.

SAP-Windows clusters generally are based on a 2-node solution, only with identical servers, per SAP instance. If a cluster server fails, the other one ensures that the mission critical SAP system operation continues (fail-over). HP Competent Cluster Service allows node clustering with multiple SAP instances. This means unrestricted continuity of SAP operation together with the largest possible server utilization. In the event of a fail-over, software (Cluster Resource Manager) included with the HP CCS organizes a switchover to the available “free” node and regulates efficient node load distribution. Even clusters consisting of servers with a different number of CPUs are supported. The Cluster Resource Manager can be run on 32- and 64-bit server systems from HP.

HP CCS: Unique in the SAP market

Key components of the HP CCS innovation are the Cluster Resource Manager software and – based on this – the operating concept for multiple SAP instance usage with predefined verified rules. The Service also includes: the company's individual support plan, HP support processes in close cooperation with SAP and Microsoft support, plus proactive HP system monitoring, documentation, and a whole range of services from which to choose. The Service is being offered with on-site installation, testing, staff training, and “going live” check.

Not only HP-SAP Windows Datacenter users are demanding a high availability clustering solution for operating multiple SAP instances with mission critical applications. HP alone provides this for Microsoft Windows in the SAP market. HP Competent Cluster Service is offered for HP Integrity servers and HP ProLiant servers. A corresponding HP customer support agreement is mandatory.

HP Competent Cluster Service for mySAP Business Suite is now available on the European market. World-wide availability follows. As a world premiere at CeBIT 2005, a live demo will introduce the new HP service for the SAP market to a broad public.

HP SAP Alliance Team at CeBIT 2005 from March 10 to 16: hall 4, stand G26.

HP in the SAP Market

Since 1989 HP and SAP have cooperated in a successful and intensive partnership. Over 36,000 SAP installations worldwide run on HP service and infrastructure components. HP itself is one of the largest SAP customers. Customers benefit from the rich experience of SAP-certified HP Services engineers and consultants, who deliver consulting and system integration services for SAP environments on all major platforms. HPS provides exactly the availability a business demands. HP's mission critical solutions and services span the entire range -- from reactive support right up to fault-tolerant enterprise availability solutions for globally distributed SAP environments. HP Managed Services has become one of the most significant outsourcing service providers for SAP customers. Over the years, the HP experts in the HP SAP Competence Center in Walldorf, Germany, have built up comprehensive knowledge and unique practical experience. Customers benefit from the depth and breadth of HP know-how when seeking efficient implementation of mySAP Business Suite solutions. Together with partners, HP provides tools to harness corporate information, manage it, analyze it, streamline and deliver it to a company's employees, customers and partners, so they can make the decisions that keep business moving ahead. And it all sits on a flexible, scalable infrastructure that lowers the cost of IT ownership and provides a fast return on technology investment.

About HP

HP is a technology solutions provider to consumers, businesses and institutions globally. The company's offerings span IT infrastructure, global services, business and home computing, and imaging and printing. For the four fiscal quarters ended Jan. 31, 2005, HP revenue totaled \$81.8 billion. More information about HP (NYSE, Nasdaq: HPQ) is available at www.hp.com.