HIGH-PERFORMANCE NETWORKING IN WINDOWS COMPUTE CLUSTERS

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AGENDA

- Microsoft Compute Cluster Server (CCS)
  - How Does Microsoft Describe the HPC Market?
  - What is CCS?
- Networking Options for CCS
  - Optimizing for Performance
- MS Investing in Infiniband
  - HPC Hosted Clusters
  - HPC Team clusters
- A Word about CCSv2

BUSINESS MOTIVATIONS
"HIGH PRODUCTIVITY COMPUTING"

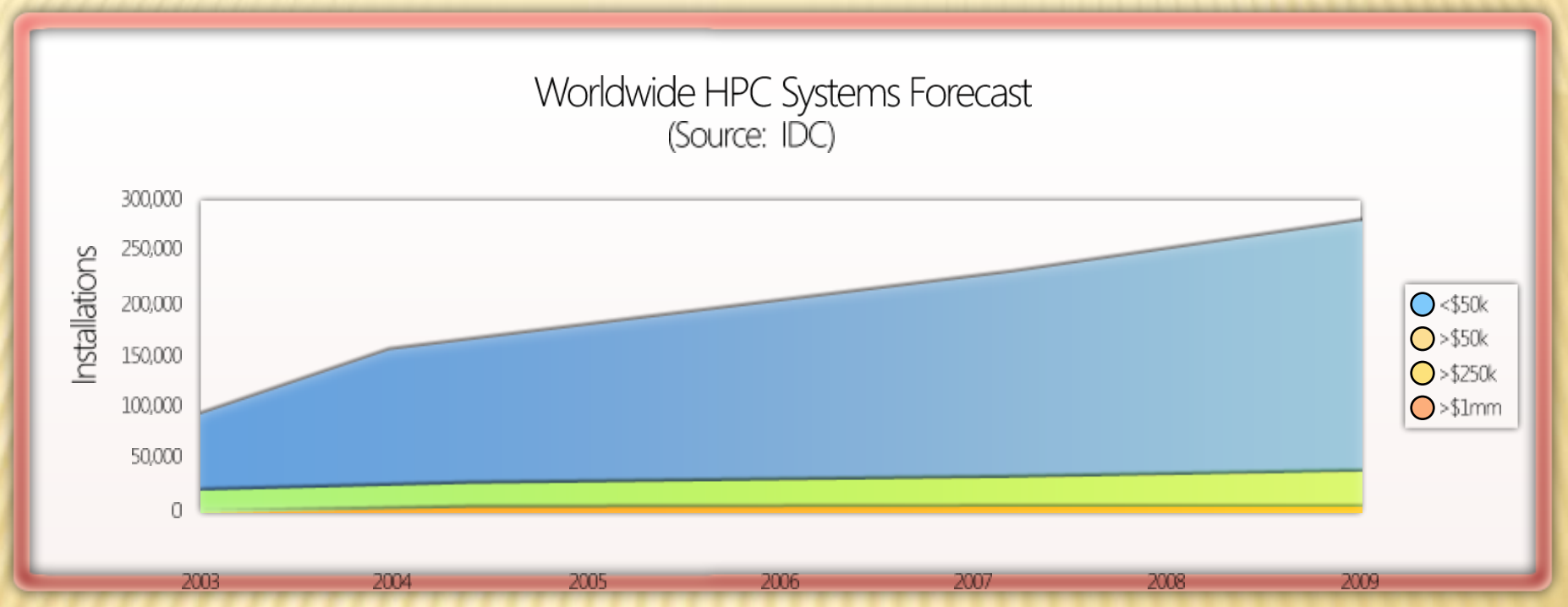
- Application complexity increases faster than clock speed so need for parallelization
- Windows applications users need cluster-class computing
- Make compute cluster ubiquitous and simple starting at the departmental level
- Remove customer pain points for
  - Implementing, managing and updating clusters
  - Compatibility and integration with existing infrastructure
  - Testing, troubleshooting and diagnostics

HPC market is growing- 50% for cluster servers (source IDC 2006). Need for resources such as development tools, storage, interconnects and graphics

MARKET PERSPECTIVE

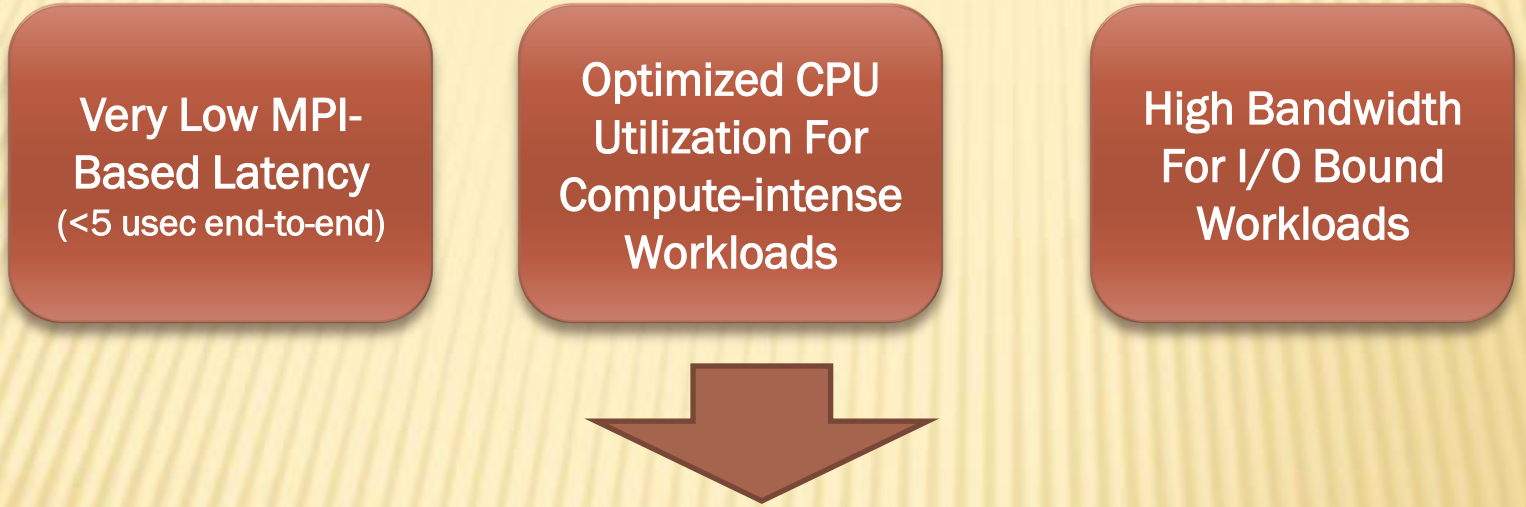
	1991	1998	2005
System	Cray Y-MP C916 	Sun HPC10000 	Small Form Factor PCs 
Architecture	16 x Vector 4GB, Bus	24 x 333MHz Ultra-SPARCII, 24GB, SBus	4 x 2.2GHz Athlon64 4GB, GigE
OS	UNICOS	Solaris 2.5.1	Windows Server 2003 SP1
GFlops	**~10**	**~10**	**~10**
Top500 #	1	500	N/A
Price	**$40,000,000**	**$1,000,000 (40x drop)**	**< $4,000 (250x drop)**
Customers	Government Labs	Large Enterprises	Every Engineer & Scientist
Applications	Classified, Climate, Physics Research	Manufacturing, Energy, Finance, Telecom	Bioinformatics, Materials Sciences, Digital Media

HPC GROWTH



- x86 server clusters growing faster than market (15%-20% for HPC, 11.4% for x86 overall). Projected at 850,000 units in 2007.
- Windows CCS is strategic investment, focused on driving volume market for computationally intense applications.

HPC NETWORKING REQUIREMENTS



- Windows Compute Cluster Server requires RDMA as core networking technology.
- Tier 1 OEMs estimate RDMA-enabled fabrics included in
  - ~20% of units in 2007
  - ~40% of units in 2008-2009

WINDOWS COMPUTE CLUSTER SERVER 2003

Mission: **Deliver the easiest to deploy and most cost effective solution for solving scaled-out business, engineering and scientific computational problems.**

Windows Server 2003, Compute Cluster Edition	+	Compute Cluster Pack	=	Microsoft Windows Compute Cluster Server 2003

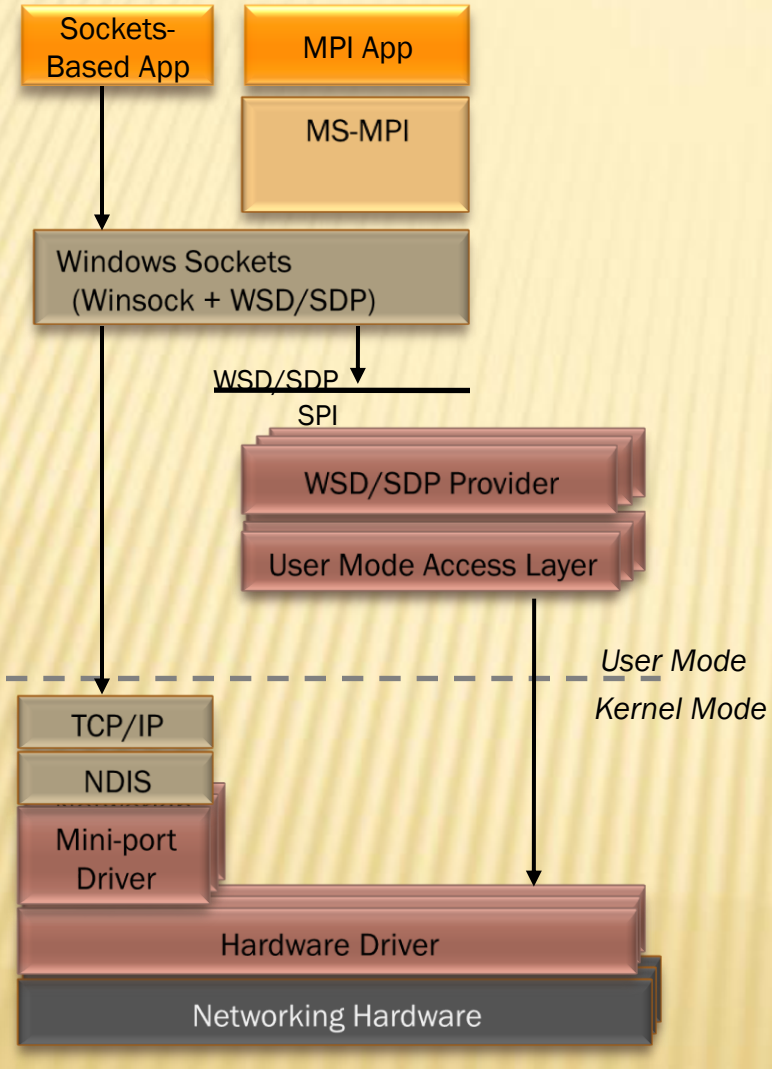
• Support for high performance hardware (x64bit architecture)
• RDMA support for high performance interconnects (Infiniband, Myrinet, and others)
		• Support for Industry Standards MPI2
		• Integrated Job Scheduler
		• Cluster Resource Management Tools
		• CCS SDK
		  • Scheduler
		  • Parallel Programming
				• Integrated Solution out-of-the-box
				• Leverages investment in Windows administration and tools
				• Makes cluster operation easy and secure as a single system

CCS KEY FEATURES

- Easier node deployment and administration
  - Task-based configuration for head and compute nodes
  - UI and command line-based node management
  - Monitoring with Performance Monitor (Perfmon), Microsoft Operations Manager (MOM), Server Performance Advisor (SPA), and 3rd-party tools
- Extensible job scheduler
  - Simple job management, similar to print queue management
  - 3rd-party extensibility at job submission and/or job assignment
  - Submit jobs from command line, UI, or directly from applications
- Integrated Development Environment
  - OpenMP Support in Visual Studio, Standard Edition
  - Parallel Debugger in Visual Studio, Professional Edition
  - MPI Profiling tool

HOW CCS WORKS

MS-MPI BUILT ON WINSOCK DIRECT



- MS-MPI Uses Winsock Direct
  - Lower Latency than NDIS path
  - Increased flexibility for users to upgrade their network gear *without* rebuilding their application

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NETWORKING OPTIONS FOR CCS

OPTIMIZING PERFORMANCE ON WINDOWS

- Network Congested?
  - Depending on switching, All-To-All & similar operations can drop connections via timeout
    - HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\Parameters\TcpMaxDataRetransmissions = 20 (default=5)
- Hammering One of Your Nodes?
  - All-To-One & similar operations can trigger Syn Attack Protection
  - Shut off Syn Attack monitoring on compute nodes (but NOT head node)
    - HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\Parameters\SynAttackProtect = 0 (default = 1)
- A Couple Patches You Should Apply
  - >4 processors? Then you NEED this one, but all should apply
    - KB914784: Update for Kernel patch protection
  - Using Winsock Direct?
    - KB927620: Resolve performance issues experienced when using Winsock Direct (WSD)
  - Both patches are included in Windows Server 2003 SP2
- Can set processor affinity via either of 2 methods
  - Tag affinity onto an executable's PE area with IMAGECFG.EXE tool
  - At the command line with start's /affinity argument
- Whitepaper has detailed IB info including use of OpenFabric driver/tools.
  - And detailed perf measurement procedure for Windows clusters
  - And use of Windows Perfmon with recommended counters for HPC use
    - http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=40cd8152-f89d-4abf-ab1c-a467e180cce4&DisplayLang=en

IB TRICKS ON A CCS CLUSTER

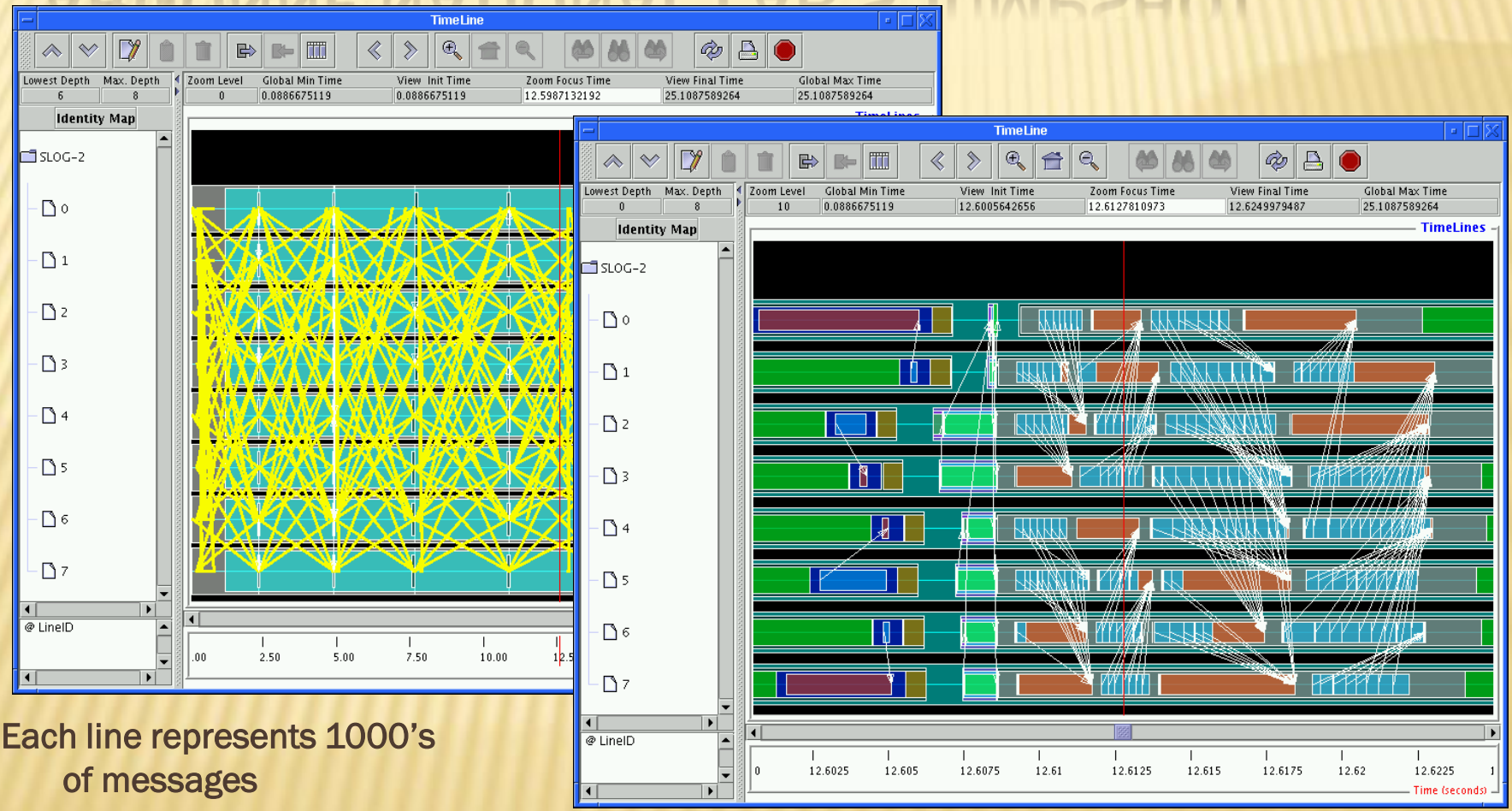
- Determine your brand of IB network adapter (HCA) without opening the computer.
  - Use the vstat utility and check the first 3 bytes of the node_guid against the list of vendor organizationally unique identifiers (OUIs) at http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/index.shtml.
- Ensure the IB adapter is enabled on all nodes.
  - You should get the same count as you have nodes when you run the following command.
  - clusrun /all c:\drivers\openib\mft\mst status | find /c “mt25208_pciconf0”
- Remotely update the IB HCA’s firmware on all nodes
  - clusrun /all c:\drivers\openib\mft\flint.exe –y nofs –d mt25208_pciconf0 –i <the right firware.bin> burn
- Determine the number of PCI devices found on each ready node
  - clusrun /readynodes \\headnode\share\devcon findall pci* | find "matching“
- Determine the number of Mellanox cards found across all nodes
  - clusrun /all \\headnode\share\devcon findall pci* | find /c "Mellanox"

MS-MPI TRICKS FOR INFINIBAND

- Environment Variables To Configure MS-MPI For Use With WSD-Enabled Infiniband

Variable	Setting
MPICH_SOCKET_SBUFFER_SIZE	0 (no copy on send) Significantly greater bandwidth at the expense of higher CPU utilization. **NOTE:** Use *only* when compute nodes are fitted with a WSD-enabled driver.
MPICH_DISABLE_SHM	1 (do not use shared memory within a local computer) Disable shared memory when aggressively polling with a WSD provider (for example, using InfiniBand's *IBWSD_POLL* environment variable); otherwise, two threads simultaneously poll for network completions, which significantly slows your application on a multiprocessor compute node.

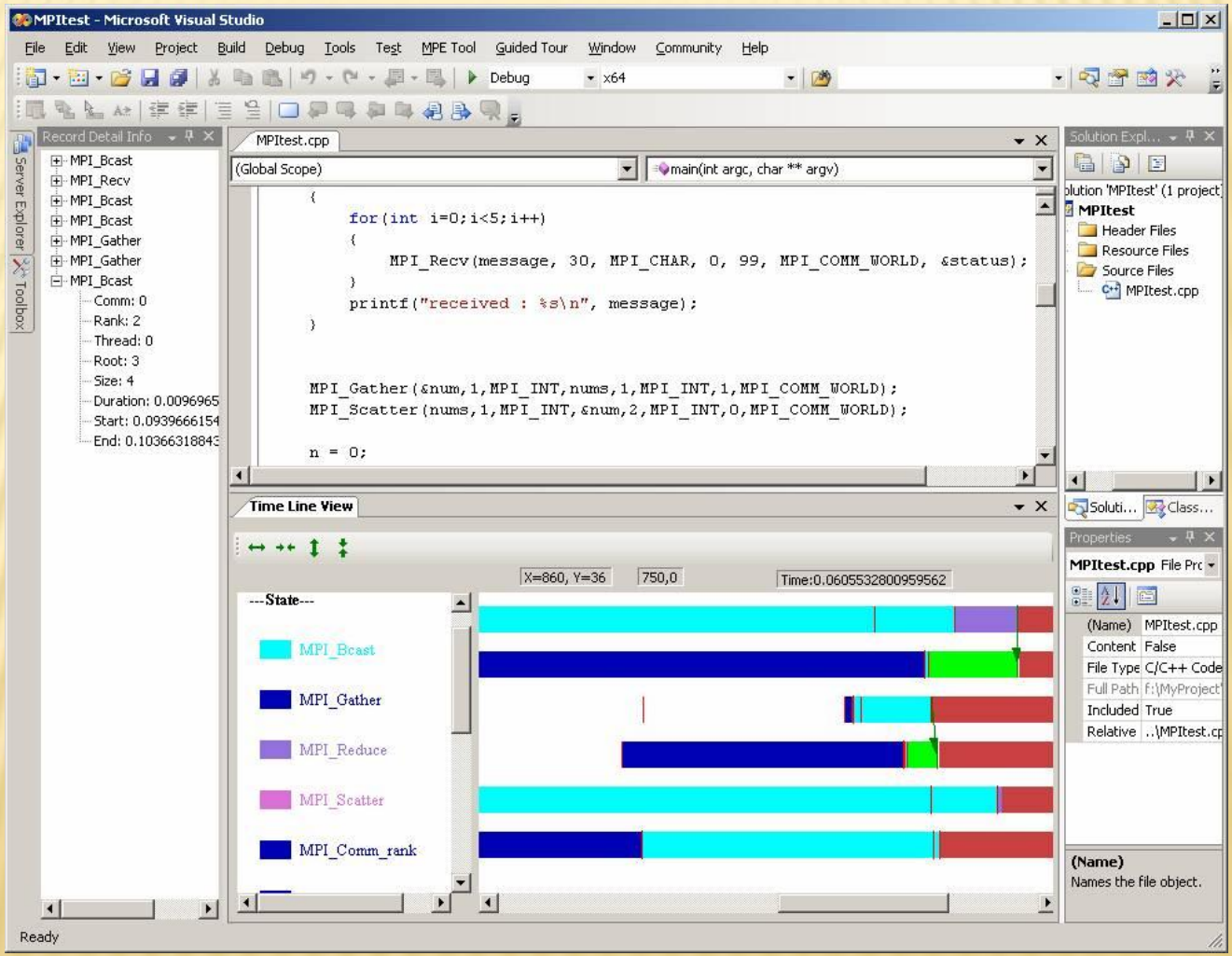
PARALLEL EXECUTION VISUALIZATION WITH ARGONNE NATIONAL LAB'S JUMPSHOT



Each line represents 1000's of messages

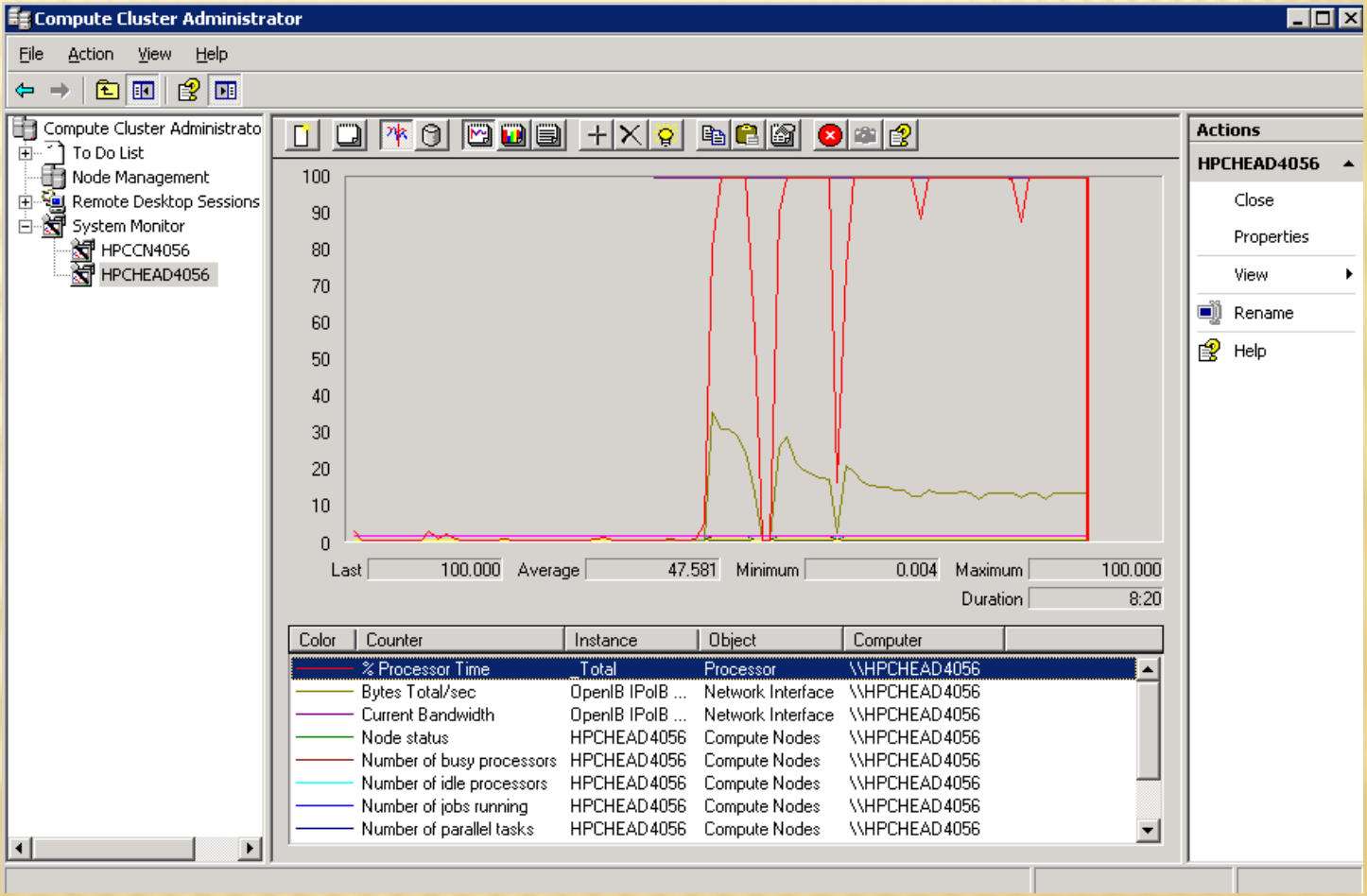
Detailed view shows opportunities for optimization

OR USE A VISUAL STUDIO INTEGRATED TOOL FROM THE CCP TOOLPACK



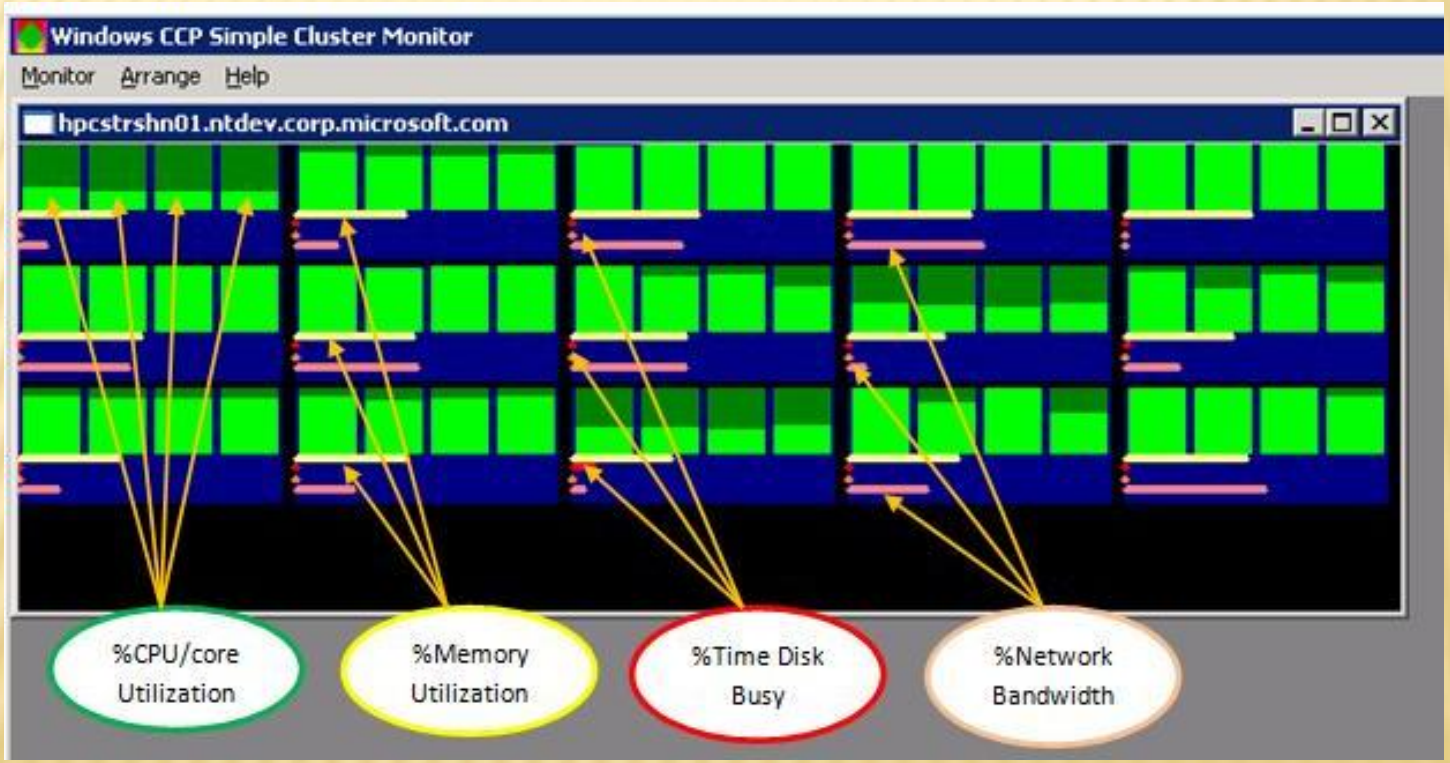
WINDOWS MONITORING GOES "CLUSTER"

- Built-In Perfmon Access for Simple Monitoring



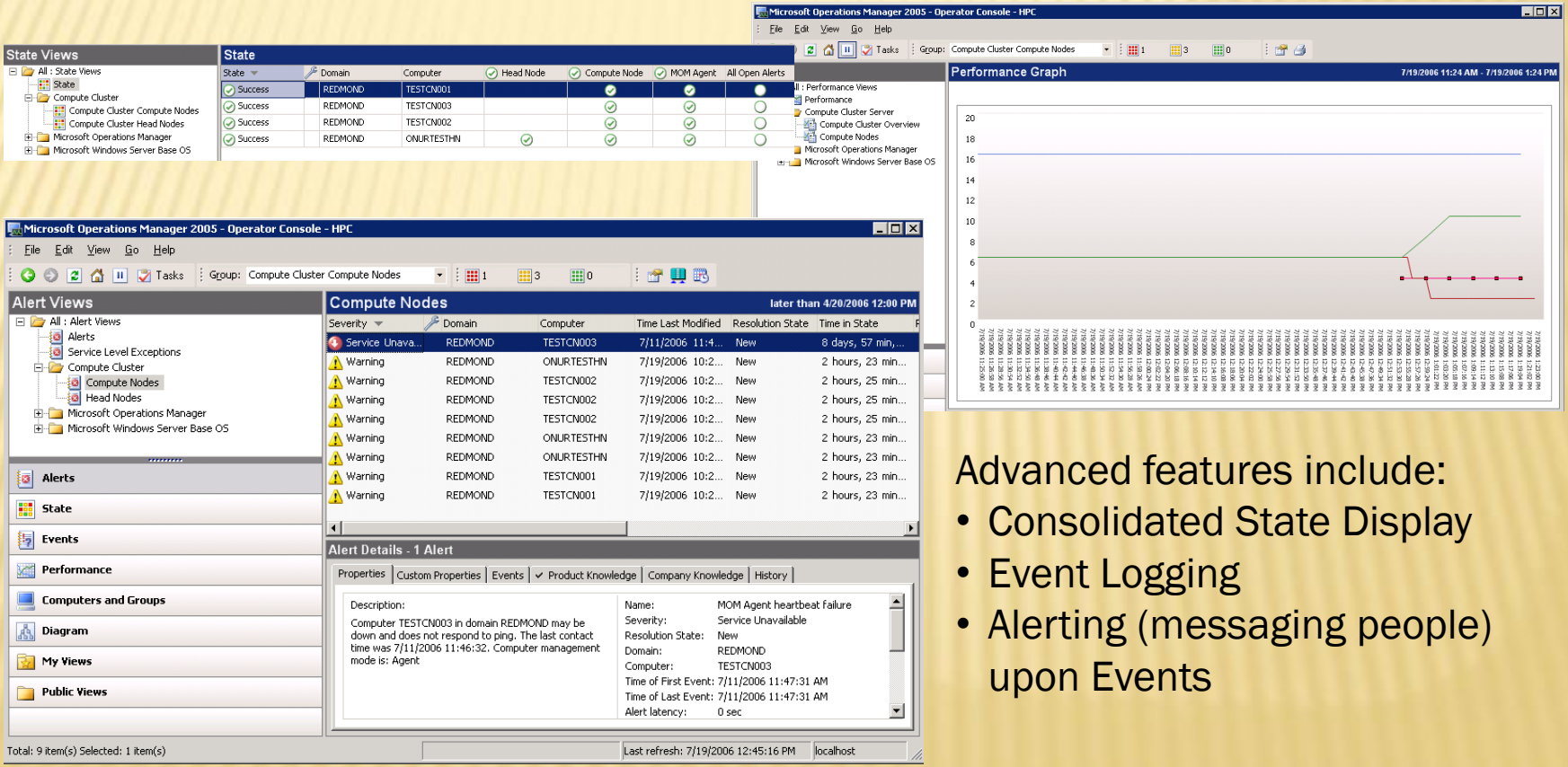
WINDOWS MONITORING GOES "CLUSTER"

- Monitoring At-A-Glance with clusmon
  - Free in the CCP Toolpack



WINDOWS MONITORING GOES "CLUSTER"

- Scale Up to Enterprise-Class Monitoring with Microsoft Operations Monitoring (MOM) & The CCS Mom-Pack



Advanced features include:

- Consolidated State Display
- Event Logging
- Alerting (messaging people) upon Events

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MS INVESTING IN INFINIBAND

MS HPC INCUBATION & OPS TEAM

- Understand the value proposition of hosted clusters for end users and service providers
- Derive the cost of operating a hosted cluster environment
- Provide a user context for CCS team that is a source for short term and long term product feedback as well as best practices

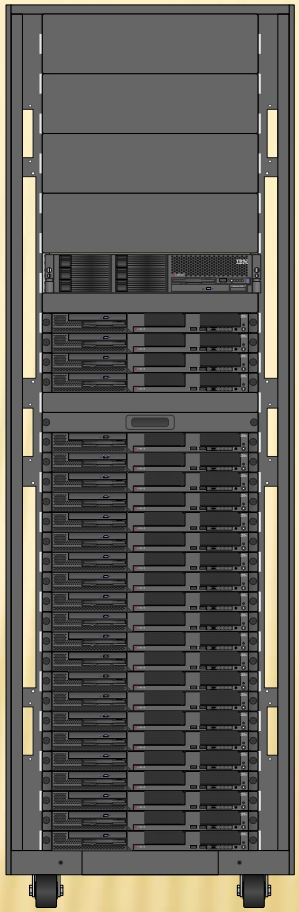
OPS TEAM DOES HOSTED CLUSTERING

- Hardware
  - Facilities Planning (power & cooling)
  - Growth Management & Forecasting
  - Spares & Servicing
  - Deployment
- Systems Management & Monitoring
  - Alerting
  - Patching
  - Data and Applications Management
- Resource Allocation & Accounting (“Bill Bucks” only)
- User Docs & Help Desk Support

WORKGROUP CONFIGURATION: “MYRTO”

Purpose:
- Prototyping
- Dogfood
- Staging environment for Dept. Cluster
- Ops Experience

Configuration:
- 1 Head node
- 1 IIS server
- 18-23 compute nodes
- File server is on a machine separate from head
- Private Gb-E network for compute nodes
- Each compute node has dual-core AMD Opteron® 252, 2.6 Ghz, 2GB RAM



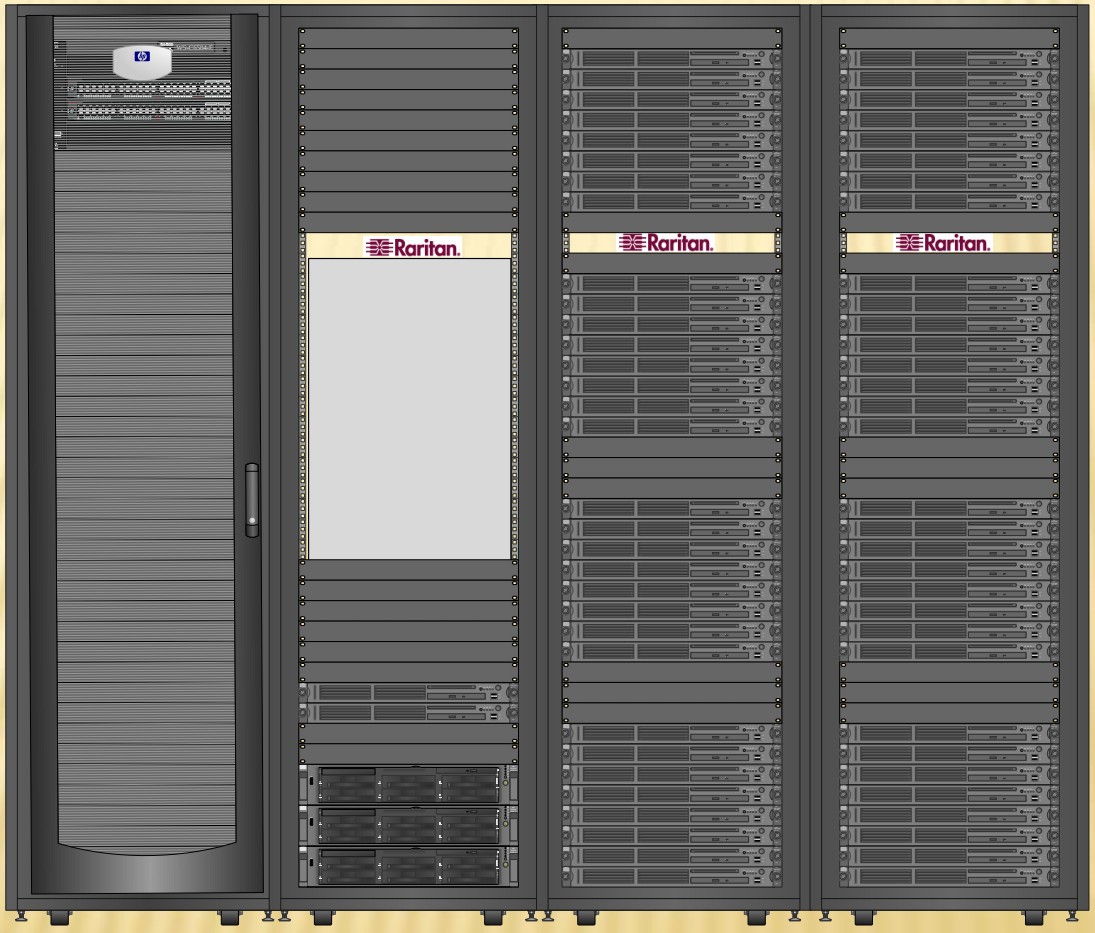
Currently used by:
- MS Research (Machine Learning)
- HPC Incubation Team

Statistics:
- Availability is ~99%
- Approx 3000-5000 jobs/month

DEPARTMENTAL CONFIGURATION: “ATHENA”

Purpose:
- External Access
- Prototyping
- Ops Experience

Configuration:
- HP Servers
- 1 Head node
- 64 compute nodes
- 1 IIS server
- 1 File Server
- App/MPI: Myrinet
- Private: Gb-E
- Public: Gb-E
- Each compute node has two dual-core AMD Opteron™275, 2.2 Ghz, 8GB RAM



Users:
- HPC Incubation Team
- Partners

Location:
- Microsoft Partner Solutions Center (MPSC) – Building 25

ENTERPRISE CONFIGURATION: "RAINIER"

Purpose:

- External Access
- Prototyping at Scale
- ISV App testing at Scale
- Ops Experience

Configuration:

- 260 Dell Blade Servers
- 1 Head node
- 256 compute nodes
- 1 IIS server
- 1 File Server
- App/MPI: Infiniband
- Private: Gb-E
- Public: Gb-E
- Each compute node has two quad-core Intel 5320 Clovertown, 1.86GHz, 8GB RAM
- 34 Cisco SFS7000P SDR IB Switches in leaf & node configuration

- Total
  - 2080 Cores
  - 2+TB RAM

Users:

- MS Incubation Team
- ISV Partners
- MS Product team

Location:

- Microsoft Tukwila Data center (22 miles from Redmond campus)

MICROSOFT'S HPC TEAM USE INFINIBAND DAILY

Size	Usage	
9 nodes	MPI Development	Dual core, Dual proc
10 nodes	Test Automation Development	Dual core, Dual proc
6 nodes	MPI Test	
7 nodes	Test	
8 nodes	Performance Test	IB, GigE, and Myrinet cards on each node
16 nodes	ISV App Test	
260 nodes	Scale-Out Test	Rainer: 2080 cores

- Basis Of Weekly CCS Performance Benchmarking
  (We Track Perf Changes As We Code)
- Now Adding IB To The Clusters Used For Daily Build Verification
- Use Openfabrics Windows Drivers Exclusively On All Nodes
  (Go Openfabrics!!)

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A WORD ABOUT CCS V2

CCS NETWORKING ROADMAP

2008+

- Future version based on Windows Server codenamed “Longhorn”
  - Networking Mission: Scale
- MSMPI improvements
  - Low-latency, better tracing, multi-thread
- Network management
  - Driver and hardware settings configuration, deployment and tuning from new UI
  - ‘Toolbox’ of scripts and tips

2006

- CCS v1 networking based on Windows Server 2003
  - MSMPI and Winsock API
  - Both using Winsock Direct to take advantage of RDMA hardware mechanisms

LINKS

- Tuning Whitepaper
  - Windows Compute Cluster Server 2003: Performance Tuning White Paper
  - http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=40cd8152-f89d-4abf-ab1c-a467e180cce4&DisplayLang=en
- Winsock Direct QFE for Windows Server 2003 Networking
  - Only install the latest- QFEs are cumulative
  - Latest as of 04/15/07: KB924286
- CCS v1 SP1 released
  - Compatible with WinServer 2003 SP2 which includes all QFEs

LINKS (CON'T)

- Compute Cluster Server Case studies
  - http://www.microsoft.com/casestudies/
  - Search with keyword HPC
- Microsoft HPC web site (evaluation copies available)
  - http://www.microsoft.com/hpc/
- Microsoft Windows Compute Cluster Server 2003 community site
  - http://www.windowshpc.net/
- Windows Server x64 information
  - http://www.microsoft.com/64bit/
  - http://www.microsoft.com/x64/
- Windows Server System information
  - http://www.microsoft.com/wss/

THANK YOU