

Computer Daily News

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The company also plans to begin selling a 2GHZ version of Xeon that uses 50 watts of power, less than half the amount normally needed by server processors.

The 3GHz chips cost US\$1172 each when bought in batches of 1,000. The low-power 2GHz Xeons cost \$380.

“We’ve really eliminated every reason not to go to quad-core,” said **Kirk Skaugen**, a vice president in Intel’s digital enterprise group.

The developments come as **Sun Microsystems** has been revealing details of The Rock, a planned new 16-core chip due next year.

Sun predicts the Rock will be the first chip that uses “transactional memory” to overcome data bottlenecks. It is claimed to detect conflicts and repeat any operations affected by them.

Flexi hours attract tech groups

CANBERRA — One in four high-tech companies in Australia is looking to introduce flexible working arrangements to combat the skills squeeze.

Results from the latest *Survey of Salaries and Remuneration Packaging in the Australian ICT Industry*, released by the **Australian Information Industry Association**, reveals that 11 per cent of responding organisations are using flexible work arrangements as an attraction and retention tool.

A further 25 per cent of companies surveyed may introduce flexible work arrangements within the next six

months. “In a tight labour market, retention of talent continues to be a primary focus for high-technology companies in Australia,” says AIIA’s CEO, **Sheryle Moon**.

“Our research indicates that ICT companies are investing in creative employee attraction campaigns, such as employee referral programs, to address skills shortfalls. We’re seeing an increasing focus on ‘return to work’ programs for people that have been on parental leave, together with an emphasis on retaining mature workers.”

The voluntary attrition rate — which tracks the number of permanent staff leaving an organisation — was 8.3 per cent, less than the 10.5 per cent rate recorded over the previous survey period (March 2006–2007).

EDS to offer ‘green IT’ service

SYDNEY — **EDS Australia** MD **Chris Mitchell** today will unveil a new service claimed to cut the carbon footprint of organisations by up to 40 per cent and hack their technology infrastructure costs by as much as 30 per cent.

The “IT transformation service” developed by EDS will lead to major infrastructure savings and greatly reduced greenhouse gas emissions, the company claims in invitations sent out for a media event in Sydney today.

Mitchell will be joined by EDS CIO **Randy Fennel** as they jointly announce the IT carbon-reduction services at EDS’s Sydney offices.
