

# HP Z Series Workstations Frequently Asked Questions

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## Family basics

**Q .** What are the HP Z Series Workstations?

**A .** HP Z Series Workstations are a family of revolutionary, next-generation workstation solutions designed to outperform, so you can outperform. Combining bold design, best-in-class engineering, robust tools and visual collaboration solutions, the HP Z Workstation Family—the Z400, Z600, and Z800—takes innovation, performance, and reliability to the next level to help give you and your business a competitive edge. HP Z Series Workstations are engineered to optimize the way processor, memory, graphics, OS and software components work together, to deliver massive, whole-system computational power that helps you accomplish more with every minute of your time.

**Q .** How is the HP Z400 Workstation different from its predecessor, the HP xw4600?

**A .** The HP Z400 raises the bar for entry workstations with the revolutionary new Intel® Xeon® processors and chipset architecture, along with other innovations. The table below summarizes the key differences between the two platforms. For more details please refer to the product datasheet and QuickSpecs.

	HP xw4600 Workstation	HP Z400 Workstation
Operating system	<p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit**</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit**</p> <p>Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS 5 64-bit</p> <p>HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit &amp; 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4 and WS5)</p> <p>Red Flag Linux v5 (available in China only)</p>	<p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit**</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit**</p> <p>HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4 and WS5) (expected availability 05/09)</p> <p>Novell Suse SLED 11 (expected availability 05/09)</p>
Processor <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>	Quad-core Intel® Pentium/Core™ 2 Duo/Core 2 processors, 1066/1333 MHzFSB	Dual and quad core Intel® Xeon® 3500 series processors, with integrated memory controller and Intel® QuickPath Architecture
Chipset	Intel® X38	Intel® X58 Express
Memory <sup>5</sup>	Up to 8 GB DDR2 800 MHz ECC	Up to 16 GB (4 GB DIMMs expected availability 05/09), DDR3 1333 MHz** (**actual memory

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Hard drives <sup>6</sup>	Up to 4 SATA or SAS drives (2 will require optional expander kits), 4 TB max (SATA), 1.8 TB max (SAS).	<p>speed dependent on processor capability)</p> <p>Up to (4) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5* TB, 6.0 TB max* (*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09)</p> <p>Up to (4) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.2 TB max;</p> <p>Up to (4) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives: 146, 300, 450 GB, 1.8 TB max</p>
Ports	<p>Front: 2 USB 2.0, 1 headphone, 1 microphone, IEEE 1394 (optional),</p> <p>Rear: 7 USB 2.0, 1 standard serial port (opt. 2nd), 1 parallel, 2 PS/2, 1 external SATA 1.5 Gb/s, 1 RJ-45 to integrated Gigabit LAN, audio in, audio out, microphone</p> <p>Internal: 3 USB 2.0</p>	<p>Front: 2 USB 2.0, IEEE 1394a (optional), 1 microphone in, 1 headphone out, 22-in-1 Media Card Reader (optional),</p> <p>Rear: 6 USB 2.0, 1 audio in, 1 audio out, 1 microphone in, 2 PS/2, 1 RJ-45 to integrated Gigabit LAN, 1 serial (optional)</p> <p>Internal: 4 USB 2.0</p>
Slots	2 PCI Express Gen2 x16, 1 PCIe x8 (x4 electrical) slot, 1 PCIe x1 slot, 3 PCI slots	2 PCI Express Gen2 x16, 1 PCI Express Gen2 x8 (x4 electrical), 1 PCI Express Gen1 x8 (x4 electrical), 2 PCI
Network	Integrated Broadcom 5755 NetXtreme Gigabit PCIe, opt. Broadcom 5751 NetXtreme Gigabit PCIe	Integrated Broadcom 5764 LAN, Infineon TPM 1.2, Optional Broadcom NIC, Optional Intel NIC
Chassis improvements		New front bezel ID, quieter hard drive acoustics, improved side cover

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**Q .** How is the HP Z600 Workstation different from its predecessor, the HP xw6600?

**A .** The HP Z600 raises the bar for midrange workstations with the revolutionary new Intel® Xeon® processors and chipset architecture and completely new industrial design. The table below summarizes the key differences between the two platforms. For more details please refer to the product datasheet and QuickSpecs.

	HP xw6600 Workstation	HP Z600 Workstation
Operating system	<p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit**</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit**</p> <p>Red Hat Enterprise Linux® WS 5 64-bit</p> <p>HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux® WS4 and WS5)</p>	<p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed*</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit**</p> <p>Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit**</p> <p>HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4 and WS5) (expected availability 05/09)</p>
Processor <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>	Quad-Core Intel® Xeon® processor E5200 and 5400 series, 1066/1333 MHz FSB	Quad-Core Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series, 800/1066/1333 MHz, with integrated memory controller and Intel® QuickPath Architecture
Chipset	Intel® 5400	Intel® 5520
Memory <sup>5</sup>	Up to 32 GB DDR2-667 ECC; 8 DIMM slots	6 DIMM slots, up to 24 GB (expected availability May 2009), 6-channel DDR3 1333 MHz**, 3 channels per CPU (**actual memory speed dependent on processor capability)
Hard drives <sup>6</sup>	Up to 3 SATA drives (with the optional optical bay converter kit), or up to 3 of the small form factor SAS drives (with the HDD bay converter kit); 3 TB max; 80 GB (7200 rpm) SATA 3.0 Gb/s; or 160, 250, 500, or 1000 GB (7200 rpm) SATA 3.0 Gb/s NCQ; or 80 or 160 GB (10K rpm) SATA 1.5-Gb/s NCQ; or 300 GB (10K rpm) SATA 3.0 Gb/s	<p>Up to (3) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5* TB, 4.5 TB max* (*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09)</p> <p>Up to (4) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.2 TB max</p> <p>Up to (3) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives: 146, 300, 450</p>

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	NCQ; or 73 or 146 GB7 (10K rpm) 2.5" SAS; or 73, 146, 300, or 450 GB7 (15K rpm) SAS	GB, 1.35 TB max Note: Third and fourth drives occupy one external optical bay.
Ports	Front: 2 USB 2.0; 1 IEEE 1394 (optional); 1 microphone in; 1 headphone out Rear: 5 USB 2.0; 1 serial (optional); 2 PS/2; 1RJ-45; 1 audio in; 1 audio out; 1 microphone in Internal: 1 USB 2.0	Front: 3 USB 2.0, 1 IEEE 1394a (optional), 1 microphone in, 1 headphone out Rear: 6 USB 2.0, 1 audio in, 1 audio out, 1 microphone in, 2 PS/2, 1 RJ-45 to integrated Gigabit LAN, 1 serial (optional) Internal: 3 USB 2.0
Slots	6 full length slots: 2 PCIe x16 Gen2 Graphics2, 2 PCIe (x8 mechanically, x4 electrically), 2 legacy PCI slots	2 PCI Express Gen2 x16, 1 PCI Express Gen2 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 1 PCI Express Gen1 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 2 PCI
Network	Integrated Broadcom 5755 NetXtreme Gigabit PCIe; optional Broadcom 5751 NetXtreme Gigabit PCIe; optional Intel Pro 1000 PT Gigabit Ethernet Controller (PCIe)9	Integrated Broadcom 5764 LAN, Infineon TPM 1.2, Optional Broadcom NIC, Optional Intel NIC
Chassis improvement		85% power supply, integrated handles, and cable-free connections

**Q .** How is the HP Z800 Workstation different from its predecessor the HP xw8600?

**A .** The HP Z800 raises the bar for all workstations with the revolutionary new Intel® Xeon® processors and chipset architecture, along with other innovations. The table below summarizes the key differences between the two platforms. For more details please refer to the product datasheet and QuickSpecs.

	HP xw8600 Workstation	HP Z800 Workstation
Operating system	Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit** Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit** Red Hat Enterprise Linux® WS 5 64-bit HP Installer Kit for Linux	Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit** Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit** HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS

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	(includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux® WS4 and WS5)	versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4 and WS5) (expected availability 05/09)
Processor <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>	Quad-Core Intel® Xeon® processor 5200 and 5400 series, 1066/1333/1600 MHz FSB	Quad-Core Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series, clocking memory, from a memory controller integrated into the processor, at 800/1066/1333 MHz and based on the Intel QuickPath Architecture
Chipset	Intel® 5400	Intel® 5520 (dual)
Memory <sup>5</sup>	DDR2-667 and DDR2-800 ECC Memory; up to 128 GB available with 16 DIMM slots and 8 GB DDR2-667 DIMMs	12 DIMM slots, up to 192 GB (using 16 GB DIMMs with expected availability Q409), 6-channel DDR3 1333 MHz**, 3 channels per CPU (**actual memory speed dependent on processor capability)
Hard drives <sup>6</sup>	Up to 5 SATA drives; 5 TB max; 80 GB (7200 rpm) SATA 3.0 Gb/s; or 160, 250, 500, or 1000 GB (7200 rpm) SATA 3.0 Gb/s NCQ; or 80 or 160 GB (10K rpm) SATA 1.5-Gb/s NCQ; 300 GB (10K rpm) 2.5" SATA 3.0 Gb/s NCQ; 73 or 146 GB (10K rpm) 2.5" SAS; or 73, 146, 300, or 450 GB (15K rpm) SAS	Up to (5) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5* TB, 7.5 TB max* (*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09) Up to (6) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.8 TB max Up to (5) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives: 146, 300, 450 GB, 2.25 TB max Note: Fifth and sixth drives occupy one external optical bay.
Ports	Front: 2 USB 2.0; IEEE 1394; 1 microphone in; 1 headphone out Internal: 1 USB 2.0 Rear: 5 USB 2.0; 1 IEEE 1394; 1 serial; 2 PS/2; 2 RJ-45 to integrated Gigabit LAN; 1 audio in; 1 audio out; 1 microphone in	Front: 3 USB 2.0, 1 IEEE 1394a, 1 microphone in, 1 headphone out Internal: 3 USB 2.0 Rear: 6 USB 2.0, 1 IEEE 1394a, 1 serial, 2 PS/2, 2 RJ-45 to integrated Gigabit LAN; 1 audio in, 1 audio out, 1 microphone in
Slots	7 full length slots: 2 PCIe x16 Gen2 Graphics8, 2 PCIe (x8 mechanically, x4 electrically), 1 PCIe x8 (switchable as x1 or x8), 1 PCI-X 133 MHz slot, and 1 PCI 32-bit/33 MHz slot	7 slots: 2 PCI Express Gen2 x16, 2 PCI Express Gen2 x16 mechanical/x8 electrical, 1 PCI Express Gen2 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 1 PCI Express Gen1 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 1 PCI

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Network	Dual integrated Broadcom 5755 NetXtreme Gigabit PCIe; optional Broadcom 5751 NetXtreme Gigabit PCIe; optional Intel Pro 1000 PT Gigabit Ethernet Controller (PCIe)9	Dual Integrated Broadcom 5764 LAN, Infineon TPM 1.2, Optional Broadcom NIC, Optional Intel NIC
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## HP Z400 Workstation

**Q .** What's new with the Z400?

**A .**

- New look and chassis improvements
- Genuine Windows Vista® Business\*\*
- Intel® X58 Express chipset
- Intel® Xeon® processors
- Intel® QuickPath Technology
- 16GB of total DDR3 1333MHz system memory (with 4 GB DIMMs)
- More PCI Express Gen2 lanes

**Q .** What is special about the new HP Z400 Workstation?

**A .** The HP Z400 Workstation is the latest entry (single-processor) personal workstation from HP and is positioned above the existing HP xw4600 Workstation. It brings a new level of performance and functionality to the entry workstation space by introducing the new Intel Xeon processors with the revolutionary new Intel QuickPath architecture. This is complemented by a range of new graphics cards from both ATI and NVIDIA, along with good expandability with up to 5 drive bays and 6 I/O slots. A new look, tool-less chassis also includes enhancements to acoustics and ease of serviceability.

**Q .** How will the HP Z400 Workstation be sold and distributed?

**A .** The HP Z400 Workstation will be sold on the Web, via distributor/VARs (indirect/direct channels), and HP sales force.

## HP Z600 Workstation

**Q .** What's new with the Z600?

**A .**

- New industrial design for the chassis
- Genuine Windows Vista® Business\*\*
- Intel® 5400 chipset
- Intel® Xeon® processor s
- Intel® QuickPath Technology
- 6 DIMM slots
- 24 GB of total DDR3 1066MHz system memory (with 4 GB DIMMs)
- More PCI Express Gen2 lanes

**Q .** What is special about the new HP Z600 Workstation?

**A .**

The HP Z600 Workstation is the latest mid-range multi-processor personal workstation from HP that replaces the existing xw6600 Workstation. It is a superset of the performance and functionality of the previous workstations and provides a low-power solution for customers at or near power capacity in their facilities. It has a new expandable chassis with 5+ bays and 6 slots. The chassis is rackable and works with the shelving kits. It supports high-performance I/O features like dual PCI Express graphics, 4 PCI Express I/O, 2 legacy PCI slots, USB 2.0, SATA 3 Gb/s, Gigabit NIC, and optional IEEE 1394. Six DIMM slots allows for significant memory capacity with lower cost parts.

**Q .** How will the HP Z600 Workstation be sold and distributed?

**A .**

The HP Z600 Workstation will be sold on the Web, via distributor/VARs (indirect/direct channels), and HP sales force.

**Q .** How is the HP Z600 Workstation different from the HP Z800 Workstation, which is also a dual Intel Xeon system?

**A .**

	HP Z600 Workstation	HP Z800 Workstation
Operating system	Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit** Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit** HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4 and	Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed* Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit** Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit** HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4 and



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	WS5) (expected availability 05/09)	WS5) (expected availability 05/09)
Processor <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>	Quad-Core Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series, 800/1066/1333 MHz, with integrated memory controller and Intel QuickPath Architecture Up to 2.93GHz	Quad-Core Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series, 800/1066/1333 MHz, with integrated memory controller and Intel QuickPath Architecture Up to 3.2GHz; supports dual 130W processors
Chipset	Intel® 5520	Intel® 5520 (dual)
Memory <sup>5</sup>	6 DIMM slots, up to 24 GB (expected availability May 2009), 6-channel DDR3 1333 MHz**, 3 channels per CPU (**actual memory speed dependent on processor capability)	12 DIMM slots, up to 192 GB (expected availability Q409), 6-channel DDR3 1333 MHz**, 3 channels per CPU (**actual memory speed dependent on processor capability)
Hard drives <sup>6</sup>	Up to (3) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5* TB, 4.5 TB max* (*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09)  Up to (4) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.2 TB max  Up to (3) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives: 146, 300, 450 GB, 1.35 TB max  Note: Third and fourth drives occupy one external optical bay.	Up to (5) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5* TB, 7.5 TB max* (*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09)  Up to (6) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.8 TB max  Up to (5) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives: 146, 300, 450 GB, 2.25 TB max  Note: Fifth and sixth drives occupy one external optical bay.
Ports	Front: 3 USB 2.0, 1 IEEE 1394a (optional), 1 microphone in, 1 headphone out Rear: 6 USB 2.0, 1 audio in, 1 audio out, 1 microphone in, 2 PS/2, 1 RJ-45 to integrated Gigabit LAN, 1 serial (optional) Internal: 3 USB 2.0	Front: 3 USB 2.0, 1 IEEE 1394a, 1 microphone in, 1 headphone out Rear: 6 USB 2.0, 1 IEEE 1394a, 1 audio in, 1 audio out, 1 microphone in, 2 PS/2, 2 RJ-45 to integrated Gigabit LAN, 1 serial Internal: 3 USB 2.0
Slots	2 PCI Express Gen2 x16, 1 PCI Express Gen2 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 1 PCI Express Gen1 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 2 PCI	2 PCI Express Gen2 x16, 2 PCI Express Gen2 x16 mechanical/x8 electrical, 1 PCI Express Gen2 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 1 PCI Express Gen1 x8 mechanical/x4 electrical, 1 PCI
Network	Integrated Broadcom 5764 LAN, Infineon TPM 1.2, Optional Broadcom NIC,	Dual Integrated Broadcom 5764 LAN, Infineon TPM 1.2, Optional Broadcom

## HP Z800 Workstation

**Q .** What's new with the HP Z800 Workstation?

**A .** The Z800 is based on Intel® Xeon® 5500 Series processors and Dual Intel® 5520 chipset. This processor/chipset combination represents a revolutionary step forward in both functionality and system performance. With the new processor and chipset technology, Intel is launching a new architecture that is significantly different than previous Intel products. This new architecture employs the new Intel® QuickPath Technology, which directly connects the system memory to the processor, directly connects the processors together, and provides a more direct connection from the processor to the system I/O via the Intel 5520 chipset.

**Q .** What is special about the new HP Z800 Workstation?

**A .** The HP Z800 Workstation is the latest high-end Windows/Linux workstation from HP that replaces the existing HP xw8600 workstation. The HP Z800 is a superset, in both performance and functionality, of the HP xw8600 Workstation. It has a highly expandable chassis: 5 3.5" or 6 2.5" HDDs, optional floppy, and 3 5.25" external bays. The chassis is rackable and is available with sliding rail and shelving kits. It supports high performance I/O features like 8 channel SAS, 2 PCI-Express Gen2 x16 (8 GB/s) , 2 PCI-Express Gen2 x8 (4 GB/s) slots, 1 PCI-Express Gen2 x4 (2 GB/s) slot, 1 PCI-Express x4 (1 GB/s) slot, and 1 Legacy PCI 32-bit/33 MHz slot. Also provided are 12 (3 front, 3 internal, 6 rear) USB 2.0, and 2 IEEE 1394a (1 front and 1 rear).

**Q .** How will the HP Z800 Workstation be sold and distributed?

**A .** The HP Z800 Workstation will be sold on the Web, via distributor/VARs (indirect/direct channels), and HP sales force.

**Q .** How do I differentiate the HP Z800 Workstation?

**A .** The HP Z800 Workstation will compete against other vendors' Intel Xeon-based workstations. The HP Z800 is a highly expandable, rack mountable box, with the latest, high-performance, I/O technologies for ultimate performance. Only HP can provide the breadth of products that customers require in the form of Windows and Linux. The HP Z800 Workstation will continue HP's tradition of outstanding quality and thorough ISV qualification. Customers will be able to deploy HP Z800 Workstations into their mission-critical design, analysis, and content creation environments knowing that HP is there to support them after the initial purchase.

## Intel processors

**Q .** What is 64-bit extension technology (Intel EM64T)?

**A .** 64-bit extension technology (Extended Memory 64 Technology or EM64T) was first introduced in 2004 and continues on the new products. . The enhancement allows the processor to run 64-bit code and access larger amounts of memory.

**Q .** Will existing 32-bit software run, without being re-compiled, on the new processors with 64-bit extension technology?

**A .** If you are running a 32-bit O/S, yes. An IA-32 processor with 64-bit extension technology is 100% compatible with existing 32-bit applications when running with an existing 32-bit O/S. If you are running a 64-bit O/S the Intel processor supports "compatibility" mode, where all 32-bit applications will continue to run under a 64-bit O/S without being modified or recompiled.

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**Q .** Is the processor support the same for the Z600 and Z800?

**A .** The HP Z600 supports processors that have a maximum power of up to 95W. The Z800 can support processors with power up to 130W, so it has a broader processor offering.

**Q .** Does my customer have to recompile their applications to see the performance advantages of the new Intel Xeon processors?

**A .** No, testing and Intel data indicate that technical applications show immediate performance increases due to the new processor and memory architecture.

**Q .** How do I add the second processor? Is a system board swap required?

**A .** CPU upgrades are field and customer installable without system board swaps using the HP Z Series Workstation CPU upgrade kit. The second processor must be the same speed and stepping as the first.

**Q .** What are the benefits of Quad-Core<sup>1</sup> processors?

**A .** Intel Quad-Core processors provide double the processing resources in the same footprint compared to similar Dual-Core offerings. Quad-Core processors are ideal for usage models requiring multi-tasking (running many applications or simulations at once); working on spreadsheets while listening to music with virus checkers and system backups running (power office); or using applications that can split a task across processors (multi-threaded), like animation/rendering in Digital Content Creation.

**Q .** Does the Quad-Core processor offer any performance improvement over Dual-Core processors?

**A .** Yes, the new Quad-Core processors from Intel offer significant performance improvement over previous generation Dual- and Quad-Core processors on many applications and in many work environments.

**Q .** Dual-Core. Dual-Socket. Quad-Core. What do these terms mean?

**A .**

Dual socket	Two physical CPU sockets
Dual-core	Each CPU package has exactly two processor cores
Quad-core	Each CPU packet has exactly four processor cores
Dual-processor	A system with two processors in two sockets

**Q .** What is Intel® TurboBoost Technology?

**A .** Intel Turbo Boost Technology is built into the new Intel® microarchitecture and automatically allows processor cores to run faster than the base operating frequency if it's operating below power, current, and temperature specification limits.

**Q .** How much faster will my processor run with Intel TurboBoost Technology?

**A .** The frequency increases come in discreet 133 MHz steps. The number of steps possible will depend on the processor model and the number of processor cores actively running processes. For example, the Intel® Xeon® X5570 processor has a marked frequency of 2.93 GHz. The number of frequency steps available in Turbo Mode is 2 if 3 or 4 cores are actively running processes, and 3 steps if only 1 or 2 cores are actively running processes. This means that the processor frequency could be as high as 3.2 GHz if 3 or 4 cores are active, and as high as 3.33 GHz if only 1 or 2 cores are active. The actual increase will also be affected by the temperature and current draw of the CPU. If the CPU gets too hot, or draws too much current, the cores will step down in frequency to prevent damage to the component.

## Liquid Cooling

- Q .** Will HP offer Liquid Cooling on the new Z Workstations?
- A .** HP Liquid cooling will be offered on both the Z400 and Z800 with a planned introduction of mid-2009. This liquid cooling solution will be implemented for the processors ONLY.
- Q .** Why did HP choose to implement Liquid Cooling?
- A .** HP places a large priority on satisfying customer requirements. Achieving the lowest acoustics levels is a priority for HP Workstations. HP implements Liquid Cooling in a "holistic" fashion across both processors. Implementing Liquid Cooling provides extremely efficient heat removal from the processors, removing the fans from the processors and allows the remaining system fans to run at greatly reduced RPMs, which reduces the overall acoustic output levels. Configurations where the processor fans are not the dominant noise source will not benefit from liquid cooling. Examples of possible configurations where processors are not the dominate noise source are 4 GB or 8 GB fully loaded memory configurations or configurations with 15K SAS drives.
- Q .** How do I order Liquid Cooling?
- A .** Liquid Cooling is a Configure-to-Order option. This provides you with a choice between Air Cooling and Liquid Cooling.
- Q .** Where can I learn more about HP's Liquid Cooling?
- A .** Find additional information on the Liquid Cooling option in the "Reducing Acoustical Noise in Personal Workstations by Increasing Cooling Efficiency" whitepaper found at: [www.hp.com/go/wswhitepapers](http://www.hp.com/go/wswhitepapers) additional information can be found at: <http://h20331.www2.hp.com/Hpsub/cache/459889-0-0-225-121.html>

## Dual PCI Express Gen2 x16 graphics and I/O

- Q .** Graphically, what is special with the HP Z Series?
- A .** HP Workstations support one of the widest ranges of professional 2D up to Ultra High-End 3D graphics from ATI and NVIDIA, for your most visually-demanding applications. Depending on the workstation you choose, you can drive up to eight displays and take advantage of PCI Express Gen2 expansion slots that include: 2 PCI-E Gen2 x16 slots, 2 PCI-E Gen2 x8 slots, 1 PCI-E Gen2 x4 slot (varies by model).
- Q .** Does the PCI Express channel deliver any advantage beyond accommodating two graphics cards?
- A .** Yes. The PCI Express channels form general-purpose I/O busses that may be used for any device that is able to take advantage of the PCI Express interface
- Q .** What is meant by PCI Express (PCIe)?
- A .** PCIe is the latest generation of PCI architecture. PCI Express is a radically new implementation of the PCI computer bus that uses existing PCI programming concepts and communications standards, but is based on a much faster serial communications system. PCI Express x16 slots provides up to eight times the aggregate bandwidth of a PCI-X 133 MHz 64-bit slot (8 GB/s bidirectional).
- Q .** What's the advantage of PCI Express for graphics? What are the differences?
- A .** PCI Express is the next generation interface not only for graphics cards, but also for I/O cards. PCI Express is a scalable interface, and depending on the chipset the system can have

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multiple PCI Express connections with various bandwidths. For graphics cards, the defined standard is "by sixteen" (or x16). This implementation of PCI Express provides twice the unidirectional bandwidth and four times the peak bandwidth as AGP 8X. The PCI Express specification also allows for 75 W from the motherboard to the graphics cards. This is three times as much power as the standard AGP 8X specification.

**Q .** What graphics cards are available?

**A .**

Graphics card	HP Z400	HP Z600	HP Z800
<b>Professional 2D</b>			
NVIDIA Quadro NVS 295 (256 MB)	X	X	X
NVIDIA Quadro NVS 450 (512 MB)	X	X	X
<b>Entry 3D</b>			
NVIDIA Quadro FX 380 (256 MB)	X	X	X
ATI FirePro V3700 (256 MB)	X	X	X
NVIDIA Quadro FX 580 (512 MB)	X	X	X
<b>Mid-range 3D</b>			
NVIDIA Quadro FX 1800 (768 MB)	X	X	X
ATI FirePro V5700 (512 MB)	X	X	X
<b>High-end 3D</b>			
NVIDIA Quadro FX 3800 (1 GB) (June 2009)	X	X	X
ATI FirePro V7750 (1 GB)	X	X	X
NVIDIA Quadro FX 4800/CX (1.5 GB)	X	X	X
NVIDIA Quadro FX 5800 (4 GB)			X

**Q .** Should I buy a graphics card with 256 or 512 MB or 1 GB of memory?

**A .** Graphics performance is dependant upon many factors, including the amount of video memory. Higher performing cards also include bigger and faster GPUs, more memory bandwidth, and tend to have more features like dual-link connectors and support for stereo. The higher performance graphics cards will also have more memory (and a higher price). A dual display configuration at 1920 x 1200 pixels will allocate about 70 MB for the frame buffer. The remaining graphics memory will be used to store textures, display lists (graphics data sent by your applications), and other data specific to graphics. If your application would benefit from more storage space for these items, then you should purchase a graphics card with more memory.

## Drives

**Q .** What optical drives\* are available with the Z series?

**A .**

Z400: DVD-ROM, DVD+/-RW, Blu-Ray Writer\*\* (expected availability 05/09)

Z600: DVD-ROM, DVD+/-RW, Slot-load DVD+/-RW, Blu-Ray Writer\*\* (expected availability 05/09)

Z800: DVD-ROM, DVD+/-RW, Slot-load DVD+/-RW, Blu-Ray Writer\*\* (expected availability 05/09)

\*Actual speeds may vary. Does not permit copying of commercially available DVD movies or other copyright protected materials. Intended for creation and storage of your original material and other lawful uses. Double Layer discs can store more data than single layer discs. However, double-layer discs burned with this drive may not be compatible with many existing single-layer DVD drives and players.

\*\*As Blu-Ray is a new format containing new technologies, certain disc, digital connection, compatibility and/or performance issues may arise, and do not constitute defects in the product. Flawless playback on all systems is not guaranteed. In order for some Blu-ray titles to play, they may require a DVI or HDMI digital connection and your display may require HDCP support. HD-DVD movies cannot be played on this workstation.

**Q .** Do the HP Z Series offer and support SATA 3.0 Gb/s hard drives?

**A .** Yes.

Z400: Up to (4) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives<sup>6</sup>: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5\* TB, 6.0 TB max\* (\*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09)

Up to (4) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives<sup>6</sup>: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.2 TB max

Z600: Up to (3) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives<sup>6</sup>: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5\* TB, 4.5 TB max\* (\*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09)

Up to (4) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives<sup>6</sup>: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.2 TB max

Note: Third and fourth drives occupy one external optical bay.

Z800: Up to (5) 3.5-inch 7200 rpm SATA drives<sup>6</sup>: 160, 250, 320, 500 GB, 1, 1.5\* TB, 7.5 TB max\* (\*1.5 TB SATA drive expected availability 09/09)

Up to (6) 2.5-inch 10K rpm SATA drives<sup>6</sup>: 160, 300 GB SFF, 1.8 TB max

**Q .** Do the HP Z Series support Serial ATA (SATA) RAID?

**A .** Yes. The chipset used on the HP Z Series has an integrated 6-channel SATA controller with RAID support for RAID 0 (striped), RAID 1 (mirrored), RAID 5 (parity), and RAID 10 (striped and mirrored). You can choose to have a high performance RAID 0 array of hard drives where data is striped across multiple hard drives (this RAID method greatly improves data access times and system performance). You can choose to have a highly reliable RAID 1 array of hard drives, where data is duplicated to multiple hard drives at once (this RAID method creates a backup copy of all your data in real time). You can choose to implement a RAID 5 array, which protects against data loss and provides faster throughput. Data is distributed across at least two hard disks, with error correction information stored on an additional disk. Finally, you can choose to implement a RAID 10 array, which offers the advantages of RAID 0 and RAID 1 by utilizing four hard disks.

**Q .** What serial attached SCSI (SAS) drives and controllers are offered

**A .** We offer a wide selection of SAS disk drives and controllers. The faster spindle speeds (15K rpm) and the high bandwidth controllers (3.0 Gb/s) result in very fast access to your data. We offer two different PCI SAS controllers: an entry 4-channel SAS controller with basic hard drive connectivity/control and RAID functionality, and a full-featured 8-channel SAS controller with an external connector and comprehensive RAID functionality. We offer the following SAS drives:

## HP recommends Windows Vista® Business

Z400:	Up to (4) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives <sup>6</sup> : 146, 300, 450 GB, 1.8 TB max
Z600:	Up to (3) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives <sup>6</sup> : 146, 300, 450 GB, 1.35 TB max Note: Third and fourth drives occupy one external optical bay.
Z800:	Up to (5) 3.5-inch 15K rpm SAS drives <sup>6</sup> : 146, 300, 450 GB, 2.25 TB max

## Chassis design

- Q .** What's special about the new chassis?
- A .** The HP Z Series Workstations' sleek new industrial design—brushed aluminium side panels, tool-less access chassis, integrated handles, and visually cable-less engineering—creates new standards for ease of service, lowered acoustics, and energy efficiency.

## Energy efficiency

- Q .** What is HP WattSaver?
- A .** HP WattSaver is a BIOS-configurable feature that, when activated, enables the system to dissipate less than 1 Watt in standby and hibernate with no impact to run and sleep power modes. This HP innovation is available at product launch for all Z platforms even though this capability is not required by EU Directive 2005/32/EC, enacted by the European Union member countries, until 2010.

## Operating systems

- Q .** What operating systems are available on the new HP Z series workstation?
- A .**
- Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional 32-bit custom installed\*
  - Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit with downgrade to Windows® XP Professional x64 custom installed\*
  - Genuine Windows Vista® Business 32-bit\*\*
  - Genuine Windows Vista® Business 64-bit\*\*
  - HP Installer Kit for Linux (includes drivers for both 32-bit and 64-bit OS versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4 and WS5) (expected availability 05/09)
  - Novell Suse SLED 11(Z400 Workstation only) (expected availability 05/09)

\*Windows Vista Business disk may also be included for future upgrade if desired. To qualify for this downgrade an end user must be a business (including governmental or educational institutions) and is

expected to order at least 25 customer systems with the same custom image.

\*\*Certain Windows Vista product features require advanced or additional hardware. See [www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/getready/hardwareregs.msp](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/getready/hardwareregs.msp) and [www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/getready/capable.msp](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/getready/capable.msp) for details. Windows Vista Upgrade Advisor can help you determine which features of Windows Vista will run on your computer. To download the tool, visit [www.windowsvista.com/upgradeadvisor](http://www.windowsvista.com/upgradeadvisor).

- Q .** Is dual OS preload an option?
- A .** Dual OS preload will not be offered due to restrictions of licensing agreements.



## HP recommends Windows Vista® Business

- Q .** Will existing 32-bit OS software run, without being re-compiled, on an IA-32 processor with 64-bit extension technology?
- A .** If you are running a 32-bit OS, yes. An IA-32 processor with 64-bit extension technology is 100% compatible with existing 32-bit applications when running with an existing 32-bit OS. If you are running a 64-bit OS the Intel processor supports “compatibility” mode, where all 32-bit applications will continue to run under a 64-bit OS without being modified or recompiled.

## Linux

- Q .** Will the HP Z series Workstations support Linux?
- A .** Yes. Red Hat RHEL WS 4 (preload & HPIKL) & RHEL 5 Client (HPIKL) is available.
- Q .** What is the HP Installer Kit for Linux?
- A .** The HP installer kit for Linux (HPIKL) is an HP-provided CD to be used in conjunction with a RHEL installation to complete your Linux workstation installation. Included on the HPIKL are:
- HP Driver CD for Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS 4 and 5 Client
  - NVIDIA and ATI accelerated graphics drivers that have passed HP quality standards and are compatible with the hardware platform and RHEL releases.
  - HP Documentation links
  - Additional hardware drivers provided by HP that are not part of the standard Red Hat Enterprise Linux releases.

All content provided on this CD is compatible with both RHEL WS 4 and RHEL WS 5 Client. For information on how to use the HP Driver CD, refer to the HP Linux Workstation User manual at [http://www.hp.com/support/linux\\_user\\_manual](http://www.hp.com/support/linux_user_manual)

- Q .** Does the HP Installer Kit for Linux actually contain the Red Hat Box OS?
- A .** No, you must obtain the Red Hat Box Set OS of your choice. The HP Installer Kit for Linux is a CD set to be used in conjunction with a RHEL install and supports both Red Hat Enterprise WS 4 or 5 OS. Red Hat requires that you purchase Red Hat Enterprise WS 4 or 5.
- Q .** What value does HP bring to Linux on Personal Workstations?
- A .**
- HP has a dedicated Linux R&D team with 25+ years of experience in OS and driver development
  - HP has close relationship with multiple third-parties to enable the complete Linux workstation solution
  - HP engineering provides extensive pre-sales technical support
  - HP publishes detailed documents, drivers, and white papers on the support website regarding Linux on HP Workstations.
- Q .** Where can I find technical information to guide my installation, configuring, or customizing of my Linux workstation solution?
- A .** At [http://www.hp.com/support/linux\\_user\\_manual](http://www.hp.com/support/linux_user_manual) under "setup, install, and configure" you will find multiple white papers on Linux configuration tips such as enabling large memory configurations, hyper threading, multi-headed graphics configurations.

## Manageability

**Q .** What manageability features are available on HP Personal Workstations \*?

**A .** HP Client Management Solutions help you simplify management of our workstations and reduce total ownership costs. These integrated solutions are a result of extensive work between HP and its partner, Altiris, a leading provider of manageability solutions. HP Client Manager Software is a free of charge download available with all HP Personal Workstations. It allows you to centrally track, monitor, and manage the hardware aspects of HP client systems on your network. Other benefits include:

- Ability to get valuable hardware information such as CPU, memory, video, and security settings
- Monitor system health to fix problems before they occur
- Install drivers and BIOS updates without visiting each workstation
- Remotely configure BIOS and security settings
- Automate processes to quickly resolve hardware problems
- Local recovery

\*Available on Microsoft Windows-based systems.

**Q .** What is HP Performance Tuning Framework\*?

**A .** HP Performance Tuning Framework is a preloaded utility which enables the most favorable configuration of HP Personal Workstations to deliver stability and best performance. The Framework will guide your system setup, allowing a "custom" configuration that best matches the workstation to user requirements. This customization facilitates availability of the latest graphics cards and drivers and removes some memory restraints.

The Framework's extensible design permits new configuration functionality and application support to be easily integrated over time. To facilitate the delivery of such new features, the Framework automatically updates itself when newer versions become available.

The Performance Tuning Framework, available only from HP, can help save both time and money and increase overall productivity.

For more information on the HP Performance Tuning Framework, go to:  
<http://www.hp.com/go/framework>

\*Available on Microsoft Windows-based systems.

## Security

**Q .** What security features are available on the HP Z series Workstations?

**A .**

Security feature	Z400	Z600	Z800
Padlock support (padlock optional)	X	X	X
Cable Lock support (cable optional)	X	X	X
Serial, parallel, USB enable/disable	X	X	X
Removable media write/boot control	X	X	X
Power-on password	X	X	X
Setup password	X	X	X
Universal chassis clamp lock (optional);	X	X	
Kensington cable lock (optional)	X	X	X
Smart cover solenoid lock (optional)	X	X	
Chassis intrusion sensor (optional)	X	X	X

## Options and modules

**Q .** What options are available for the new HP Z Series Workstations?

**A .** For a complete list of all options for the HP Workstations, please go to: <http://www.hp.com/workstations/pws/options>.

## Warranty and support

**Q .** What is the warranty and support for HP Workstations with Windows?

**A .** The standard warranty for the HP Personal Workstations is 3-3-3 limited warranty (three years parts, three years labor, and three years next business day on-site).\*

\* HP Care Pack Services extend service contracts beyond the standard warranties. Service starts from date of hardware purchase. To choose the right level of service for your HP product, use the HP Care Pack Services Lookup Tool at [www.hp.com/go/lookuptool](http://www.hp.com/go/lookuptool). Additional HP Care Pack Services information by product is available at [www.hp.com/hps/carepack](http://www.hp.com/hps/carepack). Service levels and response times for HP Care Packs may vary depending on your geographic location.

**Q .** What is the warranty and support for HP Workstations with Linux?

**A .** The warranty for HP Workstations with Linux is the standard 3-3-3 limited warranty with 90 days of OS configuration and installation assistance.

**Q .** Will HP stand behind Linux when I have problems?

**A .** HP is the first place for support. Hardware and software warranties for the workstations with Linux will be the same as that of the Windows workstations. Extended hardware warranties and software support options will also be available for purchase for if you need extended coverage.

### Notes:

1 Dual- and Quad-Core technologies are designed to improve performance of multithreaded software products and hardware-aware multitasking operating systems and may require appropriate operating system software for full benefits; check with software provider to determine suitability; Not all customers or software applications will necessarily benefit from use of these technologies.

2 This workstation does not support the Intel Core 2 Extreme processor over-clocking feature.

3 64-bit computing on Intel architecture requires a computer system with a processor, chipset, BIOS, operating system, device drivers and applications enabled for Intel® 64 architecture. Processors will not operate (including 32-bit operation) without an Intel 64 architecture-enabled BIOS. Performance will vary depending on your hardware and software configurations. See [www.intel.com/info/em64t](http://www.intel.com/info/em64t) for more information.

4 Intel's numbering is not a measurement of higher performance.

5 Each processor supports up to 3 channels of DDR3 memory. To realize full performance at least 1 DIMM must be inserted into each channel. To get full 6 channel support, 2 processors MUST be installed.

6 For hard drives, 1 GB = 1 billion bytes. TB = 1 trillion bytes. Actual formatted capacity is less. Up to 8 GB of hard drive (or system disk) is reserved for the system recovery software (XP and XP Pro). Up to 12 GB of system disk is reserved for system recovery software. (Vista)

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