
Subject: Re: Choice of 64-bit platform for IDL
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Mon, 24 May 2004 14:34:28 GMT
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Of the UNIX choices you listed, my preference is Solaris. The only reason for that choice is that it seems to be the only one on the list where there isn't some question about future RSI support. Here, we use Linux and Solaris for the majority of intensive IDL computing and analysis. We used to have some AIX and HP/UX machines around, but those have been turned into boat anchors -- especially the old HP monitors, those things were heavy! But, I digress. My personal choice would be Linux, if the 64-bit solution existed. However, we do have IDL 6 running fine on a couple Solaris 9 servers.

I know that 64-bit computing is the future, but why have you decided to go after a 64-bit architecture? There are plenty of other factors to consider for a big, beefy machine -- RAM, processor(s) speed, cache speed, etc. If you wanted to maximize \$\$/flops (that's dollars per floating point operations per second) you might want to look at some of the cheaper 32-bit architectures and use the extra money to buy more RAM or processors. Just an idea I thought I'd throw out.

-Mike
