

Separated At Birth?

i Can Do IT™

By Dan Duffy

With the announcement of the i5 and i5/OS, the IBM eServer line-up (and in particular the iSeries and pSeries models) moved much closer together. So much so that only a few different chromosomes separate them from one another – and they don't even get those until they reach the end of the production line in Rochester, Minnesota.

On our beloved iSeries we can now run AIX (Unix) natively in a partition. We can run Linux natively in a partition. We can also run Windows with the aid of the IXS and IXA features. Conversely the pSeries (AIX/Unix) people can now run i5/OS (OS/400) natively in their partitions. Unix? Linux? Windows? Cats and dogs living together? What is a dyed-in-the-wool-iSeries-bigot to do?

Face it and embrace it baby...

iSeries purists have long maligned Unix as some cryptic Stone Age creation written by guys with so many propellers that they could give a wind farm a run for its money. Not only that but if unleashed in their iSeries environment, it would act as an open doorway to various plagues including – but not limited to – deadly viruses and quirky, unrecoverable applications. (See also: Portal of Doom.)

Let's face it. There are thousands of Unix applications running out there and they work well. Let's embrace it. Be the first one in your organization (before the pSeries people do it) to say, "You know what boss? I can run that AIX/Unix application on the iSeries and save us a bunch of time and money and give you better security, better reliability, and

better recoverability. Let me show you how it's done. By the way if you get me a new model 520, 550 or 570 I'll show you what I can do with those Windows and Linux workloads too ... and oh by the way, I'd like to attend COMMON and the TUG Technical Education Conference." (You might as well ask when you have his or her attention.)

The iSeries silo is the best silo. We know that. The rest of the world may not be aware of it, but we know it. Guess what? We can't hang our hats on that anymore. The world right now is looking at workload optimization, server consolidation, head count reduction, and doing more with less. But, guess which IBM eServer fits that model best? You got it Pontiac – the i5.

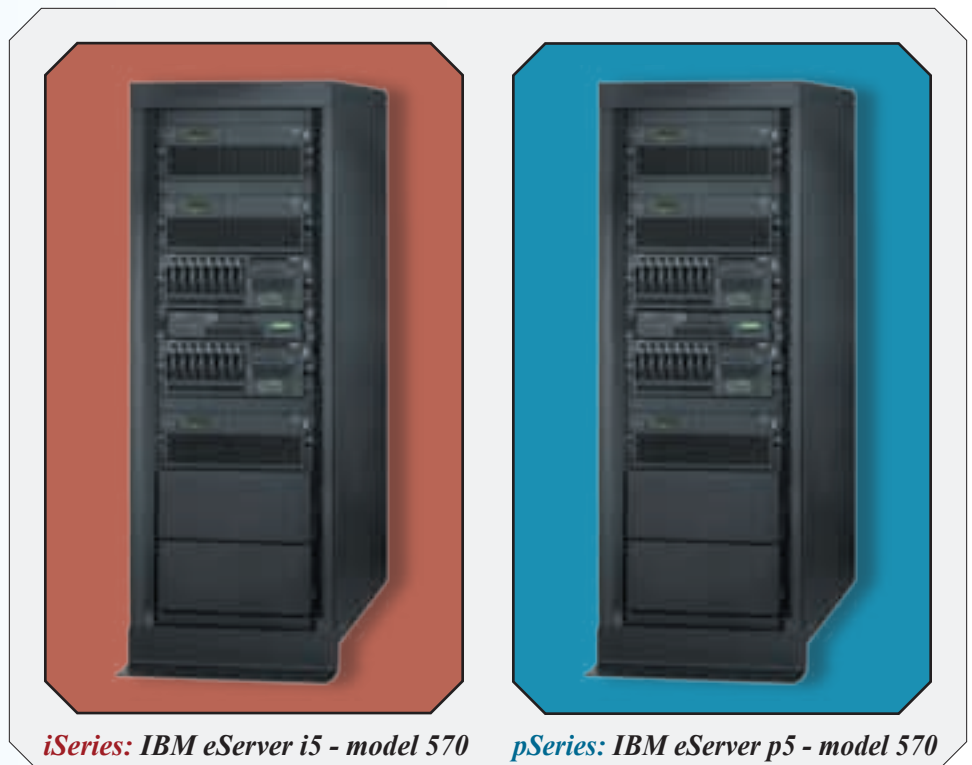


So instead of tilting your head and saying, "That stuff? (Unix, Windows, Linux.) I wouldn't touch it with a 10 foot (3.048 metre) pole," ... embrace this as your new mantra:

“*i* Can Do IT™”



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iSeries: IBM eServer i5 - model 570

pSeries: IBM eServer p5 - model 570