

Freedom from RAID

June 4, 2001

Fujitsu Transaction Solutions, Inc. is pleased to announce that Dealers are now released from the requirement of the RAID server set for the installation and support of **ISS45** Version 8. For the immediate future, Dealers may install **V8** on the ISS45-validated mid-towers (45MTPC) or the RAID set (45TSVR1/45TSVR2).

The 45MTPC (use with both MFS1 and MFS2) and the 45TSVR1/45TSVR2 set are the only machines validated and supported with ISS45.

The new configuration will allow Dealers to sell ISS45 Version 8 with lower-cost servers, lowering the list price of **V8** systems by approximately \$9,000 per store.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why has the RAID requirement been lifted? Experience with over 300 installations of **V8** — including the first Dealer installations of **V8** — indicate that increasing disk reliability should place the RAID decision back into the hands of the buyer.

Why was there a RAID requirement in the first place? ISS45 **V8** is available in a “biased” server configuration, making the database on MFS1 more critical to preserve in all situations. In addition, proper and timely support of Version 8 required a standardized platform in the early phases of installation.

Does Fujitsu continue to recommend RAID? Absolutely yes. For users who place a very high value on data security and non-stop operation, the RAID server set provides the ultimate in this capability. For smaller stores, however, the cost differential may not be economically justified given other backup methods and disciplines.

Why does Fujitsu still require the 45MTPC and not just allow Dealers to install Version 8 on any machine the Dealer deems fit? Dealer installations of ISS45 Version 8 are still in the beginning stages, and it remains essential to have a standardized platform to remove configuration variables for support. The 45MTPC is available to Dealers at a competitive price with other Tier 1 PC suppliers in the marketplace.

Will Fujitsu remove the Fujitsu-only PC policy at some point? Yes — this will take place (like with ISS45 originally and the NT version a few years ago) after sufficient experience with Version 8 in Dealer-supported installations has demonstrated that configuration risks are manageable.

To Your Success,

Tony

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Director: Supermarket Systems

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