Open. Together.
Microsoft’s Project Olympus in OpenRack

Brandon Rubenstein, Director of Engineering
Shaun Harris, Director of Engineering
Microsoft
Olympus + OpenRack: Project Olympus Platform

• Provided functionality and modularity in a high availability cloud-based platform.

• Design Versatility
  • Several CPU architectures
  • Two storage platforms
  • New infrastructure solutions, server variations and building blocks continue to be developed

But there is always room for improvement…
• The Investigation Goal
  • Expand Olympus building block portfolio and share innovation on the OpenRack platform

• OpenRack infrastructure becomes another Olympus building block

• Opens many OpenRack building blocks to Olympus platform users.
  • Power infrastructure
  • New form factor rack

• Hardware Convergence
  • Greater cross pollination of innovations.
    • Networking, IO, liquid cooling

• Drive cost through added volume.
Olympus + OpenRack: Olympus Gains

• Flexibility in power distribution
  • Pooled power reduces PSU SKUs, a PSU for a desired rack power
  • Reduced server weight
  • Simplified high power server management
• Faceplate width for increased IO or expansion bay potential
• Potential common liquid cooling solution
• Hardware convergence.
  • Shared/leveraged rack and infrastructure block qualification, dev costs

Additional 100mm width adds potential expansion bay for IO, storage, on-board battery

Power Shelf and Busbar Power Provide Options in A/C Input Power Levels and DC Voltage Output Distribution to the Servers

Integrated Cooling Infrastructure on OpenRack Used on Olympus as Well
Olympus + OpenRack: Olympus Retains

- Olympus motherboard, expansion cards, other basic building blocks
- Olympus management infrastructure
  - Power management, health monitoring
- RU on OpenRack
Olympus + OpenRack: Power and Voltage

Objectives:
Efficiency, Low Cost, High Reliability, Enable common fungible platform infrastructure.

Simple question:
What is the best versatile rack power distribution platform?
Lot 9 – Europe is on path to be the first region enforcing a law ([Link](#)) banning Servers and Storage equipment with low energy efficiency from being put into service. Regulation is set to become mandatory in **March 2020**. Requirements target Idle Energy, Active Power, Power Supply efficiency along with other material restrictions and requirements to promote re-use of equipment (circular economy). Idle Energy and Active Power requirements are centered around SERT.

China Server Energy Efficiency – CNIS (China National Institute of Standardization) is set to publish draft server efficiency standard this spring. Regulation will be enforced at customs, preventing non-certified serves from being imported. CNIS have yet to select the tool to assess efficiency (SERT vs SEEB which is a Chinese developed metric). Energy limits and other requirements unknown at this time.

**Other upcoming regulations:**

Japan METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) notified WTO ([Link](#)) of updated requirements for Server Energy Efficiency. Regulation is expected to be published in spring 2019 and become mandatory for Servers starting 4/1/21. Expected to follow European Lot 9 requirements and adoption of SERT.

Europe GPP – European Commission published Energy/Environmental criteria proposals for procurement of Data Centers and Cloud services. [Link to GPP Documentation](#) Potential impact to Microsoft Cloud service offering in Europe. US Department of Energy is also participating in the GPP working group. GPP award criteria target 3 areas: (1) Data Center system as a whole (2) Cooling and power distribution systems (3) IT and Networking equipment.

USA Data Center Optimization Initiative appear to have limited scope and no impact to Microsoft.

GEC (Green Electronic Council) it’s a US based NGO administering the EPEAT program for the DOE. GEC has been working for years to enter the Server and Cloud business by pushing standardization (Server standard published in 2018, Networking under development) and setting [EPEAT for Server](#) (active since August 2018). GEC is also active in drafting Green Procurement guidelines. Requirements mostly affect hardware sold to federal and government agencies with no impact to Microsoft at this time. Efforts to extend the scope were unsuccessful so far. AWS, Google and Microsoft intentionally avoided direct engagement with GEC.

ISO/IEC standardization efforts – Draft ISO/IEC DIS 21836 was just published. This standard provides a server energy effectiveness metric (SEEM) to measure and report the energy effectiveness of specific server designs and configurations. It is meant to be leveraged by governments and regulators to establish compliance and/or reporting programs. It adopts SERT but also provides requirements for servers where SERT is not applicable, with the implementation of an alternate server energy effectiveness metrics.
Conversion and distribution efficiency is important.

Data Center Charge Back determined by Capex, Opex, and Operator Profit.
Olympus + OpenRack

240VAC or 12VDC distribution at 48U

- Rack PDU
- 200-240VAC Distribution Resistance
- AC/DC
- 12VDC Distribution Resistance
- DC/DC
- 1.xVDC Distribution Resistance
- Load

Rack Power
10kW to 34kW

Chassis Power
300W to 1200W/U

240VAC or 48VDC distribution at 48U

- Rack PDU
- 200-277VAC Distribution Resistance
- AC/DC
- 48VDC Distribution Resistance
- DC/DC
- 12VDC Distribution Resistance
- DC/DC
- 1.xVDC Distribution Resistance
- Load

Rack Power
10kW to 34kW

Chassis Power
300W to 1200W/U
Olympus + OpenRack: Development

- Expanding to OpenRack
  - *Not* discontinuing development on the EIA/PMDU rack
- Mechanical proof of concept is on display at OCP in partner booth and a server blade is displayed at the Microsoft booth
- OpenRack V3 Specification
  - Coordination and collaboration with Facebook for support of the needed features of both OCP and Project Olympus