

AIX Update Plans

Upcoming enhancements for AIX 4.2 as well as details for future versions of AIX have been released. Some new features for the current version that are scheduled for release in late 1996 and the first half of 1997 include the following:

- ◆ New version of AIX Connections that will enable an AIX server to act as a proxy for a NetWare server
- ◆ Licensing Novell Directory Services from Novell, Inc.
- ◆ Upgrade the Bonus Pack of Internet add-on products to include Netscape Communications Corporation's FastTrack
- ◆ Bonus Pack upgrade to include support for Netscape's Gold browser
- ◆ Electronic commerce applications and digital certificates for AIX 4.2
- ◆ Add-on products for World Wide Web and capacity management
- ◆ WebSMIT—Web interface to is System Management Interface Tool that can be used from a Web browser
- ◆ New multimedia products including a broadcast-level multimedia server that will stream audio and video data

A new version, AIX 4.3, is scheduled for third quarter of 1997. Its features will include the following:

- ◆ Full 64-bit version
- ◆ Full 64-bit file sizes, 64-bit memory and address space sizes, plus support for 64-bit processors
- ◆ Interoperability with 32-bit applications

Clustering with Phoenix Technology

IBM's Phoenix clustering technology will help developers build highly available mission-critical

applications using clusters based on OS/2, Windows NT, AIX, or other UNIX operating systems. The technology provides much control in monitoring and responding to failure conditions.

Clustering provides higher availability by allowing systems to back up each other and allows additional systems to be added to the cluster as needed. Ensuring high availability has become an essential business requirement. IBM's Phoenix clustering technology delivers that by monitoring both hardware and software.

Phoenix technology is available for the RS/6000 SP servers and is planned for the rest of the RS/6000 family.

New Communications Server for AIX 4.2

The release of the new Communications Server for AIX provides a full range of communications and connectivity offerings for the RS/6000 and AIX. It supports both the uniprocessor and Symmetric Multiprocessing (SMP) hardware environments. It requires either AIX 4.1.2 and later or AIX 4.2.

The new release includes features of the existing Version 4.1 plus the following enhancements:

- ◆ **High Performance Routing (HPR):** An end-to-end connection-oriented protocol that improves network availability, performance, and System Network Architecture (SNA) congestion control
- ◆ **Dependent LU Requester (DLUR):** Provides a means of transporting LU traffic through Advanced Peer-to-Peer Networking® (APPN®)
- ◆ **AnyNet® Sockets over SNA Gateway:** Connects SNA and TCP/IP networks to allow sockets applications data to flow freely across both environments; workstations and hosts in SNA networks can run sockets applications and appear to be directly connected to the TCP/IP network
- ◆ **Performance enhancements:** Supports V.35 communication links up to 1.54 Mbit/sec for Synchronous Data Link Control (SDLC) and supports up to 50,000 concurrent sessions; maximum number of sessions will vary depending on the mix of session types and hardware configuration

The server will provide a powerful gateway along with a broad range of communication, connectivity, and networking options.