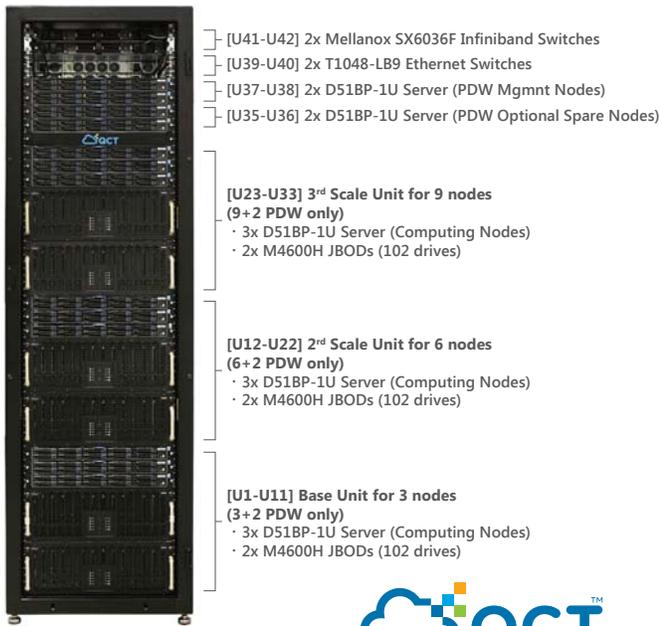


Microsoft Analytics Platform System by QCT (Quanta Cloud Technology)



Built for Big Data, offering next-generation performance at scale, and engineered for optimal value

Organizations that have highly demanding data warehousing workloads want a comprehensive and economical solution to meet their Big Data and business intelligence needs. Microsoft and QCT (Quanta Cloud Technology) have partnered to offer such a solution: the Microsoft Analytics Platform System by QCT.

Microsoft Analytics Platform System (APS) is a scale-out Massively Parallel Processing (MPP) fully integrated system for data warehouse specific workloads. APS provides industry leading price and performance, connectivity to predictive analytics in Azure Machine Learning, and can dramatically reduce time to production and administration. The appliance experience is complemented by a unified Microsoft and QCT support model, with Microsoft acting as your single point of contact for all patches, upgrades, and issues.

This complete data warehousing solution spans desktop systems, data marts, and the enterprise data warehouse—all while operating seamlessly with Microsoft business intelligence tools.

Architecture

- Base unit has 113 terabytes of storage capacity, based on 5:1 compression and 1-terabyte disks.
- Capacity can be doubled or tripled by replacing the standard 1-terabyte drives with 2-terabyte or 3-terabyte drives.
- 3 scale units fit into 1 rack for more than 1 petabyte of usable storage.
- Multiple racks (as many as 6) can be configured for even more compute resources and usable storage.
- 3 compute nodes per scale unit provide the most fault-tolerant solution currently available.
- Backup zone and landing zone are optional features; customers have complete control over their options.

Scalable and affordable power

The QCT APS Appliance is built with the number of nodes (as many as 9) and the types of disks that meet your requirements. It is delivered as a single-rack solution and is then installed in your data center.

The QCT APS Appliance offers built-in redundancy and high performance with low energy consumption. Each multiprocessor server node is specifically designed to provide optimal performance with minimal requirements for physical space, power, and cooling. Storage nodes in the QCT APS Appliance offer enterprise grade performance at low cost.

Simplified data warehousing

Through extensive co-engineering and testing, Microsoft and QCT together are providing powerful and efficient data warehousing and Hadoop solutions on a certified hardware platform.

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Key features

QCT design: The QCT appliance is based on QCT's innovative Quad-enclosure servers that have as many as 9 compute nodes per rack and can scale to as many as 6 racks. Raw disk capacity scales easily from 0 to 1.2 petabytes. The entire appliance is designed with robust redundancy throughout for high availability. Each scale unit is composed of 3 compute nodes to provide the most fault-tolerant Analytics Platform System solution currently available.

One-call comprehensive support: Customer support calls go to Microsoft APS Support. Microsoft then communicates with QCT for hardware solutions through a specialized QCT warranty queue to resolve issues quickly.

Symmetry with SQL Server: Microsoft has added features to unify the query and administrative experiences of the Analytics Platform System with those of SQL Server 2014 Enterprise Edition.

Complete business intelligence solution: With the Analytics Platform System, you can use familiar tools like Microsoft Excel, Report Builder, and Power View to create compelling visualizations for making important business decisions.

Ready to use: As a prebuilt appliance with optimized software, APS by QCT allows organizations to focus on developing solutions rapidly rather than building their environments from scratch.

Easy data management: The Analytics Platform System integrates with SQL Server Integration Services, which allows data architects to use a familiar ETL tool to move data into the appliance.

Technical implementation

The Analytics Platform System hardware and software architectures have been greatly enhanced to take advantage of Windows Server 2012 R2 platform capabilities.

Intelligent query processor

PolyBase is the next-generation execution engine for querying, transforming, and indexing relational data and non-relational Hadoop data. PolyBase seamlessly manages data where it originates and allows for SQL language-based queries of data stored in SQL Server and Hadoop clusters, on-premises or in the cloud.

Software architecture

In-Memory Columnstore: The Analytics Platform System uses In-Memory Columnstore, which reorients data in a column rather than a traditional rowstore to deliver next-generation performance (as much as 100 times faster) and higher compression of data (as much as 15 times more).

Massively parallel processing: The Analytics Platform System uses the SQL Server PDW massively parallel processing (MPP) engine. Through parallel execution, the MPP shared-nothing architecture provides the highest performance at scale and can accommodate a high rate of concurrency during complex query processing.

Summary

Microsoft and QCT make it easier to deploy a complete data warehousing solution that meets an organization's most complex Big Data and business intelligence needs. The APS by QCT appliance is prebuilt with software, hardware, and networking components already installed. This solution provides high-speed parallel query processing, highly scalable data storage, integration with Hadoop through PolyBase, and high-speed data transfer for the most demanding data warehousing workloads.

Additional information

QCT (Quanta Cloud Technology) is a global datacenter solution provider extending the power of hyperscale datacenter design in standard and open SKUs to all datacenter customers. Product lines include servers, storage, network switches, integrated rack systems and cloud solutions, all delivering hyperscale efficiency, scalability, reliability, manageability, serviceability and optimized performance for each workload. QCT offers a full spectrum of datacenter products and services from engineering, integration and optimization to global supply chain support, all under one roof. To learn more about the Microsoft Analytics Platform System by QCT, visit: <http://www.QCT.io>, <http://www.microsoft.com/aps>.



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