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Stratus Technologies' new guide to availability helps companies match needs with nines

'Availability for Dummies' details different levels of availability, offers direction on calculating losses from downtime

MAYNARD, Mass., Sept. 16, 2008 – Should you settle for high availability when you need continuous availability? Do you know the difference – or need to? Stratus Technologies answers those and other important questions in “Availability for Dummies,” a new guide to different levels of application and data reliability, and how they apply to business needs.

The 24-page booklet is geared toward IT professionals and business managers who know they need availability solutions, but need to better understand technology options and help with sorting out vendors' claims. Many IT professionals mistakenly believe there is only one level of availability – high availability (HA) – where there are actually levels above and below HA. That misconception often keeps people from finding the appropriate availability solution for particular applications. In an easy-to-read style, Stratus' “Availability for Dummies” discusses key points such as:

- the differences between standard, high and continuous availability;
- how virtualization figures into the availability equation;
- why 99 percent uptime isn't nearly as good as it sounds; and

- how small and medium sized businesses can reach the upper echelons of availability without breaking the bank.

“Availability for Dummies” discusses pros and cons of many availability alternatives, including a section on Stratus’ Avance™ software, which enables two standard servers to operate as a high-availability server delivering more than 99.99 percent uptime for as little as \$2,500 per server. High-availability solutions like Avance cut unscheduled downtime to less than 8.75 hours per year, compared to 87.5 hours for a standard availability solution. The gold standard for availability – industry-standard fault-tolerant computing – is covered as well.

“Business depends on computers to generate revenue and keep processes running smoothly so much more than it did as recently as five years ago. That puts pressure on companies to guarantee users levels of application availability they never had to worry about before,” said Denny Lane, Stratus director of product management. “We wrote ‘Availability for Dummies’ to help them sort out their options so they are properly armed to select the availability solutions that fit their needs and their resources. There is a broad range of availability solutions on the market, further complicated by the rapid rise of virtualization technology. We want this book to be an IT manager’s first step in sorting it all out.”

For more information or to order a copy of “Availability for Dummies,” please visit:

<http://www.stratus.com/library/dummies-landing.htm>.

About Stratus Technologies

Stratus Technologies focuses exclusively on helping its customers keep critical business operations online without interruption. Business continuity requires resiliency and superior availability throughout the IT infrastructure, including virtual environments. Stratus delivers a range of solutions that includes software-based high availability, fault-tolerant servers, availability consulting and assessment, and remote systems management services. Based on its 28 years of expertise in product and services technology for total availability, Stratus is a trusted solutions provider to customers in manufacturing, health care, financial services, public safety, transportation & logistics, and other industries. For more information, visit www.stratus.com.

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