Sizing

To get an initial idea of what hardware is necessary to operate the SAP system, estimate the hardware requirements of your SAP system (sizing). This includes the required network bandwidth, physical memory, CPU size, and I/O capacity. The size of the hardware and database is influenced by business considerations as well as technical aspects (i.e. the number of users, the applications used, and the data volume caused by these applications on the network).

SAP provides its own tool for the initial assessment of the required hardware: the *Quick Sizer*. Based on questions on the expected number of users, applications, and so on, Quick Sizer determines an SAPS value (SAP Application Performance Standard) which the hardware partner can use to determine a hardware configuration for the SAP system.

> **Hint:**
> For more information about sizing, go to https://www.sap.com/about/benchmark/sizing.quick-sizer.html . There is also a link directly to the *Quick Sizer* (tab *Quick Sizer*).
>
> Note that sizing is an ongoing process. You may have to adjust the sizing whenever additional users access the SAP system or new applications are deployed.

Supported Platforms

The Product Availability Matrix (PAM) provides technical information and release planning information for the individual SAP products and their versions.

Using PAM, you can find information about the availability of SAP component releases (product versions), the end of their respective maintenance periods, upgrade paths, and technical release information (such as database platforms, operating systems, and supported languages).

> **Hint:**
> To access the Product Availability Matrix, go to the SAP Support Portal and choose quick link /pam .

Load Balancing

In SAP systems that have multiple application servers and large numbers of users, the question of how best to distribute the users among the application servers of the SAP system frequently arises. The SAP system provides various mechanisms for load balancing:

- When logging on with the SAP GUI, the (ABAP) Message Server can distribute individual users to the various application servers when they log on to the SAP system. Since this distribution takes place at the time of the SAP system logon and cannot be changed before logging out, it is known as *logon load balancing*.

- Once a user is logged on to a specific application server under the SAP GUI protocol, the ABAP dispatcher takes care of balancing the individual work processes.

- HTTP requests received via the Internet Communication Manager (ICM) of an application server are – if the ICM cannot answer the request itself from the cache – forwarded by the