

t\*\*\*@gmail.com

19 years ago

Hi,

Seems zx2000 machines are getting affordable on the s/h market, I've read that these are practically identical to some rackmount systems on which OpenVMS is supported, so I'm simply wondering if it's possible to run OpenVMS on a zx2000?

Cheers

Garry

FredK

19 years ago

Post by t\*\*\*@gmail.com

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Yes, as long as you are not looking for official support - the basic boxes will work but not all the bells & whistles.

The zx6000 is identical to the rx2600 except for some firmware, and the card cage (that provides an AGP - which will not work as we never completed the support work for it). I'm not sure we ever had an rx6000, but I'm pretty confident that it works.

The rx2000 is the same basic electronics as the rx2600 with a single CPU and an AGP bus - we do have a couple of these (I have one).

Get an ATI Radeon 7500 PCI card for graphics.

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d\*\*\*@dittman.net

19 years ago

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Why was AGP dropped from the rx26x0 systems? I would have expected AGP in the rx26x0 systems would have increased the available options for video cards.

--  
Eric Dittman  
\*\*\*@dittman.net

Rich Jordan

19 years ago

Probably because itanium workstations went the way of itanium desktops, itanium laptops, and dodo-birds... servers don't need fancy graphics.

Robert Deininger

19 years ago

Post by Rich Jordan

Probably because itanium workstations went the way of itanium desktops, itanium laptops, and dodo-birds... servers don't need fancy graphics.

Pretty much correct. This is the only real impact I have seen of the decision to stop Itanium work in HP's workstation group. The AGP backplane went away.

The rx2600 family started in the workstation group, and the AGP backplane was developed specifically for graphics support. When the workstation group decided to focus exclusively on non-Itanium systems, the rx2600 was transferred to the entry-level systems group, which developed the rx2620 product.

Leaving the AGP backplane behind was partly the result of misunderstanding, I believe. It seemed to take the HP-UX folks almost a year to realize they'd left behind their only high-performance graphics platform for HP-UX. The eventually noticed the Radeon 7500 card that VMS already supported on rx2620 (and the rest of the entry-level family) and added HP-UX support. But the AGP backplane was not added at the same time; I think it was fairly unknown to the small server folks.

That AGP backplane was due for a re-design in any case. I don't think it could take advantage of the higher bus speeds in current systems. But when rx2620 was in the pipeline, AGP was already pretty much over. Graphics hardware was already moving to PCI-Express. Further AGP development work at that time -- and the work would have been significant -- was viewed as a poor investment.

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