

How much money can be saved using zAAP ?

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In 2004 IBM announced the availability of a new processor type called **zSeries Application Assist Processor (zAAP)**.

These processors work together with the standard general purpose processors but are used only by Java code; they are much less expensive than the other ones and, more important, their usage doesn't influence the z/OS software license costs.

Whatever policy you adopted (WLC, PSLC, etc.) the current cost of IBM software is still very high and it is normally 2 or 3 times higher than the hardware one.

Depending on the amount of MSUs, the policy adopted, the products installed and many other (non technical) factors, the software cost per MSU can be very variable.

If we assume a price of 10.000,00 Euro per MSU per year, serving 50 MSU (about 350 MIPS) of Java eligible work thru zAAP will reduce the annual software license costs by 500.000,00 Euro.

The promise of a big reduction in software costs is the reason why so many companies are interested in zAAPs.

To use zAAP the minimum requirements are:

- z990 machines
- z/OS 1.6 or above
- SDK 1.4.1

However before moving to zAAP you have to evaluate, in your capacity planning studies, how much of your workload will be zAAP eligible.

Depending on the hardware and software levels available in your environment, different techniques can be used. This paper will discuss these techniques showing real life examples.