

## **Practical Capacity Planning in 2010zAAP and zIIP (Part 1)**

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When IBM released zAAP (2004) and zIIP(2006) most companies decided to acquire a few of these specialty engines (sometimes just one) to verify if they really could help in reducing software costs. This is probably the reason why Capacity Planning activities to size these specialty processors have been performed in a very rough and ready way at the beginning.

The situation in 2010 is completely different: zAAP and zIIP have become an essential hardware resource at many customer sites (many companies use a lot of zAAP and zIIP) and managers now understand very clearly that their exploitation can allow considerable software cost savings.

So zAAP and zIIP Capacity Planning has to be much more accurate than in the past.

From a conceptual point of view the process is always the same:

- evaluate current capacity (or expected capacity if you don't have zAAP and zIIP yet);
- estimate the utilization baseline;
- estimate the workload growth;
- forecast future resource needs.

However zAAP and zIIP implementation presents some unique characteristics which require special care when performing the above Capacity Planning steps. This paper discusses them.