Saving money buying a new engine

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For many years IBM has been pursuing a strategy to strengthen mainframe and z/OS positioning in the market. An important role in this strategy is played by the availability of new specialized processors.
In 2004 IBM released the AAP (Application Attached Processor), a specialty processor dedicated to running JAVA work. The availability of AAP is a milestone in making Websphere on z/OS the preferred solution to host business critical web applications. Thanks to AAP technology IBM can offer low cost hardware (AAPs are considerably less costly than the standard CPUs). However the most important benefit for customers is that AAP usage doesn't influence the z/OS software license costs.
In 2006 IBM released the IIP (Integrated Information Processor), a specialty processor dedicated to run enclave SRB work. The IBM goal is to strengthen the z/OS position as the leading enterprise data repository and data serving platform. Similarly to AAPs, IIPs are considerably less costly than the standard CPUs and their usage doesn't influence the z/OS software license costs.

A full exploitation of AAP and IIP technology has to be a key point in the strategy of any customer who really wants to reduce hardware and software costs.

In this paper, based on a real life situation, a technique is presented to:

- evaluate the amount of CPU usage which is eligible to run on AAP and/or IIP but is still running on standard CPUs;
- evaluate the MSU 4-hour rolling average on the hypothesis that 90% of this eligible workload runs on additional AAP and/or IIP engines;
- estimate possible MSU savings;
- decide if buying AAP and/or IIP engines will enable you to save money.