IDC: HPC Servers Bring Global Growth

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High performance computing (HPC) servers bring growth, IDC reports-- global Q3 2016 revenues total $2.8 billion, a 3.9% Y-o-Y increase on Q3 2015 revenues worth $2.7bn.

The year 2016 is also on a positive track, as revenues for the first 3 quarters total $8.1bn, up by 3.4% over the same period last year.

"In Q3 2016, HPC was a bright spot in the overall worldwide server market, which IDC previously reported declined 7.0% year over year to $12.5bn in the quarter," the analyst says. "Higher-priced systems led the way with year-over-year growth exceeding 22%, while lower-priced system revenue declined."

However Q3 2016 does see strong revenue growth in higher-end HPC systems offset by declines in lower-priced systems. As such, while Supercomputer systems priced $500000 and over see revenues jumping by 22.3% Y-o-Y and Divisional system (priced from $250000 to $499000) revenues are up by 22.4%, revenues for systems priced between $100000 and $249000 are down by -14% and Workgroup HPC system (priced below $100000) revenues drop by -8.7%.

"The workgroup segment, and especially the departmental segment, substantially ramped up purchases of HPC servers in the period 2012-2015, in tune with the global economic recovery," IDC adds. "In the first 3 quarters of 2016, more of these buyers were in a position to wait a while before buying another system. IDC expects this dip to be temporary."

In the vendor rankings, HPE leads with 35.8% revenue share for the quarter, followed by Dell with 18.5% and Lenovo with 8.6%. The three companies retain the same positions in the important Supercomputer segment, followed closely by Fujitsu. Th "Other" category (consisting

of 30 smaller vendors) takes 22.1% of the HPC server market and 21.5% of the Supercomputers segment.

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