

## OpenVMS Survey



## OpenVMS & Business Critical Systems futures

### in depth Investigation

*After a complicate disputation between HP and Oracle about the Itanium futures and the opportunity to maintain applications on it, disputation closed by a court ruling at the beginning of 2013, HP announced in 2013 June the 10th that OpenVMS would not be ported on Poulson and other subsequent versions of the Itanium processor, and that the OPenVMS support would be extended at least until 2020.*

*(see : <http://www8.hp.com/us/en/hp-news/press-release.html?id=1424702> and <http://www.hp.com/go/openvms/roadmap>)*

*This survey, initiated in France by the users club HP-Interex France in 2013 october, with the support of HP France, aims to gather a maximum of information about the OpenVMS customer base, their evaluations, what decisions are expected in this context.*

## I) COMPANY / ACTORS / SYSTEMS

Business Sector	Turnover	Number of users of customers
Your function		
General Direction		
IT Management		
IT Executive		
Consultant		
Comment about decision making chain for Business Critical Systems		
Which BCS (HP)	non HP Business Critical Systems	
HP-UX		
Non-Stop		
OpenVMS		
Which Hardware	Other Significant Hardwares	
VAX		
Alpha		
Itanium		
How many VAXes	How many Alphas	How many itaniums
Relative importance of HP's Business Critical (sub-)Systems in your IT	Comment your answer about relative importances	
central		
sensible		
adiunct		

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## II) IMPACTS Of Oracle / HP adventures about itanium and non porting OpenVMS on Poulson

Your belief about itanium's futures has changed	the itanium's future is	According to you, it's worth it buying itanium
Yes	certain	no more
No	uncertain	for 5 years more
	near an end	for 10 years more

Comment your estimation about itanium's futures

Your belief about OpenVMS future	In which form, at what dates
certain	
uncertain	
near an end	

Your belief about HP-UX future	In which form, at what dates
certain	
uncertain	
near an end	

Your belief about Non-Stop future	In which form, at what dates
certain	
uncertain	
near an end	

Do you have to question yours strategies	The questioned strategies are
yes and now	only for sectors
short-term	can be phased
medium-term	global
in the long term	
no	

Comment your answers

Are you waiting for new elements to make your choices

yes, I wait for new elements from HP

yes, I wait other major IT actors propose some things

yes, I have to investigate in depth the consequences for my business

no, the case is closed and I am already doing the necessary

Other

Anticipated costs of a transition

small

significant

heavy

very heavy

Impacts in terms of risk

small

serious

worrying

distressing

Comment, if you want

Impacts on relationship with HP

small

waiting for efforts from HP

partial loss of confidence in HP

loss of confidence in HP

At the moment, which changes on relationship between you and HP

### III) WHICH TRANSITION OR EVOLUTION

**a) What are the most difficult problems :** note from 1 to 5 and explain

Loss of safety qualities of the Operating System

1            2            3            4            5

Explain

Other methods of management for the data center

1            2            3            4            5

Explain

Loss of fine knowledge of functional behaviors of the system

1            2            3            4            5

Explain

Lack of knowledge or lack of sources of the existing system which precludes the evolutions

1            2            3            4            5

Explain

Quantitative factors (number of lines of code, size of the data)

1            2            3            4            5

Explain

Transformation of data structure or data access

1            2            3            4            5

Explain

Tight links with the OpenVMS infrastructure (system services, RTL, RMS, DecNET...)

1            2            3            4            5

Explain

Use of languages or software packages existing only on OpenVMS platforms

1      2      3      4      5

Explain

Security or confidentiality

1      2      3      4      5

Explain

Formal certification, functional validation

1      2      3      4      5

Explain

Financial issues (loss of investment, lack of financial resources to pass the transition,...)

1      2      3      4      5

Explain

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## **b) How to move**

Which factors would smooth it

Longer delays before end of commercialisation and end of standard support

Grants or financial aids

Partial technical solutions (emulation, virtualisation, partial ports,...)

To have specific transition tools

Other IT actors offer solutions

Tools for functional or formal validation

Have some significant parts of OpenVMS sources in hand to do retro-ingéniering and make smarter adaptations

Other facilitators

**Principal target types for a transition** (note from 1 to 5)

Choose emulation or virtualisation based solutions

1      2      3      4      5

Which

Choose another Business Critical System from HP : Non-Stop

1      2      3      4      5

Choose another Business Critical System from HP : HP-UX

1      2      3      4      5

Choose another Business Critical System from another company, or choose join the main-frame world

1      2      3      4      5

Which

Choose a Linux maintained by HP

1      2      3      4      5

Which

Choose a Linux not maintained by HP

1      2      3      4      5

Which

Do the most with middleware tools or SOA tools

1      2      3      4      5

Which middleware, which SOA frames

Inter-langages translation tools

1      2      3      4      5

Which

Knowledge management, MDA (Model Driven Architecture)

1            2            3            4            5

Which tools

Generally how will be your strategies to going on with the same quality

Would you go on with Itanium

yes            partially            no

**c) Context evolution**

The support of the maintenance and validation of OpenVMS by an HP / Customers / third party Consortium seems to you

impossible            unacceptable            conceivable            desirable

A bayout of OpenVMS by some major IT actor

impossible            unacceptable            conceivable            desirable

To pass significant parts or totality of OpenVMS into the Open Source World seems to you

impossible            unacceptable            conceivable            desirable

Other Ideas, explanations

Would you say these events are a symptom of fundamental changes in the domain of the Business Critical Systems

yes            no

What would you say about it



#### **IV) STRUCTURES AND EVOLUTIONS OF BUSINESS CRITICAL SYSTEMS'S ECOSYSTEMS**

Do we need for the Business Critical Systems Ecosystems new collaborative solutions

no                       possibly                       must be studied                       yes

Which new collaborative solutions

In this context, a renew of users club is it desirable

yes                       must be studied                       oui

Some ideas

In the specific context of OpenVMS transition, would you think a users club would be worth it

no                       yes

Action propositions

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#### **V) SIGNATURES / CONTACTS**

Help us to better know you and to keep in touch. These informations will remain totally confidential

Second Name

First Name

Company

Function or department

Address

Town

Zip Code

Country

Can we contact you if there are some interesting news of actions about OpenVMS

e-mail

yes

no

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This survey was written by Gérard Calliet for the french HP-Interex association, it is the HP-Interex France property. Contact us for subsequent use : [PourVMS.HPInterex@yahoo.fr](mailto:PourVMS.HPInterex@yahoo.fr)

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