

PRESS RELEASE

**December 2004
For Immediate Release**

CCSS and IBM Offer A Timely Opportunity to Maximise iSeries ROI

Gillingham, Kent, UK, December 2004 – There has never been a better time to invest in your iSeries environment according to CCSS, one of the platform's leading systems management software developers. IBM has recently extended their iSeries ServerProven rebate offer to customers who upgrade to qualifying servers and purchase a ServerProven application or solution at the same time.

The substantial rebate offer (as much as US\$64,000; terms and conditions apply) gives customers the chance to increase their investment power without increasing their budget. For those customers looking to upgrade or purchase a new iSeries, along with a key ServerProven application or solution, the rebate will afford considerable savings on the total cost of purchase. Such purchasing decisions can now adopt a broader approach by including IBM ServerProven software that can help iSeries shops achieve their long-standing goals and overcome issues that might have previously relied on separate or additional financial investment. All CCSS solutions qualify as ServerProven solutions and as such, can offer customers the chance to tackle performance parameters, Sarbanes-Oxley requirements, availability management factors and messaging issues.

CCSS's Managing Director, Ray Wright, believes the extended rebate in conjunction with the ServerProven solutions, delivers customers a direct route to year-round ROI: "For so long shops have been restrained by their limited budgets – they want to do more and they know that many of these solutions can actually deliver sustained money-saving benefits, but the emphasis has always been on what do we need to simply keep going? This rebate really switches the focus – the question has become, what solutions will give us the benefits we'll feel both immediately and in a year's

time? Now they can sustain savings over a longer period *and* enjoy the very best productivity from their iSeries.”

CCSS is an Advanced IBM Business Partner and the range of iSeries ServerProven solutions includes the Apex Award winning QMessage Monitor, QSystem Monitor and QRemote Control. QMessage Monitor offers central control of multiple message queues in large, distributed, LPAR and standalone environments. From a windows-based PC front end, customers can create an ‘exception only’ environment whereby the bulk of all informational or non-urgent messages can be automatically answered. This greatly reduces the burden on operations staff who are free to concentrate on only critical messages. In this case, messages can be resolved immediately or escalated according to their severity. All messages, replies and subsequent commands are tracked for full audit compliance, making the solution ideal for those organisations that must comply with strict internal procedures protocol as dictated by outside directives such as Sarbanes-Oxley.

QSystem Monitor offers a real-time view of system performance variants that left unchecked, could otherwise impact system resource. Thresholds can be set and alerts sent, ensuring full visibility and awareness of both transient and reoccurring problems. Full disk analysis options make easy work of upgrade planning and a complete technical history allows staff to go back and pinpoint surges or dips in activity to the unique circumstances surrounding the problem. This solution also makes light work of regular reporting tasks for management in easy to read formats that can even be exported in bitmap or J-Peg to an organisation’s Intranet. Service Level Agreements can be produced instantly for those companies that manage multiple businesses or provide outsourcing facilities.

QRemote Control delivers the power to manage the iSeries directly and securely from a cell phone. For managers operating between several different sites or working night and weekend shifts, the solution provides a simple means of directly receiving and responding to critical messages and

running commands or programs to resolve them without returning to the site to do so. All three solutions from CCSS have been designed for real-world iSeries environments.

For more information about CCSS and the individual ServerProven solutions, visit:

www.ccssltd.com/products/

Eligibility for the IBM rebate will require upgrade or new purchase qualification and justification of your choice of ServerProven solution or application. Please see the applicable terms and conditions for full details.

Full details of the IBM's ServerProven Rebate for US and Canadian customers can be found here:

<http://www-306.ibm.com/common/ssi/cgi-bin/ssialias?subtype=ca&infotype=an&appname=iSource&supplier=649&letternum=ENUSA04-1523>

Full details of the IBM ServerProven Rebate for EMEA customers can be found here:

www.ibm.com/servers/solutions/finder

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