*Powering the communications revolution by delivering a new paradigm in telecommunications servers*

# IBM @server BladeCenter T: A Preview

***BladeCenter T***

**An attractive platform for next-generation networks**

The IBM @server™ BladeCenter™ T will enable an attractive platform on which network equipment providers (NEPs) and service providers (SPs) can build their next-generation networks and meet the challenge of an on demand world. This highly scalable, rapidly deployable and high-density industry-standard computing platform will be designed to help speed revenue generation and lower overall SP costs.

## Planned highlights

- ***On demand***
  *By delivering an integrated platform ideal for deploying autonomic technologies, BladeCenter T systems will enable an on demand operating environment.*
- ***Modularity***
  *The new modular design of BladeCenter T systems will offer a cost-effective way to add scale and capacity in next-generation network environments.*
- ***Availability***
  *BladeCenter T systems will bring advanced and affordable system availability features to NEPs and SPs, making it an excellent choice for hosting critical network applications.*
- ***Manageability***
  *An advanced systems management environment will simplify application deployment and management.*
- ***Industry-standard building blocks***
  *Developed with industry-standard building blocks, the platform delivers the benefits of commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) solutions providing a choice of sourcing and development options.*
- ***Flexibility***
  *Rugged design will allow enterprise customers to gain advantages of carrier-grade feature/functionality at minimal cost.*
- ***Density***
  *BladeCenter T solutions will provide an extremely dense, high-performance blade platform for core network, edge of network/gateway and application server farms.*

### Designed for next-generation networks

IBM BladeCenter T planned design specifications will help meet the stringent requirements of the telecom core network environment. It will build on and extend the many innovations of IBM @server BladeCenter, including integrated storage and networking, fault-tolerant features, as well as optional hot-swappable redundant power supplies and cooling, and built-in system management resources.

### Delivering high reliability

This newest offering will enhance BladeCenter innovations delivering rich telecom features and functionality. The result will be a trusted, Network Equipment Building Systems (NEBS) III- and ETSI-compliant server platform optimized for next-generation networks. This platform, coupled with carrier-grade Linux, will provide a firm foundation for a new generation of mission-critical applications.

### Increased return on assets

BladeCenter T systems will use the same networking and server blades as the current BladeCenter product family. This will provide unique leverage that enables SPs to exploit the full value inherent in COTS technology and extend it to the network.

### Surrounded by IBM and IBM Business Partner products and services

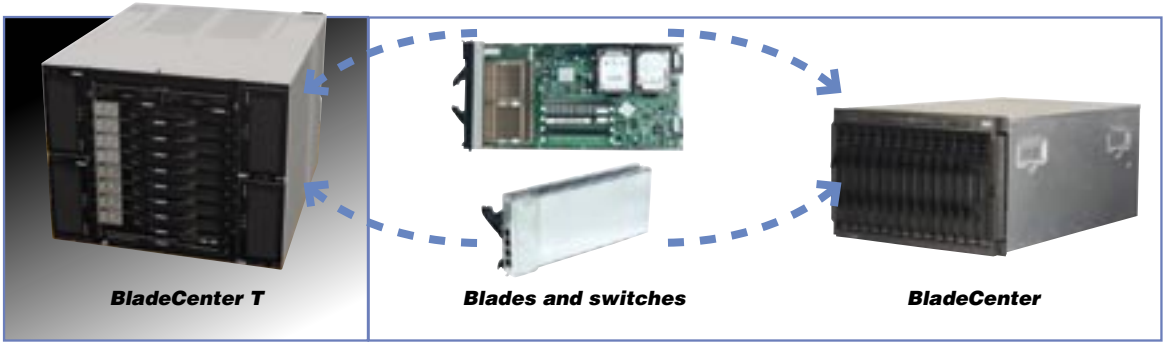
Rolling out a network or adding new services is a major undertaking that requires more than platforms. It is best accomplished with the participation of a trusted company. IBM, together with our Business Partners, will deliver a comprehensive telecom offering that includes NEBS- and ETSI-compliant products and services to create a trusted network environment. Through these products and services, IBM will enable its customers to optimize the BladeCenter T platform for their requirements. BladeCenter T systems can help provide a distinct cost and speed advantage in rolling out new networks and bringing new services to market. This solution can help SPs quickly find new sources of revenue and retain high-value customers.

### Enabled for on demand e-business

IBM BladeCenter T solutions will provide a solid foundation for next-generation networks that support on demand e-business, enabling NEPs and SPs to become on demand service providers. Coupled with IBM's technological expertise within the enterprise data center, IBM will leverage the industry know-how of key Business Partners (IHVs, NEPs, ISVs and Linux Distribution Partners) to jointly deliver incredible value within service provider networks.

### BladeCenter T on demand capabilities include:

- ***Integrated.*** BladeCenter T systems will enable the integration of servers, I/O and storage into a single, unified network infrastructure that can be managed as a single system and utilized on demand.
- ***Open.*** Non-proprietary architecture including hardware, open-source OS and middleware enable the creation of an adaptive and heterogeneous on demand infrastructure that allows fast deployment of advanced-function telecom applications and services.
- ***Virtualized.*** In combination with our alliance partners, dynamic aggregation and re-purposing of computing nodes, storage and network components help enable cost-effective utilization of resources.
- ***Autonomic.*** Advanced autonomic capabilities, enabled by IBM Director, will help simplify systems management, increase availability and responsiveness, and reduce the time and cost of resource deployment.



## From an industry leader in network transformation

IBM is uniquely positioned as a leader in the transformation of telecom core networks because of a combination of planned factors that include:

- BladeCenter T product design excellence to be optimized for deployment of next-generation networks
- Leveraging of experiences and efficiencies as enterprise and public networks merge
- Accelerated adoption and support of the carrier-grade Linux trusted operating system
- Comprehensive telecom platforms and experiences designed to quickly activate services and reduce cost
- Leading in enabling an on demand operating environment
- Continued solution integration and advancements in leveraging Autonomic and Grid technologies into the network

In building the BladeCenter T solution, IBM will leverage its experience in deploying blade technologies within the enterprise—including banking, industrial and public sector—to the telco COTS model. This transformation is designed to provide fast time-to-market and lower total cost of ownership.

Through industry-leading and innovative on demand initiatives and frameworks—such as Service Provider Delivery Environment (SPDE), Wireless Enterprise Delivery Environment (WEDE) and Cost Optimization and Strategic Transformation (COST)—IBM and its Business Partners are applying the practical technology advantages of COTS. In addition, IBM and key Linux distributors will help leverage the adoption of Linux COTS benefits in telecom by capitalizing on IBM's multibillion dollar investment in Linux.

These transformation-enabling initiatives and solutions, coupled with IBM's strong support of carrier-grade Linux, its ISV porting and tuning capabilities, and the enterprise acceptance of IBM blades and racks, combine to solidify IBM's leadership position in next-generation networks.

***Note:*** *This document discusses planned products and offerings from IBM that have not yet been formally announced. IBM product plans and intent are subject to change, and such products may never be made generally available.*



IBM Systems Group
3039 Cornwallis Road
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

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