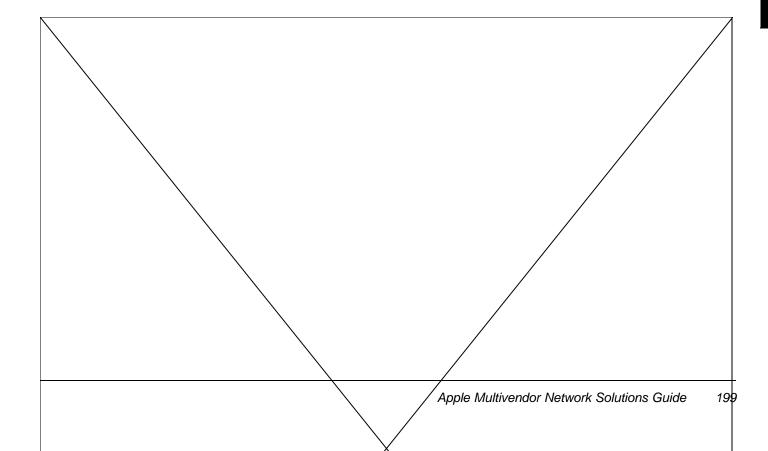
TandemComputersOverview

Background

TandemComputers, Incorporated, offersafull range of computing systems, expanding from small multiprocessor departmental machines to very large transaction processing systems. The company is a leader in the worldwide on-line transaction processing (OLTP) market, one of the fast est growing markets in commercial data processing. Tandempioneered on-line, fault-tolerant computing, and is the primary supplier of such systems.

Tandem concentrates on transaction processing systems that consist of many processors, distributed databases, and large networks. Because the Tandem architecture is specifically engineered for distributed OLTP, Tandem applications support many thousands of terminals, intelligent work stations, and other devices. Tandem's fundamental advantages are in OLTP price/performance, linear expandability of processing power, fully distributed SQL databases, data integrity, security, and fault to lerance.

Tandemnowoffers Macintosh personal computers as part of its product line, bringing Macintosh into major corporate OLTP systems.



The Environment

Tandemcomputers are installed by banks, manufacturers, major retailers, and other transaction-orientedbusinesses. Manyautomatictellermachine (ATM) systems, stockexchanges, bankfunds-transferoperations, manufacturing applications, and libraryservices run on Tandem computers. In addition, more than 200 third-party softwarevendorsprovideapplicationsolutionsfor Tandem customers.

TandemComputers:TheHardwareEnvironment

Tandemnetworkscanhaveasmanyas255separatenodes(locations), each of which can be configured to support up to 16 processors. Using the GUARDIAN 90 operatingsystem, all Tandemsystems are able to share applications, distributed databases, and communications.

HardwareandsoftwarearedesignedspecificallyforOLTP, and Tandem's modular designallowsuserstodevelopsystemsovertimeandtodistributeprocessing without changing their applications. Full data integrity guarantees that distributed customerdatabases will be consistent and accurate after every transaction.

Tandemprovides a communications supporten vironment that includes integrated supportforTCP/IP, NetBIOS, SNA, X.25, and other industry standard protocols. Tandemsystems are compatible with a range of languages, including Pascal, C, FORTRAN, COBOL, and the Tandem Application Language (TAL).