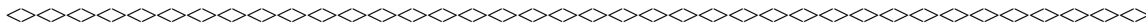


- Are used to better organize the discussion of the specific chapter architecture (for example, technical topics under Network Architecture might be: LAN Architecture, WAN Architecture, and Web-Enabled Architecture.)

The structure of the Technical Topics section is:

- The stated Technical Topic, which should be a title that starts with “Technical Topic #:”)
- A title line, “Introduction”
- Any combination of paragraphs, graphics, bullet, or tables to introduce the technical topic
- A title line, “Technology Components”
- Any combination of paragraphs, graphics, bullet, or tables to introduce the technology components
- The stated Technology Component, which should be a title that starts with “Technology Component #:”
- Any combination of paragraphs, graphics, bullet, or tables to describe the technology component
- A title line, “Recommended Best Practices” (see Recommended Best Practices Boilerplate below)
- A title line, “Implementation Guidelines” (see Implementation Guidelines Boilerplate below)
- A title line, “Standards” (see Standards Boilerplate below)
- A title line, “Related Information”
- Any combination of paragraphs, graphics, bullet, or tables to describe the related information



Technical Topic 1: Server Platform Architecture

Introduction

In a distributed information-processing environment, there are many different types of servers that support unique activities across multiple platforms. Three key components of servers are file and print servers, application servers, and database servers.

1.1.1: Technology Components

Technology Component 1: File and print server

File and print servers are hardware and software platforms providing what is commonly known as a Network Operating System (NOS). Typically, shared disk space and printers are scarce resources. The NOS allows PC users to share these resources, maximizing the use of these resources within a workgroup. File servers allow users to store files in common areas thus eliminating the use of diskettes for file transfers. Files can be backed up and restored in the even of loss more efficiently than files stored on multiple client computers.

Technology Component 2: Application servers

Application servers are hardware and software platforms dedicated to a specific type of application processing, groupware systems, custom business applications, or mail services. Purchased applications sometimes dictate platform decisions since a particular application typically runs on a finite number of platform choices. In-house developed applications generally offer more flexibility in the selection of platforms (see the Application Architecture chapter).

Technology Component 3: Database servers

Database servers are hardware and software platforms dedicated to database access. They must provide robust multi-user database management systems (DBMS) (see the Data Architecture chapter).

A variety of platform sizes can be effectively employed as application servers and database servers. They range from mid-size UNIX and Windows NT servers to the large ES9000 mainframe.