

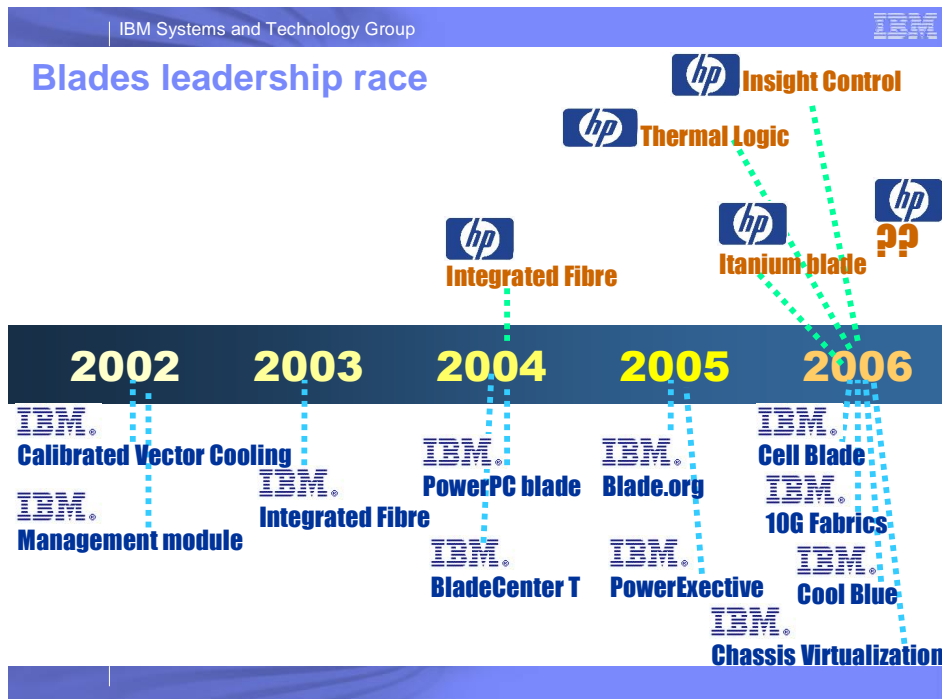
## IBM BladeCenter Fact Sheet

IBM has the broadest blade offerings in the industry; a family of chassis designed to meet specific customer needs with a common set of industry-standard switches and I/O fabrics as well as common Intel, AMD, PowerPC, workstation and Cell Broadband Engine blades.

- **BladeCenter S:** for mid-size businesses and distributed environments, replaces the need for businesses to own and operate a data center.
- **BladeCenter E:** delivers high performance and manageability with energy efficiency and the best density.
- **BladeCenter H:** delivers increased performance and compatibility with the BladeCenter family.
- **BladeCenter T:** ruggedized and NEBs-compliant satisfying stringent telecommunications industry standards and ideal for VoIP, IPTV and IMS applications.
- **BladeCenter HT:** ruggedized for high performance and optimized for next-generation-network (NGN) applications.

While HP just has its c-Class blade, IBM has the right solution for every business with five blade offerings designed to suit a customer's individual needs.

<b>Customer Need</b>	<b>HP Answer</b>	<b>IBM Answer</b>
Small Office/Remote Location	HP: c-Class	IBM: BladeCenter S
High efficiency data center	HP: c-Class	IBM: BladeCenter E
Maximum system density	HP: c-Class	IBM: BladeCenter E
Maximum application performance	HP: c-Class	IBM: BladeCenter H
Ruggedized	HP: N/A	IBM: BladeCenter T
Telco NGN	HP: N/A	IBM: BladeCenter HT
Back-end database	HP: c-Class	IBM: System x 3950 (X3)



## **IBM BladeCenter Milestones**

On September 17, 2002, IBM and Intel announced their intention to jointly design and develop blade servers for the broad enterprise marketplace. In the five years following, the blade server market has changed dramatically.

### **2003**

February 5,000 IBM blade servers ship out in ten weeks.  
May The first prepackaged IBM blade superclusters are introduced.  
November The JS20 is the industry's first blade server based on IBM POWER architecture.

### **2004**

March BladeCenter T addresses the needs of the telecommunications industry.  
May IBM is the only vendor to offer a fully integrated Brocade Fibre Channel switching capability in a blade server system.  
September IBM and Intel open BladeCenter design specifications.

### **2005**

February The Intel-based BladeCenter HS20 is built on the 64-bit Xeon DP processor.  
March The most highly integrated blade offering on the market from McDATA and a VMware bundle is introduced through IBM BladeCenter.  
June IBM integrates AMD Opteron Processor-based blades into the IBM System Cluster 1350.  
October Along with Novell, IBM announces the first blade chassis subscription for Linux.  
November BladeCenter solutions are tailored for the financial and banking industries.

### **2006**

February IBM announces the new high-performance BladeCenter H and the development of a Cell-based blade.  
IBM introduces Blade.org, an open community designed for the development and advancement of next-generation technologies for blades.  
August IBM's line of energy efficient, AMD Opteron processor-based servers is extended.  
September The Cell BE-based BladeCenter QS20 becomes available.  
December Telecommunications optimized BladeCenter HT includes a new carrier blade and network gateway blade.  
The innovative Virtual Loaner Program is expanded to include blades, allowing IBM partners free, remote access to blade technology.

### **2007**

January "Virtual Fabric Architecture" for the BladeCenter H system helps increase speed and efficiency of data transfer across blade servers and networks.  
February Together with BLADE Network Technologies and NetXen, IBM announces the industry's first solution offering 10GE connectivity for blade servers.  
April IBM launches "Low Carb" blade systems featuring the latest in low-voltage microprocessor technologies from AMD and Intel, and industry-first innovation for blade server computing with energy-smart, flash-based storage.  
May IBM previews the BladeCenter "Workstation Blade."  
June IBM previews BladeCenter S for mid-size and distributed enterprises.