



Elastic Capacity on Demand

February 27, 2018

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Elastic Capacity on Demand is a new and easy way for IBM customers to activate their POWER8 hardware processor and memory resources.

It takes only 3 steps from need to activation:

- Buy a pool of Elastic processor and/or memory on demand resources
- Use part of it (or all at once - up to you!) to "charge" one or more eligible POWER8 processor-based systems with needed resource "days of usage"
- Apply your activation code(s) through the HMC to make the resources immediately available for your POWER8 processor-based system(s) to use

That's it. It takes less than a minute from start to finish to order and get your activation code(s). And you do everything through the [Entitled Systems Support](#) website.

The new offering is found under "My Entitled Hardware":

- CoD - Purchase new Elastic days
- CoD - Generate new Elastic codes
- CoD - View, Download existing codes

Be sure to read the **Q&A** below before doing anything. Detailed announcement information is also available at [IBM Offering Information](#) under hardware announcement number [117-016](#). Also, any and all feedback is most welcome!

Frequently asked questions:

Q: In which countries is the new offering available?

A: The offering is for now available to customers in US & South Africa & will be available to customer in France, UK, Canada, Australia & New Zealand in March & WWide in September

Q: Can I use this together with regular Capacity on Demand permanent memory and processor activations?

A: Yes you can. You can use this in addition to your permanent activations (for example to handle load spikes or periodic higher workload) or you can completely shift to an Elastic usage model. It's really up to you.

Q: I am already using Elastic Capacity on Demand - I report my usage to IBM and then get billed. Will this change?

A: Yes, the old Elastic post-usage reporting and billing solution is being withdrawn in the markets that offer the new Elastic pre-paid solution. The only way to continue an Elastic resource usage approach is to switch to this new pre-paid offering.

Q: What do I need to use the new offering?

A: You need to own a supported POWER8 processor-based system, the firmware xxx installed & be an existing ESS user that can already submit Power software orders for your company. That's it.

Elastic Capacity on Demand

Q: Which POWER8 processor-based systems are supported?

A: This is the current list of supported POWER8 hardware type models. Minimum firmware level is either FW840.50 or FW860.20, so make sure you have the latest installed for the level you are using - otherwise the codes will not work! The links next to each supported POWER8 system will redirect you to Fix Central and the appropriate list of available versions for the selected level - we recommend you are always running latest firmware for your platform:

- 8408-E8E - IBM Power System E850 - [SV840](#) - [SV860](#)
- 8408-44E - IBM Power System E850C - [SV860](#)
- 9119-MME - IBM Power System E870 - [SC840](#) - [SC860](#)
- 9080-MME - IBM Power System E870C - [SC840](#) - [SC860](#)
- 9119-MHE - IBM Power System E880 - [SC840](#) - [SC860](#)
- 9080-MHE - IBM Power System E880C - [SC840](#) - [SC860](#)

Q: I'm an IBM Business Partner and want to buy this for my customer. What should I do?

A: Sorry, this new offering is only available for end users - contact brand for details about benefits for you.

Q: What are my payment options?

A: At launch we only support payments through invoice received at the end of the current billing period. You need to have a Purchase Order open with IBM first we will use it to generate your invoice. If you don't have a Purchase Order currently available, your procurement department must first create one.

Q: But I would like to pay with my Credit Card!

A: Credit Card payments may be coming later - they are not yet available now

Q: When will I get my invoice?

A: You will get one invoice per Purchase Order at the end of each month, with all your orders for that month grouped based on the Purchase Order number you have entered for each of them. Complete terms & conditions are available at the summary step of each order. In the 2nd Quarter, billing will be done at end of each quarter

Q: Once I have submitted my order, that's it? I can get my activation code right away?

A: Yes, that's it, you can create your activation code just after submitting the order and immediately start using the extra capacity you have purchased. We will send you an invoice at the end of the month.

Q: How is the metric done?

A: We meter you per day of usage - either processor or GBs of memory. For example: if you need to run 10 processors for 10 days (straight or spread over a longer period) at 100% usage, that will require a ECoD charge of 100 processor-days applied to your system. All tracked using the latest firmware enhancements.

Q: How is this tracked?

A: Once you apply an activation code on your POWER8 processor-based system, when the particular resource is used, it will keep depleting the relevant resource pool from the code until there's no more charge left. It's all tracked by the firmware (computer code) .

Elastic Capacity on Demand

Q: I can keep charging my POWER8 processor-based system at any time with new activation codes- based on the days I bought?

A: Yes, once you have purchased a pool of resources, you can keep generating new activation codes for the available resource until your order is used up. You will also get warning messages on your system once you're close to using up what you currently have still available, so you can create new activation codes before the system runs out of the existing resource pool.

Q: Can I use one order on several POWER8 processor-based systems?

A: Yes! It's up to you how, when and where you want to distribute your purchased pool.

Q: What if I run out of resources on the order?

A: You can buy more at any time.

Q: I have a POWER7+ or older system. Can I join too?

A: Yes, if you upgrade to a supported POWER8 first :-). There are [other reasons](#) for upgrading too!

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This equipment is subject to FCC rules. It will comply with the appropriate FCC rules before final delivery to the buyer.

Information concerning non-IBM products was obtained from the suppliers of these products or other public sources. Questions on the capabilities of the non-IBM products should be addressed with those suppliers.

When referring to storage capacity, 1 TB equals total GB divided by 1000; accessible capacity may be less.

The IBM home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.ibm.com>.

The IBM Power Systems home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.ibm.com/systems/power/>

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