Hardware/Software Requirements

The Client Data System® (CDS) hardware and software requirements are based on a combination of software design and field performance tests. The minimum hardware and software specified will provide adequate and reliable performance. The recommended hardware specified will enhance the overall performance of your network-based programs, including Client Data System.

Single-Computer Systems (Minimum/Recommended)

- 266 MHz / 500 MHz or higher Pentium-class/Pentium III processor

- 64 MB / 256 MB of RAM

- 500 MB / 1 GB of free space on the hard disk drive for initial installations. Plan to maintain approximately four times the size of the CDSWIN directory, including all subdirectories, as free space on the hard disk drive for program upgrades and database rebuilds. If the CDSWIN directory is not on drive C, approximately 1 GB of free space on drive C should be maintained for upgrade and rebuilding processes.

- Windows 98, Windows 2000, Windows XP

Networks

The Sybase Adaptive Server Anywhere 7.0 Database Server Engine will run on a dedicated or non-dedicated (peer-to-peer) server. A dedicated server with the recommended hardware will provide the highest performance. Non-dedicated servers require significantly more speed and resources to maintain acceptable performance.

Servers (Minimum/Recommended)

- 400 MHz / 1 GHz or higher Pentium III-class processor

- 256 MB / 512 MB of RAM

- 2 GB / 6GB or more of free space on the server's hard disk drive for initial installations. Plan to maintain approximately four times the size of the CDSWIN.SVR directory, including all subdirectories, as free space on the server's hard disk drive for program upgrades and database rebuilds. If the CDSWIN.SVR directory is not on drive C of the server, approximately 1 GB of free space on drive C should be maintained for upgrade and rebuilding processes.

- Windows 98, Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows Server 2003

Workstations (Minimum/Recommended)

- 266 MHz / 500 MHz or higher Pentium-class/Pentium III processor

- 64 MB / 128 MB of RAM

- 100 MB of free space on the workstation's hard disk drive. Workstations that are used for database maintenance procedures should have three times the size of the largest CDS database as free hard disk space on drive C.

- Windows 98, Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows Server 2003

Network Performance Notes

CDS achieves acceptable performance results when used on small, peer-to-peer 10Base2/10BaseT networks; however, if you plan to have more than three workstations, a 100BaseT network will improve the overall performance of CDS significantly. When using CDS on a 100BaseT network, all network interface cards (NICs) and hubs must be capable of communicating at 100 Mbps to avoid performance degradation. For example, if one workstation is using a 10BaseT NIC, and accesses CDS at 10 Mbps, then all other workstations will be limited to accessing CDS at 10 Mbps, regardless of any faster capabilities.

Anti-virus software that is not configured properly will decrease the performance of CDS. For example, if the anti-virus software is configured to scan every file that the workstation accesses, CDS, as well as other Client/Server programs, will have a slower response. Configuring your anti-virus software to exclude data files from the virus scanning process, or setting up system files-only scanning will help maintain high performance.

Using Microsoft Word with CDS

Microsoft Word 97 (or above) is required if you plan to use MS Word as your default word processor in CDS. (Earlier versions of MS Word can still be used independently of CDS on the same computer.)

Using Microsoft Office Outlook with CDS

Microsoft Office Outlook integrates with Client Data System for e-mail posting as well as Calendar/Contact synchronization. To use these modules, Microsoft Office Outlook 2000 is required and Microsoft Office Outlook 2003 is recommended.

Database Caching in Server Memory

Accessing frequently used information from a database cache in server memory is considerably faster than trying to access the information directly from the server's hard disk drive. As the total database size increases, the cache size is adjusted dynamically to improve the performance of CDS. Using the recommended 256 MB of RAM will accommodate these dynamic adjustments.

Other Considerations

Other performance considerations are the hard disk drive transfer rate, motherboard bus speed, type of RAM, network interface card and other peripheral components. The initial cost of name-brand components may be higher than generic components, but long-term reliability and component compatibility may be worth the investment.