

Flex System Enterprise Chassis



To meet today's complex and ever-changing business demands, the Flex System™ Enterprise Chassis provides a high-performance, integrated infrastructure platform that supports a mix of compute, storage, and networking capabilities. The Flex System Enterprise Chassis has been designed and built specifically to provide the efficiency you need now, along with the growth path necessary to protect your investment into the future.

Available on either your PureFlex System or Flex System, the solution scales easily using additional nodes or additional chassis. The 14-node, 10U chassis delivers high-speed performance complete with integrated servers, storage, and networking. And with FlexSystem Manager™, multiple chassis can be managed from a single console—reducing your administrative demands and costs.

Unprecedented flexibility and efficiency

The physical design of the Flex System Enterprise Chassis includes 14-bays that allow installation of compute or management nodes with up to four networking modules located in the rear. A single chassis or a group of chassis can be fully customized to the specific needs of the computing environment. With support for Intel processor-based nodes in standard or double-width form factors, you can choose the custom architecture you need for your business. This means your IT can meet business needs using a single platform across multiple architectures and operating environments.



The power management design of the chassis monitors and controls power usage on all major chassis components. The chassis supports N+N or N+1 redundant power supplies, a single, three-phase power domain and an entirely passive mid-plane to meet your reliability needs. Both the 2500 W and 2100 W power supplies are 80 PLUS® Platinum certified to deliver high energy efficiency. To determine which power supply best meets the clients' needs, review the power support matrix.¹

Its environmental design optimizes cooling using internal chassis cooling zones. The system then manages the fans independently based on node configuration within the chassis. This allows the system to increase the speed of certain fans to cool potential hotspots while using lower speeds for other fans where appropriate. The result is component longevity and reduced cooling costs.

Easily scalable with simple administration

From inception, the Flex System Enterprise Chassis has been designed to scale with your business needs. This protects your investment by helping prevent the rip-and-replace cycle that has been commonly associated with meeting increased enterprise computing needs.

Providing additional compute, storage, or networking capacity is as simple as adding additional nodes, modules, or even additional chassis. With the modular power-supply design and two available power supply capacities, you can install the system you need now, and realize immediate cost savings while retaining the ability to easily upgrade to more power when your system demands warrant it.

In addition, managing these chassis could not be easier. Whether you have one chassis or several chassis deployed to meet your organizational needs, the available FlexSystem Manager allows simple, integrated system management from a single console.

Designed for multiple generations of technology

The Flex System Enterprise Chassis is designed to be the foundation of your IT infrastructure now and into the future. Compute performance requirements are always on the rise. And networking demands continue to grow with rising bandwidth needs and shrinking latency tolerance.

The Flex System Enterprise Chassis is designed to scale to meet the needs of your future workloads. It has the ability to support your immediate compute, storage and networking needs while providing component upgrade paths for each of them. And with an upgradable power supply providing the energy, the entire system is designed to meet your immediate needs as well as allow for future growth without the rip-and-replace requirements traditionally associated with infrastructure capacity improvements.

Why System x

System x is the leading provider of x86 systems for the data center. The portfolio includes rack, tower, blade, dense and converged systems, and supports enterprise class performance, reliability and security. System x also offers a full range of networking, storage, software and solutions, and comprehensive services supporting business needs throughout the IT lifecycle.

The Flex System Enterprise Chassis is an upgradeable solution that allows you to customize your solution with any mix of storage, networking, and computing power. A choice of 2500 W or 2100 W power supplies is available to allow clients to manage and meet their efficiency requirements. For clients wanting to reduce their power consumption in entry-level deployments, the 2100 W power supplies offer a cost-optimized solution. For enterprise clients deploying a variety of workloads in their data center, the 2500 W power supplies provide maximum flexibility and efficiency within the hardware infrastructure. The solution can manage your current needs, grow as your business demands drive your IT needs, and multiple chassis can be monitored from a single screen.

Node bays	14 (7 double-wide)
Height (mm) x Width (mm) x Depth (mm)	440 x 447 x 847
Ship Loadable	Yes
Available power supplies	2/6 2500 W or 2/6 2100 W*
	200 - 240 V AC

For more information

To learn more about the Flex System Enterprise Chassis, contact your Business Partner.

¹ For more information go to <http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0863.html?Open>

* 2100 W power supplies can be replaced with 2500 W. Use of 2100 W power supplies may reduce number of components supported within the chassis. Please see the Flex System Power Support Matrix for additional details at <http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/tips0863.html?Open>

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