

HP Helps You Know Your System

Tech Tips



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The HP Performance Tuning Framework (PTF) from Hewlett-Packard can help simplify the graphics driver selection process for your HP Workstations. There's far more to the system than the graphics card, so that's why PTF expounds on a workstation's component inventory and software settings in its Configuration Page.

Most of the data reported on the Configuration Page could be retrieved with disparate Windows® utilities, but PTF brings it all together into one list. And PTF knows how to find a few things that aren't available from the built-in Windows tools. For example, details about the CPUs in the workstation are reported, such as support for 64-bit operating systems and Intel Corporation's Hyper-Threading technology. PTF can also display Intel front-side bus speeds, AMD HyperTransport™ Technology link speeds, and the CPU's cache arrangement.

A new feature available on recent workstation models allows PTF to retrieve internal sensor readings. The sensors monitor such things as temperatures, fan speeds, and actual CPU clock frequencies. These data points fluctuate as the workstation experiences lighter and heavier workloads, so PTF refreshes the values every 15 seconds.

The collection of data presented on the Configuration Page can be extremely helpful when communicating with UGS support engineers or diagnosing performance or behavior differences between similar machines. You can print the full configuration record or export it to a file using commands on the context menu (displayed by right clicking the mouse over the configuration listing).

In addition to workstation specifications and settings, the Configuration Page provides easy access to several documents and web utilities that simplify workstation maintenance. Clicking a button displays the workstation model's QuickSpecs document, which describes component options and specifications. Below that, PTF provides web browser links to model-specific PartSurfer and driver download pages for enhancing or updating the system.

So, when you need to get to know your HP Workstation better, just run the HP Performance Tuning Framework and review the Configuration Page. The contents evolve with each PTF release, as HP adds to its capabilities.

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