With market events having a virtually instantaneous impact on trading strategies, financial institutions must be able to process data faster and more accurately than ever before. To stay competitive, the top players continually invest in the most advanced software and hardware.

For the past twenty years, Kx Systems has been a leader in trading technology, enabling automated applications to manage a deluge of real time and historical tick data streams from multiple exchanges and security types. This capability has given top-tier financial institutions the flexibility and power they need to rapidly respond to investment challenges.

The ability to shave reaction times down to a fraction of a millisecond, however, is a level of performance that has only recently begun to be measured by an independent association.

**Calibrating performance**
The Securities Technology Analysis Center, called STAC, was formed by a consortium of financial industry users and vendors in 2007 to provide a fair and accurate way of calibrating the performance of software and hardware used in algorithmic trading, risk management, and other financial analyses.

The STAC-M3 benchmark tests realistic data queries against a large historical tick database, providing a common basis for measuring the relative performance of different hardware and software solutions.

“It’s no surprise that kdb+ was chosen to run Intel’s — and the vast majority of other vendors’ — STAC-M3 benchmarks for high-speed analytics. That’s because hardware vendors know that when it comes to time-series, tick-by-tick market data, their products perform at their best when run on Kx Systems software.”

Simon Garland, Chief Strategist, Kx Systems
A recent benchmark run with kdb+ by Intel and IBM using the new Intel IvyBridge-EX Xeon processors and Intel SSD solid-state drives found a measurable improvement in performance when compared to previous generations of processors.

This test was only one of many benchmarks run over the past several years in which kdb+ has been employed as the software of choice for leading hardware vendors.

One for all
Kx technology runs on Linux, Solaris, Windows, and OS X operating systems, and requires only commodity hardware. kdb+ takes full advantage of the latest generation of processors built for vector arithmetic, giving it tremendous speed and making it especially well-suited for high-performance applications in a broad array of industries.

Industry players
Kx’s mission has always been to provide powerful software that allows companies to tackle the most complex and data-intensive applications. That’s why Kx customers tend to be market leaders in their fields — from top investment banks and hedge funds to premier energy companies, pharmaceutical firms, and scientific research institutions. All of these enterprises share a common objective: to gain competitive industry advantage.

Worldwide coverage
Based in Palo Alto, California, Kx has offices in North America, Europe, and Asia, and counts among its customers more than 100 top-tier companies, including global OEM customers. In addition to conducting its own sales, Kx retains strategic sales partners around the world.

For more information about Kx Systems, please visit our website at kx.com, or send us an email, to info@kx.com.