Past: Industry Prior to TPC Formation

- 1980 – ATMs and end-user interaction with databases spur an industry transformation from batch processing to transaction processing
- 1982 – OLTP becomes a major industry and server software and hardware vendors claim aggressive performance results
- 1985 – TP1 is launched, however there are still poor definitions, no control of the benchmark process and inflated claims
- 1985 – DebitCredit is introduced with tighter definitions and required pricing information. There is still no oversight body which spurs even more egregious benchmarketing
- 1988 – The TPC is formed by eight companies to create good benchmarks and a good process for review and monitoring, including oversight and policing
Past: TPC Events & Accomplishments

- 1989 – The newly-formed TPC publishes its first benchmark: TPC-A
- 1990 – TAB and the challenge process are established
- 1991 – TPC fair use policies are established
- 1992 – TPC-C is introduced as a more representative, balanced OLTP
- 1994 – The TPC requires that all results be audited
- 1995 – TPC-D, a complex decision support (query) benchmark, is introduced
- 1999 – TPC-D is replaced by TPC-H and TPC-R, and the TPC-W benchmark is approved
Past: TPC Events & Accomplishments

- 2001 – TPC-W is revised
- 2003 – The current versions of TPC-C and TPC-H are approved
- 2005 – TPC-App is approved as an application server and web services benchmark; TPC-R and TPC-W are retired
- 2007 – TPC-E is launched with a new OLTP workload
Present: Infrastructure & Processes

- **Audit Process**
  - TPC results must be verified by an independent auditor.
  - Auditor selected from a list of TPC certified auditors.
  - Verification of compliance with the benchmark specification.
  - Focus on verifying the methodology used for reaching compliance.

- **Peer Review Process**
  - The Technical Advisory Board (TAB) handles all compliance challenges.
  - Compliance of a result can be challenged by any member.
  - The test sponsor has 7 day response time.
  - Unsatisfactory response is scheduled for the review process of the TAB.
  - A meeting is scheduled for discussion of the issue. The challenger and the test sponsor present their arguments.
  - Further discussion by the TAB may occur until a recommendation for a resolution vote passes by the TAB.
  - Recommendation is presented to the TPC for a vote at a general meeting.
Present: Infrastructure & Processes

- **Fair Use Policy**
  - All member companies have to abide by the fair use policy.
  - **Do’s**
    - Include when result was current - “as of date”
    - Acknowledgment of TPC copyrights.
    - Fence claims to make them absolutely truthful
      - i.e. Best performance for 1-way Intel-based servers running MS SQL2000.
    - Include TPC primary metrics in all disclosures
    - Use an NDA for non-compliant disclosures.
  - **Don'ts**
    - Use any TPC metric without disclosing all the 3 primary metrics in the same document.
    - Compare TPC result with a non-TPC result.
    - Use any Estimates.
    - Make claims against a competitor using incomplete results.
    - Use results from obsolete benchmarks
Past, Present, Future
Future: Ongoing Work

- Benchmark Updates
  - All existing benchmarks (TPC-C, E, H, App)
- TPC-DS
  - Decision support benchmark
- Energy
  - Objective is to add energy metric(s) to the TPC benchmarks
- ETL
  - Tasked to define the scope and overall objectives of an ETL benchmark
- SOA
  - Tasked to evaluate SOA benchmark proposal from IBM