



PRESS RELEASE

SARA and BiG Grid make HPC Cloud infrastructure available

PRESS RELEASE - Amsterdam, September 29, 2011 - On Tuesday, October 4, 2011 SARA and BiG Grid organize the opening of the new HPC Cloud infrastructure. Stimulated by specific demands from different research fields, and with the support of BiG Grid, SARA has developed a national High Performance Computing Cloud and made it suitable for scientific applications. The HPC Cloud will be offered as a service within the BiG Grid infrastructure.

Typical for this Cloud is the great flexibility and efficiency thanks to 'zero-time application porting', since no time is lost with installing applications on the Cloud. Such user-tailored infrastructure contributes to better and broader research. This is important for the development of the Dutch knowledge economy.

The HPC Cloud Day will take place from 10.00 to 17.00 in the Turing Room (Z011), Science Park 125 (formerly Kruislaan 413), 1098 XG Amsterdam. The program of the day consists of presentations related to bioinformatics, earth sciences and linguistics and finance. Keynote speakers include Ignacio Llorente of the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM) and David Konerding of Google. The language of the day is English.

With the HPC Cloud scientists get access to a flexible computing cluster that can be optimally configured for each application. Through the innovative use of virtualization technologies, SARA has developed a HPC Cloud that allows to dynamically adapt the architecture and environment to an application. On the HPC Cloud, for example, different operating systems can co-exist and be used simultaneously, even on the same processor unit.

The HPC Cloud is an important step in the expansion and diversification of the BiG Grid infrastructure, in addition to the current central and local grid facilities, which are used by the experiments at CERN, the LOFAR telescope and experiments in life sciences.

Anwar Osseyran, director of SARA: "We are very pleased that we can better support our users with the HPC Cloud infrastructure which we have developed within the framework of BiG Grid. This infrastructure is extremely user friendly and our HPC Cloud support team ensures that users can fully focus on their research."

Jaap van den Herik, CEO BiG Grid: "With the HPC Cloud BiG Grid builds further on an excellent national e-infrastructure for science."

About SARA

As a national High Performance Computing and e-Science Support Center SARA supports scientists with state-of-the-art integrated services, expertise and infrastructure: High Performance Computing and Networking, data services, visualization and e-Science services.

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About BiG Grid

The BiG Grid project is building an e-Science infrastructure for scientific research. This infrastructure is composed of compute clusters and storage, combined with specific middleware and software to share facilities, making research possible that needs more than just processing power or storage.

For more information, please contact

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