



Venture Development Center 165
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125
U.S.A.

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Contacts:

Linda Mello

Symmetric Computing

508-415-7371

[*LMello@SymmetricComputing.com*](mailto:LMello@SymmetricComputing.com)

[*www.SymmetricComputing.com*](http://www.SymmetricComputing.com)

Michael F. Mullaley

Symmetric Computing

781-799-3472

[*MMullaley@SymmetricComputing.com*](mailto:MMullaley@SymmetricComputing.com)

[*www.SymmetricComputing.com*](http://www.SymmetricComputing.com)

Symmetric Computing Touts Departmental SuperComputing at SC10

MassChallenge Winner Demonstrates True SMP Supercomputing with OTS Server Blades

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 16, 2010 –Symmetric Computing demonstrated departmental supercomputing at the global supercomputing conference SC10 in New Orleans today. Winner of one of the highly coveted MassChallenge awards last month, Symmetric Computing showed that true Symmetric Multi-Processing (SMP) supercomputers are now possible with off-the-shelf (OTS) server blades – breaking the price point for SMP supercomputing by a factor of 10. Individual departments may now be able to afford their own dedicated SMP supercomputing resource.

Symmetric Computing s paired its patent-pending Distributed Symmetric Multi-Processing™ (DSMP™) software with OpenSuSE Linux and created a 96-core SMP supercomputer with off-the-shelf server blades, microprocessors and InfiniBand adapters in AMD’s SC10 booth. Symmetric Computing populated three 1U SuperMicro A+ 1042G-TF blade servers with twelve AMD Opteron™ 6100 Series processors (96 cores total) and 96 8-GB DDR3 DIMMs (768 GB RAM total). Symmetric Computing avoided an expensive Infiniband switch by interconnecting those three server blades with 40 Gbps Mellanox InfiniBand PCIe host bus adapters to create a single SMP supercomputer.

Symmetric Computing President and Chief Technical Officer Richard Anderson stated, “Our DSMP™ software creates a true Symmetric Multi-Processing supercomputer with low-cost, off-the-shelf components. We avoid expensive, specialized hardware and can create a SMP supercomputer with large single system memory and single software image for 1/10th the cost of previous SMP supercomputers.”

Symmetric Computing Chief Marketing Officer Michael Mullaley added, "Symmetric Computing technology enables affordable supercomputing. Researchers, scientists and engineers who previously had to either wait for scheduled time on a SMP supercomputing resource, cobble together a complicated supercomputing cluster, or make do with too slow, limited memory servers will now be able to afford a dedicated, large memory SMP supercomputing resource for their own department. The availability of affordable departmental SMP supercomputing resources should speed many projects and lead to quicker scientific advances in a whole host of fields."

Symmetric Computing Computational Scientist Al Leisinger explained, "The large system memory and programming simplicity of SMP supercomputers are critical. Researchers, scientists and engineers want to focus on their specialty – what they do best – and not have to become computer science experts. To programmers, our Symmetric Computing machine looks just like a single huge-memory Linux box. They can use standard threading packages to get access to all 96 CPUs and up to 1.5 TeraBytes of memory. No longer do they need to worry about message passing interface programming, which is what supercomputing clusters and other limited memory systems demand. There's no need to build complex file-access program components; they can just read a big dataset into memory and access it as an array. Now with Symmetric Computing, they can afford the SMP supercomputing resource they really want, in-house, and stop wasting their time with overly complex programs."

Symmetric Computing announced at SC10 that over 20 customer trials have already been conducted by researchers, scientists and engineers with beta versions of Symmetric Computing's departmental supercomputer with its patent-pending DSMP™ technology. All were successful. And, Symmetric Computing is actively soliciting others to test their programs and data sets on Symmetric Computing's departmental supercomputers. Symmetric Computing announced those participating in their beta test program will have priority when Symmetric Computing begins shipping departmental supercomputers in January 2011.

About Symmetric Computing

Symmetric Computing provides High Performance Computing solutions to scientists, researchers, engineers, physicians, financial analysts and artists. Our shared memory departmental supercomputers, built with our DSMP™ (Distributed Symmetric Multiprocessing™) system software on off-the-shelf servers, can perform computations that previously required multi-million dollar machines, like those at the National Labs. At one-tenth the cost, our supercomputers are accessible to universities, hospitals and many businesses. By providing massive computational power at an affordable cost, Symmetric Computing will drive the advancement of science, industry and entertainment. Our advanced computational machines will enable next generation technologies such as personalized medicine, climate forecasting, energy management, complex financial analysis and nanotechnology.

About MassChallenge

The \$1 million MassChallenge 2010 Global Startup Competition and Accelerator competition launched on April 14, 2010 and attracted 446 applications from 26 countries and 24 U.S. states. The 111 highest-potential startups were invited to participate in a 3-month accelerator program providing intensive mentoring and access to free resources including office space, legal support and targeted introductions to customers and funding sources. Expert judges then winnowed the field to 26 finalists.

The 26 MassChallenge finalists pitched their businesses to the last round of judges which included Desh Deshpande, the founder of Sycamore Networks and Chair of A123Systems, and Josh Boger, the founder of Vertex Pharmaceuticals on October 15th and 18th. Symmetric Computing was one of the winners of the MassChallenge 2010 Global Startup Competition and Accelerator. Symmetric computing won one of 12 highly coveted \$50,000 awards. Another 4 companies were awarded \$100,000 awards.

The startups were judged on impact, scalability, competitive positioning, and execution. There were no strings attached to the funding or competition. MassChallenge is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and does not take equity from winners or place any restrictions on entrants.

The MassChallenge media kit is available at the following URL:

http://masschallenge.org/sites/default/files/media_kit_0.pdf

About University of Massachusetts Boston Venture Development Center

Opened in May 2009, the University of Massachusetts Boston Venture Development Center (VDC) welcomes every founder in the Boston area. Startup and emerging companies currently at the VDC include software and high tech companies that are completing prototypes and life science companies with sales and developing new products. Company size ranges from two to ten persons. Most are not affiliated with the University of Massachusetts. Aiming high, most of the founders are experienced, previously working in industry or their own startups. All are completing prototypes, testing business models and acquiring customers and investment.

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