PRESS RELEASE

GENCI Receives Honors in 2012 HPCwire Readers' Choice Award

GENCI is honored for the "Best use of HPC in edge HPC application" for its contribution using the CURIE bullx supercomputer, for the first full Universe simulation, Observatoire de Paris

Annual HPCwire Awards demonstrate achievements of excellence within the HPC community


Salt Lake City, Utah November 13, 2012 – GENCI has been recognized in the annual HPCwire Readers' and Editors' Choice Awards, presented at the 2012 International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis (SC12), in Salt Lake City, Utah. The winners were announced live from the HPCwire booth at the event, and are listed on the HPCwire website, located at www.HPCwire.com. GENCI has been selected to receive the following award:

> Readers' Choice Award – Best use of HPC in "edge HPC" application for GENCI's contribution using the CURIE bullx supercomputer, for the first full Universe simulation, Observatoire de Paris.

Part of the Dark Energy Universe Simulation (DEUS - Full Universe Run) project, the full universe simulation ran on the CURIE supercomputer, owned by Grand Equipement National de Calcul Intensif (GENCI), the French national HPC organization. It is the first calculation of the entire observable Universe, from the Big Bang to the present day. The work entailed the simulation of 550 billion particles. The simulation will aid large projects and observational mapping of our Universe. A key objective is to help gain a better understanding of the nature of dark energy and of its influence on the structure of the Universe, as well as the origin of the distribution of dark matter and galaxies.

The team of researchers from the Laboratoire Univers et Théorie (LUTH, Observatoire de Paris/CNRS/Université Paris Diderot) is directed by Jean-Michel Alimi[1]. The first simulation was completed in April 2012.

The implementation of DEUS was made possible thanks to the powerful resources made available to the researchers by GENCI; most notably, CURIE, a bullx supercomputer with more than 92,000 processors and capable of achieving 2 million billion operations per second (2 Petaflops). The system is installed and operated by CEA at the Très Grand Centre de Calcul (TGCC) (Very Large Data Center) at the CEA's facility in Bruyères-le-Châtel. Designed by Bull, CURIE is currently one of the most powerful supercomputers in the world.The highly-coveted HPCwire Readers' Awards are determined through online polling of the global HPCwire audience, where winners have
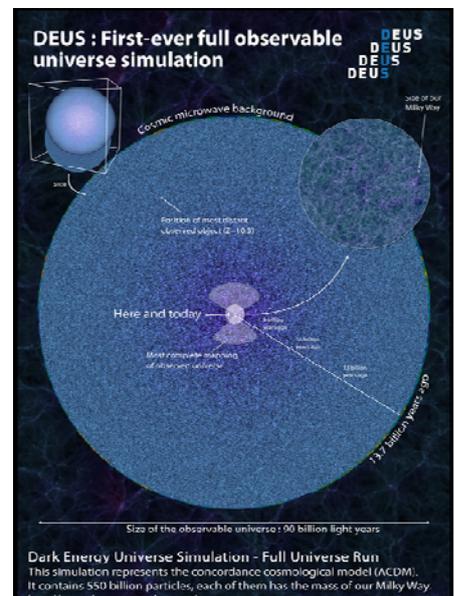
More information about the DEUS project is available on http://www2.cnrs.fr/en/2013.htm

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[1] Other members are Pier-Stefano Corasaniti, Yann Rasera, Irene Balmes, Bouillot Vincent, Vincent Reverdy

been selected by a panel of editorial and executive staff, recognized HPC luminaries and contributing editors from across the industry. The awards are revealed during the Monday opening reception at the Supercomputing Conference each year, which showcases high performance computing, networking, storage and data analysis. The awards hold the unique distinction of being recognized as the most prestigious acknowledgment given by the HPC community to its own each year.

"We are very honored and pleased to receive this award from the readers of HPCwire, Beyond the basic performance of CURIE, it recognizes its ability to push the limits of scientific and industrial innovative challenges in the field of cosmology, climate research, alternatives sources of energy, medicine and biology or new materials" said Catherine Riviere, CEO of GENCI.

"*It's an honor and a privilege to take time during the most important supercomputing conference globally to acknowledge the organizations and the individuals behind them who exemplify the hard work, dedication, and effort that has taken place over the past year to develop new technologies that ultimately benefit mankind*", said Jeff Hyman, president and group publisher of Tabor Communications Inc. "*The awards represent the highest level of recognition to the leaders and luminaries in the high performance computing industry by our HPCwire readers and the community alike. Our warmest congratulations go out to all the recipients of this year's awards.*"

More information on the awards can be found at the HPCwire website www.hpcwire.com

About GENCI
GENCI, Grand Equipement National de Calcul Intensif, is a legal entity taking the form of a société civile (civil company) under French law, owned 49% by the French State represented by the Ministry for Higher Education and Research, 20% by the CEA, 20% by the CNRS, 10% by the universities and 1% by INRIA, the French national institute for research in computer science and control. GENCI has been created to ensure that France achieves the highest levels in intensive computing, both at a European and international level. It associates the main HPC actors of academic French research and benefits from public authorities' support. GENCI has the following missions since its beginning in 2007:

- To set in place and co-ordinate the major computer equipment for the French computer centers for civil research, by providing for their financing and assuming their ownership
- To promote the organization of European High-Performance Computing (HPC) and participate in its actions. As such, GENCI represents France in the European PRACE project
- To promote the use of computer simulation and HPC in fundamental and industrial research.

For additional information, visit: www.genci.fr

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Currently Bull employs around 9,000 people across more than 50 countries, with over 700 staff totally focused on R&D. In 2011, Bull recorded revenues of €1.3 billion.

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About HPCwire
HPCwire is the #1 news and information portal covering the fastest computers in the world and the people who run them. With a legacy dating back to 1986, *HPCwire* continues to be the publication of choice globally by business and technology professionals from academia, government, science, and industry who are interested in high performance and computationally intensive computing. For topics ranging from the latest developments in systems, software, tools and applications, to middleware, networking and storage technologies, *HPCwire* delivers it all and remains the HPC communities' most reliable and trusted resource. For additional information, visit: www.hpcwire.com

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