

AC3 SMASHES ORACLE DATABASE RECORD

A world record for the number of servers that can be harnessed to manage a single Oracle database has been established at **ac3**.

A team of specialists from **ac3**, Oracle, Dell and Network Appliance has built the world's largest Oracle Database 10g Grid on Linux using **ac3**'s Dell cluster. The database employed 60 nodes out of the cluster's 155 in total. The world record was greeted enthusiastically when it was announced at the Oracle *OpenWorld* conference in Melbourne on July 8.



ac3's 310 processor Dell Linux cluster supercomputer established a world record for Oracle. 120 of its processors were used as a database server to access a single database.

ac3's chief technology officer, Dr Vlasdas Leonas, said, "Oracle 10g allows large numbers of low cost, industry standard servers to cooperate transparently in the management of a single database. The 120 CPU clustered configuration we've employed at **ac3** cost around AU\$380,000, a fraction of the cost of traditional high-end UNIX or mainframe systems."

Oracle Australia spokesperson, Roland Slee, said, "This is the world's largest Oracle 10g clustered configuration on Linux. It shows that large database workloads no longer require expensive high-end servers or mainframes.

The work at **ac3** also shows that it is possible to build large, scalable database systems using best value hardware and production software. Migrating databases to the grid is easy, data can simply be copied from the old environment to the new."



Ken Jacobs, VP Oracle, Jeff Browning of Network Appliance, and Phil McCrea of **ac3** brief the press at OracleWorld on the new record.

Dell Australia CEO, David Miller, said: "We're delighted that our technology powers the world's largest Oracle 10g Linux database cluster. We are continually developing modular solutions for highly available, high performance computing clusters."

AC3 TEAMS UP WITH GLOBAL SWITCH

ac3 has teamed up with Global Switch to provide a complete disaster recovery solution for clients of either organisation, particularly for NSW Government agencies.

Global Switch operates Australia's largest carrier-neutral data centre located at Ultimo, near the Sydney CBD, and has redundant power, cooling and connectivity to all major telecommunications carriers. The partnership is showing early signs of success after an **ac3** established a backup site for a client at Global Switch.

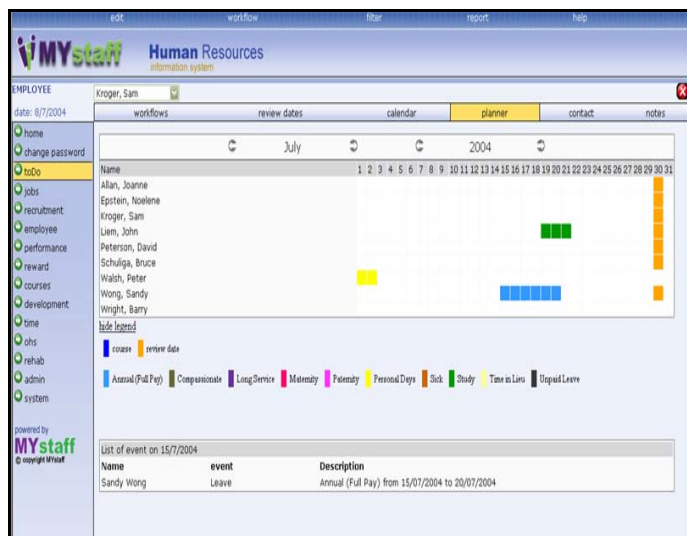


Global Switch's data centre at Ultimo on the outskirts of the Sydney CBD is Australia's largest carrier-neutral data centre.

CLIENT PROFILE: MYSTAFF OFFERS WEB-BASED HR MANAGEMENT

MYstaff is a web-based service that enables companies to reduce the costs associated with managing performance, workflow, recruitment, training and OH&S requirements.

Suitable for staff with even minimal computer skills, the program is robust enough to run over the Internet, according to *MYstaff* spokesman, Graham Kelly.



MYstaff provides a browser-based HR service, hosted at ac3, and available as an ASP.

"We promote it as an ASP solution that gives managers an immediate, comprehensive suite of tools for all their human resource issues. The program is highly scalable, which means it's suitable for any sized company.

"It requires very few IT skills — there's no software to load and maintain, and no new hardware to buy — all you need is an Internet Explorer browser," says Kelly. "This means there are no big up-front costs. Clients can stay focused on their business, rather than maintaining a software product."

Developed as an HTML Java-based Internet application running on an open source (PostgreSQL) database, *MYstaff* is hosted and managed by **ac3** with 24x7 availability and high data security.

"Human resource management is a necessary legal requirement of being in business," says Kelly, "and *MYstaff* takes care of a lot of the associated costs and headaches, especially for companies with distributed workforces.

"When you combine those features with fast access, low running costs, global reach and software that can handle different languages, currencies and legal requirements, it's a real winner."

For more information see www.mystaff.com.au, or contact Graham Kelly on (02) 9209 4464.

AC3 FORGES LINKS WITH GRANGENET

ac3 has been connected to a 10-gigabit high-performance network that connects Australia's major research facilities to grid computing and advanced communication services.

Launched 15 months ago with \$14m of federal government funding, GrangeNet links facilities in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne, and has plans to extend to other capital cities over the next 18 months.

GrangeNet is a joint venture between AARNet, the Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing (APAC), Distributed Systems Technology Centre (DSTC), Cisco Systems Australia Pty Ltd and PowerTel.

GrangeNet's CEO, Paul Davis, says he is delighted to have **ac3** linked to a network that carried over 500 terabytes of data in the past year. "GrangeNet is a catalyst to increase Australia's research and development capacity, using state of the art communications.

"**ac3** already contributes greatly to that cause, and its participation in GrangeNet helps broaden access to commercial and research communities that rely on distributed computing, collaborative visualisation, cooperative environments and digital libraries."

GrangeNet links over 40 Australian research centres and universities engaged in research such as computational physics and engineering, bio-informatics, astronomy, and environmental and climactic modelling.



ac3 has been connected to GrangeNet, a gigabit network that links together specialist research centres around the country.

Further information about GrangeNet is available from <http://www.grangenet.net/>.

LET AC3 LOOK AFTER YOUR COMPUTERS

ac3 provides managed co-location services — i.e we look after other organisations' computers in our highly secure, highly reliable, and well connected data centre. We do this on a 24x7x366 basis. For more information call **ac3** on (02) 9209 4600 or visit <http://www.ac3.com.au/>.