

GCS and the Gauß-Allianz. We already have a strong cooperation for joint software research and development projects. I am fully convinced that the overall approach taken so far will lead to a successful structure of the whole HPC pyramid in Germany.

After several decades in HPC, what do you personally see as the most outstanding achievement?

Especially during the last 20 years the realization that simulation besides theory and experiment is an increasingly important and indispensable method for reaching scientific findings has gained momentum. This awareness leads to supporting the concept of national supercomputing centers in 1999. In 2006 the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research, BMBF, gave the inducement to found GCS as an organization that became obligatory for the realization of the top



of the national HPC concept. GCS was selected to carry out the PetaGCS project and to provide the German contributions to the European PRACE project. We succeeded in achieving the leading position in Europe in less than one decade thanks to the great support of BMBF and the states of Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, and North Rhine-Westphalia. Now there is the challenge to continue this success story and make the achievements sustainable at a high level.

Prof. Hegering, thank you for the interview. The interview was conducted by the inSiDE team

Prof. Heinz-Gerd Hegering was the Managing Director of the Leibniz Rechenzentrum (LRZ) at Garching until 2008. He is one of the founders of GCS and has been the chairman of the Board of Directors of GCS since May 2008.

PRACE: Results of the 4th Regular Call

The Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe (PRACE) is offering supercomputing resources on the highest level (tier-0) to European researchers.

The Gauss Centre for Supercomputing (GCS) is currently dedicating shares of its IBM Blue Gene/P system JUGENE in Jülich (currently being upgraded to the IBM Blue Gene/Q system JUQUEEN, see also the corresponding article in this edition), of its Cray XE6 system Hermit in Stuttgart, and of its IBM iDataPlex system SuperMUC in Garching.

The 4th call for proposals, this time for computing time on CURIE, hosted by GENCI in TGCC/CEA, Bruyères-Le-Châtel, France, MareNostrum, hosted by BSC in Barcelona, Spain, FERMI, hosted by CINECA in Casalecchio di Reno, Italy, in addition to the above mentioned GCS systems, closed January 10, 2012.

Eleven research projects have been awarded a total of about 300 million compute core hours on JUGENE, four have been awarded a total of about

140 million compute core hours on Hermit, and ten have been awarded a total of about 200 million compute core hours on SuperMUC for the allocation time period May 2012 to April 2013. Six of those research projects are from Italy, five are from France, four are from Germany, two are from Spain and the UK, each, while one each are from Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Portugal, and Switzerland. The research projects awarded computing time cover all scientific areas, from Astrophysics to Medicine and Life Sciences. More details, also on the projects granted access to the machines in France, Spain, and Italy, can be found via the PRACE web pages www.prace-ri.eu/PRACE-4th-Regular-Call.

Evaluation for the 5th call for proposals that closed May 30, 2012 is still under way, as of this writing. Details on the calls, also on the current 6th call, can be found on www.prace-ri.eu/Call-Announcements.

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