



Ciara Technologies
Public Relations
9300 Trans Canada Highway
Saint Laurent, QC H4S 1K5
T. (514) 798-8880

For Immediate Release

Ciara Technologies Announces the Opening of its High Performance Computing (HPC) Benchmarking Center

New VXRACK Benchmarking Center (VBC-5) Provides Access To More Than Five TeraFLOPS of Processing Power

Montreal, Canada — November 9, 2004 — Ciara Technologies, a leading provider of high-density rack-mounted computer servers and supercomputer clusters, today announced plans to open a state of the art HPC benchmarking center in Montreal during the first quarter of 2005.

The VXRACK Benchmark Center (VBC-5) will provide businesses, government agencies and academic institutions with access to one of the world's most powerful benchmark supercomputers (the VXR-3DT™ and VXRACK™ systems) based on the latest technology from Intel.

By creating this new facility, Ciara hopes to establish a new international center for R&D excellence whereby anyone who wants access to a high performance computing (HPC) system can do so without being hampered by technical accessibility or steep costs. The center will house the company's new VXR-3DT, one of the world's most powerful and innovative computing architecture that can scale up to 19,440 Intel® EM64T Xeon™ processors while providing users with more than 140 TeraFLOPS of computing power.

"We are building a world-class benchmark complex and R&D facility right here in Montreal," said Patrick Scateni, VXR-3DT Co-creator and Director of Business Development for Ciara Technologies. "We took over a facility from Nortel Networks back in 2003 and are extending its datacenter capabilities 10 fold. The facility will act as a 'bulletproof' IT haven for companies who need to test, benchmark and conduct world-class R&D projects not only in North America but throughout the world."

"This is groundbreaking news," said Darcy Letemplier, VXR-3DT Co-Creator and Director of New Technology Development for Ciara. "With innovations such as VXR-3DT and VXRACK combined with next generation Intel EM64T Xeon processor-based platform, this benchmark facility will deliver enough computational performance to meet any customer requirement."

The VXRACK Benchmark Center will give users access up to 640 Intel EM64T Xeon processors in a 3D Torus with a Dual Rail Infiniband Architecture. The VBC-5 will also host more than 200 Intel EM64T Xeon processors in a more

standard network, based on InfiniBand and Gigabit. In total, the VXRACK Benchmark Center will provide in excess of five TeraFLOPS of processing power dedicated for benchmark purpose only.

The VXRACK Benchmark Center will address markets that require access to affordable HPC power including; virtual prototyping, signal processing, financial services, data mining, petro-chemical and pharmaceutical research, bio technologies, bio engineering, genomic research, image processing, high-end video editing, post-production and academic or governmental organizations looking to conduct “pure” research.

“Our goal at Ciara Technologies is to bring high-performance computing (HPC) to the masses,” said Robert Ahdoot, President of Ciara Technologies. “With the launch of our VXR-3DT system and new data center facility, we have an unbeatable combination for success. Moving forward, we even plan on offering free CPU cycles from the VXR-3DT to our local community as a gesture of good will and to promote regional R&D.”

About Ciara Technologies:

Ciara Technologies is a world-class computer systems manufacturer. Ciara designs, develops, manufactures, markets, services, and supports a variety of computer systems including graphic workstations, rack-mount and tower servers, networked storage and the newly acclaimed VXRACK™ and VXR-3DT™ Cluster Technology. The company's state of the art supercomputer cluster is based on the Intel IA32 and IA64 architectures and utilizes Linux operating systems. We are proud to be recognized by Intel as an "Intel Premier Provider". Choosing Ciara is choosing a single point of contact for all your IT requirements. All our products are built under the ISO 9001 standards and regulations. The growth of Ciara enabled the company to move its 300+ employees, in February 2003, to an ultra-modern plant of 576,000 square feet. Ciara now has the capability of producing more than 500,000 units per year.

For more information contact:

Patrick Scateni
VXR-3DT Co-creator
Ciara Technologies
T: (514) 798-8880 Ext. 6550
pscateni@ciara-tech.com

Andre Fuochi
Vice President, Technology Practice
GCI Group
T: (416) 486-7227
afuochi@gcigroup.com