

Press Release

VITA NUOVA ANNOUNCES INFERNO GRID SUPPORT FOR GOLD

York, U.K., December 10th, 2003

Vita Nuova today announced support for the ligand docking application GOLD within the Inferno Grid System. GOLD, from the Cambridge Crystallography Data Centre (CCDC), is one of the leading software packages for predicting how flexible molecules will bind to proteins – a problem of enormous significance in the rational design of drugs.

The Inferno Grid co-ordinates the execution of GOLD across clusters of UNIX, Linux and Windows machines. The computing power can come from either dedicated computing clusters or the Inferno Grid will use idle cycles from under-utilised work-stations. The Inferno Grid comes complete with easy to use Grid management tools that enable jobs to be started, stopped, suspended and resumed. Graphical interfaces provide administrators with a real-time analysis of the 'state of the Grid'.

"This is the first bio-science application that we have supported in the Inferno Grid." says Michael Jeffrey CEO of Vita Nuova. "The work was achieved in a remarkably short time and, unlike some other Grid technologies, it did not require us to tamper with the GOLD application. We will be adding MacOS X support shortly and further bio-science applications into the Inferno Grid over time."

Vita Nuova is targeting the life and bio-science companies amongst others for whom the management of their computation resources is an important challenge. The company expects to see more general application of its Grid technology in the area of Data Grids and Instrument Grids in years to come.

A collection of Grid demonstrations is available on our website at www.vitanuova.com/solutions/grid/index.html that illustrate how Inferno can be used to access resources as varied as computation, services, data and devices that are distributed around the network. Inferno itself is free to download from the Vita Nuova web site at www.vitanuova.com/inferno. Further information on GOLD can be obtained from the CCDC web site at <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/prods/gold.html>.

About Inferno

The Inferno system was originally created and developed at Lucent Technologies' Bell Labs within the Software Sciences Research Group; the same group that created the UNIX operating system and C programming language. The technology is now deployed and developed by Vita Nuova.

The operating system is highly portable running not just on top of existing operating systems but also on bare hardware and is uniquely effective for the construction of distributed systems involving heterogeneous collections of computers and environments. There is no need to replace the existing investment in hardware and operating systems.

About Vita Nuova

Founded March 1st, 2000, Vita Nuova is a privately held company with headquarters in York, England. Vita Nuova specialises in advanced technologies, including Inferno, for distributed application development on network devices.

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