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Clustra Systems Releases Always-On Database Upgrade

Performance, Availability, Management Improvements Highlight 4.1 Release

OAKLAND, Calif., November 12, 2001 -- Taking their flagship Clustra Database to the next level, Clustra Systems, Inc., the leading provider of always-on technology for the 24x7 world, today announced the availability of the newest 4.1 release of its unique, always-on SQL database, featuring further improvements in performance, availability and management. Now capable of scaling to dozens of data nodes for support of databases with hundreds of gigabytes of data and correspondingly high transaction throughput, the Clustra Database 4.1 provides continuous, zero-downtime operation for the most demanding online transaction processing and high-speed data collection applications.

A SQL-92 compatible relational database, the Clustra Database meets the demand for an uninterrupted flow of data by e-business, financial services, telecommunications and other applications where downtime is not an option, even during planned maintenance. Sub-second fault detection and recovery features kick in automatically should any outage situation occur (planned or unplanned) to guarantee zero downtime to database users and applications. Advanced parallel processing techniques resolve database queries in milliseconds for lightning fast response, and the clustered architecture balances load and all access across available hardware for the most efficient resource utilization. The Clustra Database runs on off-the-shelf commodity hardware without special clustering OS components for easy, cost-effective linear capacity growth.

"While traditional databases strive to narrow downtime windows, the Clustra Database is designed to operate continuously without any downtime and without requiring premium priced, high-end SMP hardware," said Dan Leighton, vice president of product marketing for Clustra Systems. "The 4.1 release is the latest result of the Clustra Database's evolution, and offers the performance and availability to meet the highest service level requirements."

The enhancements made to the Clustra Database 4.1 enable it to better address the data access and performance requirements for mission-critical applications, including user authentication; information access for online applications; real-time, high throughput, continuously available

directory gateways; 24x7 Internet applications; trading and auction services; and next-generation softswitch telecommunications applications, among other fully integrated, continuously available, massively scalable distributed applications.

"Clustra offers the performance, availability and cost-effectiveness wireless carriers require in their increasingly competitive marketplace as they prepare to roll out new 2.5G and 3G data networks," said Denise Stoermer, vice president of development at Visogent Technologies. "The Clustra database helps us deliver on our promise to enable these carriers to deliver and manage advanced wireless applications while decreasing their deployment and maintenance costs."

New Features and Enhancements

This new release delivers a number of performance, management and availability enhancements, as well as new features. Highlights include:

- **Expanded cluster size** - Now designed to operate on dozens of data nodes, Clustra can support data sets scaling to hundreds of gigabytes and correspondingly high transaction throughput, all while maintaining better than five-9's availability.
- **Improved performance** - Performance was raised in many ways including significantly enhanced single record update performance with more efficient messaging across the cluster, doubled update performance for primary keys and faster ODBC performance.
- **Extended secondary indexes** - Full, global, non-blocking secondary indexes enable dynamic, on-the-fly index operations to be performed while all query and update activities continue.
- **Improved availability** - To further extend Clustra's high-availability lead, the 4.1 release introduces fully parallel restores that minimize time to recovery should a failure occur, and improved node restart to greatly reduce the window of potential risk for downtime events when nodes are taken off-line for maintenance.
- **Enhanced diagnostic support** - Improved monitoring and instrumentation, including the extensions required for the Clustra DataCenter management console.

About Clustra Systems

Clustra Systems delivers proven always-on technology. Clustra began with a vision of a practical, cost-effective database to address the stringent service level requirements of emerging 24x7 online applications, along with a firm belief that downtime is a design flaw. Based on years of advanced research, the Clustra Database was initially deployed to support Advanced Intelligent Network service for telecommunications carriers. Today, Clustra is designing the next-generation platform for always-on applications, and the Clustra Database is used worldwide for a variety of mission-critical applications. Clustra is backed by a world-class investment team led by Vantage Point Venture Partners. Investors also include Sun Microsystems, Clarity Capital, Mustang Ventures, Telesystem - Argo Global Capital and private investors. For additional information on Clustra Systems, call 1-510-267-2200, or visit the company's Web site at www.clustra.com.

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