



HPC Industry's Leaders in for a Grilling during International Supercomputing Conference's Hot Seat Sessions

HAMBURG, Germany—One of the most popular sessions at the annual International Supercomputing Conference (ISC) are the “Hot Seat Sessions,” when leaders from many of the world’s top technology companies and research centers are put on the spot to give a concise presentation followed by tough questions. ISC’09 will be held June 23-26 in Hamburg.

Unique to ISC, the Hot Seat Sessions are two afternoons of to-the-point presentations by industry powerhouses in computing, networking, data and storage, and supercomputing centers in Europe, Asia and North America. Each speaker has 10 minutes to present their organization’s newest strategy, product or research developments. A panel of expert “inquisitors” then asks each speaker two in-depth follow-up questions. The speakers have only five minutes to offer their responses—on the spot in front of an expected 1,500 conference attendees.

“Vendors send their best people—sometimes even their CEOs—to represent them at the Hot Seat Sessions because they know they will be asked difficult, probing questions by some very well-versed inquisitors in front of a knowledgeable audience,” said ISC Conference Chair Prof. Hans Werner Meuer of the University of Mannheim. “The speakers need to be able to think on their feet and give very clear, succinct responses. It is a lively, thought-provoking afternoon, which our conference attendees look forward to.”

The ISC’09 two Hot Seat Sessions will be held from 2:30–4:45 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, and Thursday, June 25. All conference and exhibition attendees are invited to attend the sessions.

Session 1 will find representatives from Microsoft, Intel, IBM, BlueArc, Bull, Spectra Logic, Fujitsu, Cluster Resources and NEC on the hot seat. During Session 2, experts from Sun Microsystems, Supermicro, Hewlett-Packard, SGI, Mellanox, Myricom, QLogic, Force10 and Cray will be on the spot. For a complete list of speakers and presentation titles, go to www.isc09.org/hotseat.

ISC, which marks its 24th anniversary in 2009, has a well-established reputation for presenting well-founded, precise and up-to-date information in an environment that encourages informal conversations and sharing of ideas. ISC is also the largest high performance computing exhibition in Europe, and an estimated 120 of the leading hardware, software and services vendors are expected to fill the Congress Center Hamburg exhibition hall. All conference proceedings are conducted in English.

There is still time to take advantage of lower advance registration rates until Monday, May 25. For complete information on registration, go to www.isc09.org/fees. To learn more about the conference program, please visit the ISC’09 homepage at www.isc09.org/.