Georgia Tech aims to drive Cell processor research

(Electronic News) To focus on applications for the Cell Broadband Engine (B.E.) processor including gaming, virtual reality, home entertainment, tools and programmability and high performance scientific and technical computing, the College of Computing http://www.cc.gatech.edu/ at Atlanta-based Georgia Tech http://www.gatech.edu/ said today it will host the Georgia Tech Cell Broadband Engine (Cell/B.E.) Processor Workshop on June 18 and 19.

The workshop will be held at the Klaus Advanced Computing Building on Georgia Tech’s campus.

David A. Bader, associate professor and executive director of high-performance computing in the College of Computing at Georgia Tech said in a statement, “The Cell/B.E. processor represents the future of computing using heterogeneous multi-core processors, and we are proud to help drive the continued advancement of computationally-intensive applications that will directly impact the global growth of our industry and evolution of our society.”

IBM’s Cell/B.E. processor contains a central processing unit, based on IBM’s Power Architecture technology, and eight synergistic processors.

The company says that the processor “supercharges” compute-intensive applications, allowing fast performance for computer entertainment and handhelds, virtual-reality, wireless downloads, real-time video chat, interactive TV shows and other image-hungry computing environments.


The College of Computing also said that it is one of the first universities to deploy the IBM BladeCenter QS20 Server for production use, which uses the same Cell/B.E. processor that powers products such as SCEI’s PLAYSTATION 3 computer entertainment system, and Toshiba’s Cell Reference Set, a development tool for Cell/B.E. applications.

The Georgia Tech said its installation includes a cluster of 28 Cell/B.E. processors in 14 blades and supports the operation of Cell-optimized multi-core applications in areas such as digital content creation, gaming and entertainment, security, scientific and technical computing, biomedicine, and finance.

Georgia Tech will grant users access on the cluster to test drive the Cell/B.E. processor and support ISVs that develop products and tools for the Cell/B.E. processor. The Georgia Tech Cell/B.E. processor installation will use Altair Engineering’s PBS Professional job scheduling software that increases the utilization of the IBM Blade Center QS20, the company added.

Bader directs the STI Cell Center of Competence at Georgia Tech http://www.edn.com/article/CA6393577.html, which has a mission to grow the community of Cell/B.E. processor users and developers by performing research and service in support of the Cell/B.E. processor, and further equip students at the College to grow their skills and experience around Cell/B.E. technology to apply in future career opportunities.

Also, the university says that the Center will sponsor discussion forums and workshops, provide remote access to Cell/B.E. processor based blade hardware installed at Georgia Tech, and disseminate software optimized for Cell/B.E. processor based systems, and perform research on the design of Cell/B.E. processor based systems, algorithms, and applications.

A collaboration with SCEI, Toshiba and IBM supports the Center’s activities and research efforts in support of broadening the Cell/B.E. processor’s impact into multiple sectors and industries, including scientific computing, digital content creation, bioinformatics, finance, gaming and entertainment, the companies noted.

Speakers at the event include Bijan Davari, IBM Fellow and VP for next generation computing systems and technology; Dominic Mallinson, VP of U.S. R&D for Sony Computer Entertainment; and Yoshio Masubuchi, general manager for the broadband system LSI development center at Toshiba’s semiconductor company.

The workshop http://sti.cc.gatech.edu is sponsored by Sony Computer Entertainment, Toshiba and IBM.
**TABLET PC**

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<tr>
<th>Tablet PC Model</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price Range</th>
<th>Best Deals</th>
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<tr>
<td>MOTION COMPUTING LE1600 1.6 GHz Tablet PC with 1.5 GB RAM, 60 GB Hard Drive and View AnyWhere Display</td>
<td>★★★★★ (Rated by 0 users)</td>
<td>Offering enhanced mobility in a lightweight design, the LE1600 1.6 GHz Tablet PC from Motion Computing empowers you to work almost anywhere, anytime.</td>
<td>$2,360 to $2,399</td>
<td>MacMall: $2,359.99</td>
<td>DellBusiness: $2,399.00</td>
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<td>Toshiba Satellite R15-S822 Tablet PC</td>
<td>★★★★★ (Rated by 34 users)</td>
<td>Toshiba Satellite R15-S822 with Pentium M processor 725 (1.60GHz, 2MB cache, 533MHz), 512MB(x1), 14.1&quot;XGA display, 60GB HDD, DVD/CD-RW, Wi-Fi (802.11g), Win XP Tablet, 1-Yr...</td>
<td>$759 to $879</td>
<td>PowersellerNYC: $759.00</td>
<td>Bajangles: $768.45</td>
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<td>Fujitsu Stylistic ST5112 1.2 GHz Tablet PC with 512 MB RAM, 40 GB Hard Drive and Atheros Super 802.1...</td>
<td>★★★★★ (Rated by 0 users)</td>
<td>Offering enhanced mobility in a lightweight design, the Stylistic ST5112 Tablet PC from Fujitsu empowers you to work almost anywhere, anytime.</td>
<td>$1,914</td>
<td>DellBusiness: $1,913.92</td>
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<td>HP tc4400 Tablet PC Core Duo T2400 1.83GHz/1GB/60GB/56K/GigNIC/abg/12.1&quot;/XPT</td>
<td>★★★★★ (Rated by 5 users)</td>
<td>The versatile HP Compaq tc4400 Tablet PC adapts to the way you work with unparalleled mobility, superb performance, and features. This refurbished product is available in limited...</td>
<td>$1,139 to $1,150</td>
<td>PowersellerNYC: $1,139.00</td>
<td>EcomElectronics: $1,149.95</td>
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<td>HP Compaq Tablet PC tc4200 Pentium M 740 1.73 GHz 12.1&quot; TFT</td>
<td>★★★★★ (Rated by 7 users)</td>
<td>Intel Pentium M 740 Processor 1.73GHz, 512MB DDR2 SDRAM, 40GB Hard Drive, Intel Graphic Media Accelerator 900, 10/100/1000 NIC, 802.11b/g WLAN, 12.1&quot; TFT XGA, Microsoft Windows XP...</td>
<td>$880 to $1,075</td>
<td>PowersellerNYC: $1,075.00</td>
<td>PriceMad: $1,029.00</td>
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<td>Case Logic PBC15 Lightweight Laptop Case for 15.4&quot; Laptops or Tablet PC Computers with DVD/CD Folio</td>
<td>★★★★★ (Rated by 0 users)</td>
<td>The Case Logic PBC-15 Lightweight Laptop Case is a slimline 15.4&quot; laptop case with an external front pocket with clear panel allows quick access to an iPod, Blackberry or...</td>
<td>$29 to $50</td>
<td>MWAVE.COM: $32.30</td>
<td>Amazon Marketplace: $33.72</td>
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External USB hard disk drive manufacturers have enjoyed a growth spurt thanks in part to all the media that consumers are creating with their digital video and still cameras, as well as media being downloaded off the Internet. The drives are cool because they are highly portable, are plug and play, and add much needed storage capabilities to the host PC. Read More

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