NOR-TECH
People Friendly Technology

Case Study
Leading International Technology Hardware Developer

70X Faster Supercomputers = Faster Time to Market
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We are able to increase our speed of learning and running experiments."
Senior Staff Engineer, Leading International Technology Hardware Developer

Their Challenge
Through simulation, the client's research center tests technology products for properties such as heat, vibration and reliability before they go to market.

Nor-Tech Senior Account Manager Tom Morton has been working directly with the client's Principal Technology Program Manager and Senior Staff Engineer since 2017. During this time, Nor-Tech has provided supercomputers to the company's national and international headquarters.

The client purchased the first CPU HPC supercomputer from Nor-Tech in order to quickly bring an exciting new technology to market. In March 2018, they decided to add GPU processors. They were so happy with the improvement in speed that, a month later, they asked Nor-Tech to double the compute power with a second identical supercomputer that would accommodate rapidly increasing use.

Our Solution
It was the Senior Staff Engineer that set the upgrade and additional supercomputer order in motion. "The purpose of the clusters is to run simulation software, simulating the recording process," he said. "I asked for the new cluster because we wanted the usual code that we run on CPUs to process faster. We figured that if we added new GPUs we could accelerate it 70 times."

Since there were no major problems with the first supercomputer, the client was confident working with Nor-Tech to expand and clone it. "It was a rush project," Tom said. "We had to work within a tight timeline. They needed it about a month from the time they ordered it, which was a challenge due to the custom software installation and configuration."

In the end, both clusters had 112 CPUs and 56 GPUs.

Their Success
After the Installation, Tom followed up in person with the Senior Staff Engineer to check-in and make sure everything was running smoothly. "It was successful due to the communication between both companies, from the proposal stage, to expediting the order and the follow-through," Tom said.

The Senior Staff Engineer agreed. "We haven't had any hardware issues with either cluster, only software issues occasionally," he said, "Nor-Tech is very familiar with Linux and has been very responsive."

According to the Senior Staff Engineer, both supercomputers did prove to be 70 times faster than the original. "Our supercomputers and our relationship with Nor-Tech have been a huge value for us," he explained. "We are able to increase our speed of learning and running different experiments. I would recommend Nor-Tech for a number of reasons; the hardware is cost-effective and affordable for us, everything has been delivered in a timely manner and support has been great. We are committed to working with Nor-Tech for HPC."

Tom summarized, "We value our relationship with all of our clients and this client in particular. We really enjoyed working with their entire technology team"

About Nor-Tech

Nor-Tech built its reputation on the industry's easiest-to-deploy cluster solutions and guaranteed no wait time support. The company designed and built the HPC cluster that enabled the first detection of a gravitational wave—a discovery destined to change history. In addition to HPC clusters, Nor-Tech's custom technology includes workstations, desktops, and servers for a range of applications including CAE, CFD, and FEA. Clients include some of the most respected organizations in the world. Nor-Tech engineers average 20+ years of experience and are responsible for significant high performance computing innovations. The company has been in business since 1998 and is headquartered in Burnsville, Minn. just outside of Minneapolis. To contact Nor-Tech call 952-808-1000/toll free: 877-808-1010 or visit http://www.nor-tech.com. Full release at: http://www.nor-tech.com/category/news/

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