

EMSL News – Video for SC2008

And now the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory presents: EMSL News

Today we highlight “Chinook”, not the hot wind, nor the fish, but a new supercomputer at the EMSL. And now we go back in time to where our story begins...

When EMSL’s second-generation supercomputer, MPP2 comes on-line in 2003 it is the fifth fastest supercomputer in the world. Five years later, MPP2 has served EMSL users well, but in a world of quickly advancing computing technologies, it’s time to upgrade.

On September 28, 2007 the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory awards the contract for developing EMSL’s third-generation supercomputer, named Chinook, to Hewlett-Packard.

On March 26th, HP delivers the first shipment. This first phase will eclipse the power of MPP2. Eventually there will be four thousand six hundred twenty quad-core processors from AMD. Together with 37 tera-Bytes of memory, Chinook’s peak performance is expected to be 163 tera-Bytes.

On Day 2: Chinook continues to grow with cables being laid in preparation of additional computer racks.

Chinook will help EMSL researchers from around the world solve complex problems in areas such as: aerosol formation, bioremediation, catalysis, climate change, hydrogen storage and subsurface science.

And now on Day 3: Chinook begins to really take shape. When all is connected Chinook will have a terabyte per second of disk bandwidth. This is fast enough to transfer one hundred twenty six DVD movies every second.

After five more days, Chinook is almost there...

Today Chinook is powered up and ready for research. To learn more about Chinook visit the EMSL web site.

The EMSL, providing our users with: Expertise, Integration, Economical Use, and state-of-the-Art Instrumentation, all in a unique collaborative environment.