

STEC and IBM Collaborate to Set New Storage Performance Council (SPC-1) Record for High-End Enterprise Storage Systems

STEC ZeusIOPS SSD within IBM's PowerSystem Achieves An Unprecedented SPC-1 Benchmark Result, Setting a New Standard for Performance at Comparatively Lower Costs

SANTA ANA, Calif., October 7, 2009 – STEC, Inc. (Nasdaq: STEC) today announced that STEC's Enterprise-class ZeusIOPS Solid State Drives (SSDs) utilized in IBM's Power 595 with PowerVM has set a new record SPC-1 Result with unprecedented performance. The collaboration demonstrates how solid-state drive technology can obtain levels of performance that would otherwise be difficult to achieve without implementing hundreds of spinning drives. Using fewer SSDs significantly reduces the overall footprint of the system design and energy consumption, resulting in substantial benefits to the end-user.

The integration in IBM's Power 595 system, which deploys six STEC ZeusIOPS Solid State Drives (SSDs) within each expansion drawer, achieves an unprecedented 300,993.85 SPC-1 IOPS™ [1]. While fully mirrored for added data protection, the configuration also utilizes virtualization to greatly reduce the overall footprint without sacrificing capacity (5.8TB raw). Performance of this degree will change the pace and improve the efficiency and costs at which high-transaction businesses such as financial institutions will operate.

"IBM and STEC share a commitment to delivering unrivaled performance to the storage community," said Andrew Walls, Distinguished Engineer, Systems Technology Group, IBM. "Solid-state drive technology can deliver improvements such as ultra-high IOPS, lower energy consumption, and smaller footprints. This is helping to usher in the next-generation of storage systems and we believe STEC has been able to effectively demonstrate the benefits of its ZeusIOPS technology."

"Achieving this level of performance is evidence that an overhaul of major systems or designing entirely new systems to reach world class performance is not necessary," said Manouch Moshayedi, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of STEC. "Together with IBM, we have demonstrated that record performance can be enabled by integrating our ZeusIOPS in existing high-end systems. Through our collaboration and close integration efforts, STEC and IBM have delivered what we believe to be a game-changing product. The legacy approach of building systems for ultra-high performance through conventional RAM technologies will find it difficult to compete as high-powered systems like IBM's Power Series adapt to using SSDs and achieve even better performance."

The ZeusIOPS SSD product family offers a comprehensive array of options for Enterprise system architects and is the world's most broadly deployed SSD technology. Qualified in nearly every major Enterprise OEM, the ZeusIOPS SSD product family provides the right mix of high-performance, quality and reliability that storage leaders require for their mission critical businesses. ZeusIOPS SSD provides a wide range of interface options, spanning SATA, Fibre Channel and SAS, as well as the widest range of capacity options, spanning 73GB to 750GB. Fundamental to the ZeusIOPS product family is the proprietary SSD architecture which renders an Enterprise-optimized storage device with an unprecedented combination of performance and energy efficiency.

About Storage Performance Council (SPC)

The SPC is a non-profit corporation founded to define, standardize and promote storage benchmarks and to disseminate objective, verifiable storage performance data to the computer industry and its

customers. The organization's strategic objectives are to empower storage vendors to build better products as well as to stimulate the IT community to more rapidly trust and deploy multi-vendor storage technology.

The SPC membership consists of a broad cross-section of the storage industry. A complete SPC membership roster is available at <http://www.storageperformance.org/about/roster/>. For more information about SPC-1C/E visit <http://www.storageperformance.org>.

For more information about this announcement as well as other matters associated with STEC's Enterprise SSD capabilities and products, visit the company's web site at <http://www.stec-inc.com>.

About STEC

STEC, Inc., with headquarters in Santa Ana, California and offices around the globe, designs, manufactures and markets high performance storage solutions. The company's product portfolio includes the industry's broadest SSD offerings. For more information, visit the company's web site at <http://www.stec-inc.com>.

The STEC logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=1079>

[1] IBM Power 595 with PowerVM and SSDs SPC-1 Executive Summary and Full Disclosure Report are available at http://www.storageperformance.org/results/benchmark_results_spc1#a00083.

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This release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, statements concerning current and future specification and performance attributes of STEC's SSD products, including ZeusIOPS products; the utilization of ZeusIOPS in IBM's Power 595 with Power VM and the performance and benefits from the integration; the impact of this performance upon high-transaction businesses; and that the ZeusIOPS SSD product family is the world's most broadly deployed SSD technology. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and involve inherent risks and uncertainties, including factors that could delay, divert or change any of them, and could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially from current expectations. Although STEC believes that the forward looking statements contained in this release are reasonable, it can give no assurance that its expectations will be fulfilled. Important factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements are detailed in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission made from time to time by STEC, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K, its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and its Current Reports on Form 8-K. The information contained in this press release is a statement of STEC's present intention, belief or expectation. STEC may change its intention, belief, or expectation, at any time and without notice, based upon any changes in such factors, in STEC's assumptions or otherwise. STEC undertakes no obligation to release publicly any revisions to any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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