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News Briefs:

Progeniq Joins Microsoft in BioIT Alliance

SINGAPORE, Sept. 26 -- Microsoft Corp., announced the initiation of Progeniq Pte Ltd, a leader in reconfigurable computing applications headquartered in Singapore, into the BioIT Alliance today. The BioIT Alliance is a cross-industry group working to integrate science and technology to accelerate the pace of drug discovery and realize the potential of personalized medicine. The early focus of the Alliance has been to address the data-capture and data-integration challenges that face the industry. Additional information about the BioIT Alliance can be found on its Web site at <http://www.bioitalliance.org>.

The Progeniq BioBoost provides hardware accelerated processing for the most computationally intensive applications in Bioinformatics -- NCBI BLAST, Smith Waterman, HMMer and ClustalW. Processing these protein searches will be cut from months to days, and weeks to hours and minutes.

"The life sciences offer one of the best opportunities for information technology to accelerate the pace of drug discovery and development," said Rudy Potenzzone, BioIT Alliance Manager at Microsoft. "Progeniq's collaboration in the Alliance will be a tremendous boost in Bioinformatics data-processing and discoveries in the life science industry."

By utilizing Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) technology, the processor is able to "rewire" itself on the fly according to the application that needs to be accelerated. This results in further energy savings, as the FPGA consumes as little as 5 watts of power from the USB, as compared to the racks of servers and cooling required that it replaces.

"Progeniq is delighted to collaborate with Microsoft and Life Science companies in the BioIT Alliance," said Darran Nathan, Progeniq's Chief Executive Officer. "We are confident that more users will benefit from the speedups from the BioBoost, and more in the life science industry can enjoy its benefits."

The BioBoost Accelerated suite for Bioinformatics is available for immediate shipment at USD 3,000 for first time buyers. Visit <http://www.progeniq.com/products/offer.htm> for details.

About Progeniq Pte Ltd

Progeniq is a leader in reconfigurable computing applications for High Performance Computing (HPC) industries, with its BioBoost line of products for the life sciences industry already adopted by institutes worldwide. Today Progeniq continues to reinvent the way computing is done by leveraging on the Boost Platform to introduce reconfigurable computing into new compute-intensive industries, increasing the efficiency of computing systems, boosting up performance and slashing cost.

About the BioIT Alliance

Formed in 2006, the BioIT Alliance is a cross-industry group working to integrate science and technology in order to accelerate the pace of drug discovery and realize the potential of personalized medicine. Founding members include Accelrys Software Inc., Affymetrix, Inc., Agilent Technologies Inc., Amylin Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Applied Biosystems, The BioTeam Inc., Digipede Technologies LLC, Discovery Biosciences Corporation, Geospiza Inc., Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P., Illumina Inc., InterKnowledge, Microsoft Corporation, Sun Microsystems Inc., The Scripps Research Institute, VizX Labs LLC and other key companies in the pharmaceutical, biotech, hardware and software industries. Additional information about the BioIT Alliance can be found on the BioIT Alliance Web site at <http://www.bioitalliance.org>.

About Microsoft Corp.

Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT") is the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential.

Source: Progeniq Pte Ltd