

# Satyam pact with Melbourne varsity for grid computing

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SATYAM Computer Services Ltd, a consulting and IT services provider, is enhancing its capabilities in Grid Computing.

It has signed an agreement with Grid Computing and Distributed Systems (GRIDS) Laboratory, The University of Melbourne, Australia, to collaborate in grid computing, which is a way to achieve high computational power by using collective resources of many networked computers.

The lab would provide training to Satyam associates at the university campus or at Satyam's centres on Alchemi.NET, which is an open source grid computing tool built on Microsoft's platform, said Mr G.B. Prabhat, Director, Consulting and Enterprise Solutions, Satyam.

The company has a grid computing practice employing around 40, and they would get training on Alchemi, he told *Business Line*.

Some of the university's students working on grid computing would be enrolled in live projects that Satyam under-

takes. It may also absorb some of them, he said.

The collaboration also includes competency and innovation on both sides. The university would do the product development and Satyam would constantly improve the product. Both would take the capabilities of Alchemi to the global market and share certain research and development infrastructure on either side, he said.

The go-to-the market strategy includes Satyam providing services and the lab the technology. Satyam has commenced a pilot application development based on Alchemi, he said.

Dr Rajkumar Buyya, Director, GRIDS Lab, said that Satyam was the first service provider to collaborate with the lab for Alchemi. The lab is not ruling out possibilities of such agreements with other service providers, he said.

As part of its Gridbus project, the lab is developing grid computing technologies that powers the emerging eScience and eBusiness applications. The lab carries out its research and innovation in collaboration with national and international

applications scientists and industries.

The lab has worked out the application in areas such as biophysics and financial performance risk analysis, and Satyam would consider using Alchemi in some of these domains, he said.

The lab's research and innovation sponsors include the Australian Research Council, Storage Technology Corporation, Victorian Partnership for Advanced Computing, Sun Microsystems, IBM and Singapore Computer Systems, he said.

According to Mr Prabhat, the company would tap its existing customers in sectors such as pharmaceutical, telecom, manufacturing and banking, financial services and insurance for deploying Alchemi. These are early adopters of grid computing, he said.

Further, Futurus, Satyam's recently launched business solutions lab with facilities to design and simulate future business scenarios while experimenting with various technology alternatives, would also showcase to customers on future applications built on Alchemi, he said.

- The Hindu - Business Line, Aug. 31, 2005.