Press release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The XLcloud platform strengthens remote rendering in OpenStack infrastructures

Interactive games and 3D applications acquire a new dimension through XLcloud and OpenStack Nova distributed computing.

Paris, May 14th, 2014 – The XLcloud project announces the achievement of a key technology and community milestone, as part of the latest project outcomes demonstrated after two years of research and development. XLcloud has made it possible to run demanding graphic applications in OpenStack IaaS platform. The project contributors have enabled GPU-passthrough via OpenStack for XenServer. More precisely, they have worked on the support of PCI-passthrough in the XenAPI driver of Nova.

This major milestone was achieved thanks to the collaborative work of all consortium partners, together with the Xen and OpenStack communities.

The XLcloud project strives to establish the demonstration of a High Performance Cloud Computing (HPCC) platform based on OpenStack, that is designed to run a representative set of compute intensive workloads, including more specifically interactive games, interactive simulations and 3D graphics. It will deliver five use cases to provide a demonstration of the implementation of the outputs of the project:
  – Human Body Visualisation
  – MFIC ("Mécanique des Fluides Interactives pour le Cloud") : Computational Fluid Dynamics, e.g. simulation of smoke propagation)
  – Cloud Gaming & Industry of 3D video games
  – Compute plants (HPC Clouds Research & Industry)
  – Interventional Radiology (patients and surgeons X-rays exposure simulation and real-time calculation)

XLcloud combines the expertise of companies and academics that are innovative in the field of high performance computer architectures and flow visualisation HD/3D and video. Today a demonstration of a real 3D application running into a GPU-accelerated instance can be seen on a Youtube screencast at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_GVqtGM--g

About XLcloud

XLcloud develops an open software engineering platform for the collaborative development of HPCC applications. This infrastructure will be made available through a portal and cloud APIs "HPC-as-a-Service" (HaaS). Started in 2012, XLcloud is a three-year long collaborative project funded by the French FSN (Fonds national pour la Société Numérique) programme. XLcloud

relies on a consortium of 8 partners bringing together industry and academic leaders, innovative technology start-ups and open source community expertise: AMG, Ateme, Bull (and its affiliates AMG and Serviware), EISTI, CEA-List, Inria, Institut Mines Telecom, OW2, and is coordinated by Bull. More at www.xlcloud.org.

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