

Headline **Cloud gets a head start**
Date **13 Aug 2009**
MediaTitle **Computerworld**
Section **NEWS**
Journalist **N/A**
Frequency **Monthly**
ADValue **4,248**

Language **English**
Page No **2**
Article Size **311 cm²**
Color **Full Color**
PRValue **12,744**



Cloud gets a head start

MIMOS and HP to collaborate on advanced research into cloud computing.

BY AVANTIKUMAR

Cloud computing deployment has been given another boost by a collaborative effort between Malaysian government research agency MIMOS and tech firm HP Malaysia.

MIMOS president and CEO Dato' Abdul Wahab Abdullah said the two organisations will be working together on the open source test bed created by HP, Intel and Yahoo, called Open Cirrus, advancing research into cloud computing and education.

"[This joint initiative has the objective of developing] a national cloud computing platform to deploy services throughout

Malaysia, focusing on enabling services through software, security frameworks and mobile interactivity, as well as [providing support for the] testing [of] new cloud tools and methodologies," Wahab said.

"The cloud is the next stage in the evolution of the Internet—the means through which everything will be delivered to you as a service—from computing power to business processes to personal interactions—wherever, however, and whenever you need it," said Wahab. "This collaboration provides the opportunity to place Malaysia on the cloud computing research community world map."

Launched in July last year, the Open Cirrus initiative is aimed at promoting open collaboration between industries, academia and governments by removing the financial and logistical barriers to advanced research in data-intensive, Internet-scale computing.

Besides Malaysia, Open Cirrus has test bed sites in the US, Singapore, Germany, the UK, Russia and South Korea. The test bed, which has more than 50 research projects currently under way, simulates a real-life, global, Internet-scale environment and gives researchers the unprecedented ability to test applications and measure the performance of infrastructure and services built to run on large-scale cloud systems.

Power cloud computing

Cooperation all round is necessary to drive cloud computing adoption forward, stressed T.F. Chong, HP Malaysia's managing director. "At HP, we have the technology and capabilities to power cloud computing, to help companies build enterprise clouds," he said. "But we believe that to advance cloud computing research, HP can't do it alone. We have to bring together the brightest minds in the industry, academia and governments [to work in concert]. Therefore we are

very excited to have MIMOS join the test bed."

"I am confident MIMOS and HP will be able to elevate research done in Malaysia to a world-class level. More importantly, the creation of dynamic cloud services from our collaboration has the potential to enrich, even transform, the everyday lives of the general public in Malaysia," Chong said. "MIMOS gets to contribute to world-class research and provide our local research community with a platform to collaborate with the global community."

"Malaysia has made major strides in advancing ICT development in the country with the establishment of MSC Malaysia, and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation's emphasis on advanced technology R&D and building a knowledge society. Cloud computing is the next step," he added. "With a head start in our involvement in cloud computing research, Malaysia will be able to reap the benefits as an early adopter." 