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Carbon Trust supports £1million investment in next generation distributed computing management firm

Concurrent Thinking targets unique system management and deployment software at global market

Warwick-based company Concurrent Thinking has been spun out from Streamline Computing Ltd (Streamline) as part of a £1m investment co-led by the Carbon Trust and the Mercia Fund. Other investors in the company include the management team and Streamline shareholder Midven. The new company will use the investment to drive international sales growth of its unique technology for managing large-scale distributed computing environments, which helps cut energy, carbon and cost.

Concurrent Thinking's remote, web 2.0-enabled software is unique because of the comprehensive array of system management capabilities that it offers its end-users – all accessible through a single, easy-to-use interface. The company's technology tightly integrates environmental monitoring, power monitoring and control (at both at Power Distribution Unit and server levels), with server and operating system management. This allows data-centre managers to optimise their distributed IT environment: for example, by checking for efficient usage of server resources and automatically powering down or up servers depending on workload. It also enables users to pin-point problems such as overheating, high power usage or a lack of system resources 'at a glance.' The granular level of detail provided for individual servers, PDUs and probes helps users to make intelligent decisions so as to minimise energy consumption and costs, as well as reduce carbon emissions.

Concurrent Thinking's technology is suitable for all data centres due to its scalable design. However, as it is simple to deploy and highly intuitive, it is ideal for small and medium enterprises which can typically find the cost of the more heavyweight data centre management software suites on the market too high.

Peter Linthwaite, Managing Partner of CT Investment Partners which advises Carbon Trust Investments, said: "Total annual carbon emissions from the ICT industry now rival those from the aviation industry. Supporting technologies that reduce energy consumption in data centres is a key focus for us."

He added: "Concurrent Thinking's integrated, scalable, easy-to-use technology combines power control with server and operating system management. This results in a significant return on investment for customers as it reduces total cost of ownership, while simultaneously reducing their facility's carbon emissions. Carbon Trust Investments is delighted to be backing a UK business that is poised for rapid growth and will make a meaningful difference to cutting the ICT sector's carbon emissions."

Dr Mark Payton, Fund Principal of the Mercia Fund, commented "As a leading investor in technology backed early stage ventures, Concurrent displays the traits we seek; it is a disruptive play with a market-led robust technology offering that has clear advantages over competing approaches. We are delighted to back management to accelerate the company's growth into this global multi-billion dollar market opportunity."

The management team at Concurrent Thinking has decades of experience in High Performance Computing (HPC) and computer science.

Dr Michael Rudgyard, CEO and founder of Concurrent Thinking, said his team's depth of expertise in the HPC market ensures that Concurrent Thinking's products and solutions are holistic in their approach, leading to more integrated, user-friendly and easy-to-manage solutions for customers.

He said: "We believe that the products we have developed as part of our High Performance Computing heritage, as well as other forthcoming products, will allow us to offer solutions that are relevant to data-centres and next-generation clouds. We welcome the support of our investors and look forward to building Concurrent Thinking's business and product portfolio both within and beyond our traditional customer base."

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