

SailPoint lands \$10 million investment; EEStor achieves a production milestone.

Monday, January 22, 2007

SOFTWARE

Austin's SailPoint lands \$10 million investment

SailPoint Technologies Inc. has added \$10 million to its venture capital coffers.

Investors Austin Ventures, Lightspeed Venture Partners, Origin Partners and Silverton Partners put the money into year-old SailPoint. It has raised a total of \$14 million.

Founded by Austin entrepreneurs Mark McClain, Kevin Cunningham and Jackie Gilbert, SailPoint is developing software to help large organizations fulfill compliance requirements, improve governance controls and manage business risks related to critical information assets.

ENERGY STORAGE

Production milestone reached by EEStor

EEStor Inc., which is developing new capacitor technology to power electric vehicles, broke its long silence last week to say it has achieved a key milestone.

The company said its production lines have met requirements and can produce the necessary levels of purity and concentration for some of the key chemicals it uses in its energy-storage units.

The Cedar Park company said it still hopes to begin shipping its first energy-storage units this year.

The company's patent describes a super-capacitor that could store a charge as high as 52 kilowatt-hours, enough to power a car for 300 miles. The patent also suggests that the unit could be recharged in about five minutes, giving it a range that approaches the performance of gas-powered vehicles.

The company said it hopes to send out its first batch of 15 kilowatt-hour units this year to ZENN Motor Co., a Canadian maker of electric vehicles.

NETWORKING TECHNOLOGY

Tehuti expects success from new family of chips

Austin's Tehuti Networks Ltd. unveiled a family of enhanced chips last week that the company expects

to boost its standing in the emerging market for high-speed 10 gigabit Ethernet networking.

Tehuti, which concentrates its engineering and product development in Israel, is unveiling new networking chips for servers that run on the various kinds of network cabling typically used in data centers.

Analysts say Tehuti's networking chips are smaller, use less electrical power and cost less than competing chips.

"Tehuti is removing barriers to 10 gigabit Ethernet adoption in high-volume platforms," said analyst Bob Wheeler with the Linley Group.

Tehuti CEO Arie Brish expects the new chips to begin shipping in volume in the second half of 2007.

FLASH MEMORY

Spansion begins making new high-density chips

Spansion Inc. says it has begun making a new type of high-density flash memory chip at its Fab 25 factory in Southeast Austin.

The new chips, which Spansion says are well-suited for multimedia devices including next-generation cell phones, digital televisions and digital cameras, are made with a new process that produces chips with features as small as 65 nanometers, or about 1/1,200th the width of a human hair.

Spansion says it will begin this summer to make another kind of flash chip for cell phones with the new process technology. The new process is expected to enable the chip maker to manufacture higher-end chips at a lower cost.

WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

Austin's Wayport says its business is on the rise

Wayport Inc. still doesn't disclose its revenue, but the company says that business is growing.

The Austin company, which delivers broadband Internet access to business travelers at hotels and restaurants, said it delivered more than 14 million paid connections in 2006, bringing its total customers to date to more than 30 million.

Wayport now serves more than 13,000 locations worldwide.

Items compiled from staff and wire reports.