

TECHNOLOGY



FOUNTAIN OF ALL KNOWLEDGE
 Why learn facts if you can Google?
[SEE LATEST NEWS](#)



The new BlackBerry® Storm™ with high-resolution screen



- News
- Business**
- Sport
- Entertainment
- Health
- Lifestyle
- Education
- Travel
- Jobs
- Property
- Cars
- Book an Ad

- More Services
- World
- Technology
- Media
- Stocks & Markets
- Personal Finance
- Small Business
- Commercial Property
- Jobs & Careers

You are here: [Home](#) > [Business](#) > [Technology](#)

Irish researchers to collaborate with IBM on supercomputer initiative

SHARE PRINT EMAIL TEXT SIZE

Thursday December 11 2008

The Centre for Telecommunications Value-chain Research (CTVR) has announced that a team of its researchers has begun working with technology giant [IBM](#) on a project that could ultimately lead to the creation of the world's fastest and most powerful computer.

The team is collaborating with IBM on the development of a new optical network that may form a crucial part of the next generation of 'supercomputers' to be designed by the multinational. Optical networks are used to spread computing workloads over thousands of individual systems, allowing for the processing of vast quantities of data at phenomenal speed.



IBM, supported by the CTVR team and other teams of Irish researchers, has just launched its Exascale initiative. JB Reed/Bloomberg

At present, the fastest computer in the world is the IBM Roadrunner, based in the [Los Alamos National Laboratory](#), in the [United States](#). IBM, supported by the CTVR team and other teams of Irish researchers, has just launched its Exascale initiative, geared towards producing systems that can operate 1,000 times faster than the most powerful computers in operation today.

Professor Donal O'Mahony, Director, CTVR, said: "Right now, the world's fastest computing system can carry out around one thousand trillion arithmetic operations per second. We are looking to help create a new system that will run at speeds up to a thousand times faster, allowing for newer, more challenging problems to be handled".

"The new supercomputers that IBM plans to build will be designed to trawl through massive quantities of data from the Internet and other sources to provide insights into real world issues - such as climate change, stock market fluctuations, and so forth - which affect all of us," said [Prof O'Mahony](#).

The CTVR will cooperate with teams from complementary fields in other universities to carry out the research. The CTVR has expertise in the area of optical control planes, while teams from the [Tyndall National Institute](#) in [Cork](#) and [NUI Galway](#) have experience in the design of optical transceivers and in optical processing, respectively.

Prof O'Mahony said: "This shows that the Government's strategy for enhancing our research and innovation capability is working. The investments that were made some five years ago by [Science Foundation Ireland](#) in boosting our research capacity are now paying off in the form of our ability to attract projects of this kind".

"This will hopefully lead to the creation of high value jobs, as the research moves towards the product development phase. On a wider level, projects like this can play a major role in reinvigorating the Irish 'knowledge economy' by adding to [Ireland's](#) reputation as a centre for world-class research in high-tech disciplines," he said.

About the Centre for Telecommunications Value-Chain Research (CTVR): The Centre for Telecommunications Value-Chain Research is a joint venture between the Irish university sector and a number of industrial partners

Click here to expand and help save our crash test dummies >>





Articles **Topics**

Articles

- [Research and riches are a two-way street](#)
- [Horizon up 9.5pc as market marks progress](#)
- [The path of lease resistance](#)
- [Lenovo man thinks global, but acts local](#)
- [IBM bigger than crashed ISEQ](#)
- [Unfriendly takeover bids target U.S. firms 'Ripe for Picking'](#)

Topics

- [IBM Corporation](#)
- [Science Foundation Ireland](#)
- [Naomi Long Madgett](#)
- [Information Technology Sector](#)
- [Technology Sector](#)
- [Science and Technology](#)
- [Supercomputers](#)

Also in Technology

- [After 40 years of service, is the modest mouse about to be put back in its box?](#)
- [The iPod? It's bound to fail \(and the other predictions the experts would rather forget\)](#)
- [Irish firms are suckers for cybercrime and punishment](#)
- [Businesses nationwide are talking tough about broadband options](#)
- [Blog digest](#)

[Technology Home](#)

including [Bell Labs](#). It is supported by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and the IDA. The CTVR combines a multi-disciplinary group of researchers, drawn from many Irish universities, with a select group of industrial partners to work on the engineering and science challenges that will impact on the telecommunications sector of the future. The CTVR is headquartered at [Trinity College Dublin](#). Further details are available at www.ctvr.ie.

Independent.ie Web

[SHARE](#) [PRINT](#) [EMAIL](#) [TEXT SIZE](#)

Sponsored Links

business training

The University of Liverpool. Request a free information package.
www.liverpool.ohcampus.co.uk

Wesleyan Financial Advice

Financial advice and products for Doctors Dentists Teachers & Lawyers.
www.wesleyan.co.uk/financialadvice

Want More Cash for Your Endowment Policy

We offer firm fast bids above your surrender value. All policies considered. Rapid online response to your enquiry.
www.lsaendowments.com