



ASTER DATA AND CARAHSOFT PARTNER TO DELIVER NEW SOLUTIONS FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN NEED OF BIG DATA MANAGEMENT AND ADVANCED ANALYTICS

Aster Data Version 4.0 Ideal for Government Agencies Struggling with Growing Data Volumes and Analytics Complexity

Reston, VA and San Carlos, CA. – December 16, 2009 – Carahsoft Technology Corp., the trusted government IT solutions provider, and Aster Data, a proven leader dedicated to providing the best data processing and management platform for ‘Big Data’ applications, today announced a strategic partnership in which Carahsoft will market and sell Aster Data Version 4.0 through Carahsoft’s General Services Administration (GSA) schedule. Aster Data also announced the opening of a local Federal office in Washington, D.C. to serve the growing demand for big data solutions in the Government sector.

Aster Data offers a highly scalable MPP data warehouse that uniquely runs applications inside, enabling ultra-fast, deep analytics on massive data scales. Termed a ‘Massively Parallel Data-Application Server,’ Aster Data’s solution is an industry first that co-locates data and applications in one system to address the new era of analytics-intensive, big data applications.

The Obama administration has mandated making all appropriate government information transparent and accessible. While governments are continually collecting massive amounts of data, traditional tools and data management systems do not allow for the scale, performance, and analytics necessary to have a true understanding of what the data represents. Aster Data 4.0 stores, analyzes, and dramatically speeds processing of terabytes to petabytes of data. With Aster Data’s solution, organizations can perform advanced analytics on massive data sets and analyze data in ways unachievable in the past. To deliver ultra-fast, deep analysis of large data volumes, Aster Data enables organizations to embed their analytics and computation-intensive applications inside Aster’s massively parallel data warehouse so applications can now execute right where the data resides enabling quick and scalable access to data. Aster Data’s solution



also uniquely runs MapReduce inside and eases analytics with Aster's SQL-MapReduce framework.

"As Government agencies struggle with growing data volumes and face mandates for transparency and accountability, the next wave of requirements will be for massive scale data warehousing and highly advanced analytics," said Craig P. Abod, President, Carahsoft.

"Carahsoft sees Aster Data as an emerging leader in the big data market with the right product offering to meet the complex data management requirements of Federal Government customers." Aster Data 4.0 is now available for purchase by public sector customers through the Carahsoft GSA Schedule number 70 (No. GS-35F-0131R).

"Aster Data has selected Carahsoft as the primary Federal Government reseller for our solutions and the key go-to-market partner because of their long and successful track record of bringing leading enterprise software solutions to this market," said Mark Cranney, Executive Vice President, Worldwide Field Operations, Aster Data Systems. "Carahsoft is a respected partner to Federal IT professionals and we will work closely together to address the big data needs of the Federal Government."

With the arrival of the era of big data the need for efficient storage combined with the need for advanced analytics is driving organizations to look for a new data management platform. Aster Data's Massively Parallel Data-Application Server allows companies to embed applications within Aster's MPP data warehouse, allowing dramatically faster data analysis on massive data scales. What's unique about Aster's Massively Parallel Data-Application Server architecture is that within the system, data management lives independently from application processing, but critical to the architecture is that both data and applications exist as first class citizens and each have their respective data and application management services to deliver the highest performance and availability.

Aster Data 4.0 - Key Capabilities for Big Data and Advanced Analytics

- **Breakthrough Performance and Linear Scaling** - Aster Data 4.0 runs on low-cost commodity servers yet provides breakthrough performance easily supporting petabytes of user data. The



result is *10x-1000x performance*, compared to traditional database or data warehousing products, along with easy management, continuous availability, and low hardware cost.

- **SQL-MapReduce for Ultra-Fast Analysis** - Using Aster Data's patent-pending SQL-MapReduce parallel framework, Aster Data 4.0 seamlessly embeds applications within Aster Data's MPP datawarehouse. With this breakthrough, analytics-intensive applications can now run where the data natively resides enabling faster, deeper analytics on large data sets. Enterprises can seamlessly push existing custom or packaged applications down to Aster's MPP cluster and start getting the performance they need for big data.
- **24x7 Always-On Continuous Business Operations** - Aster Data 4.0 was designed from the ground up to avoid unplanned outages due to hardware or software failures, user or administrator error, and local or site disasters. In addition, unique capabilities for live administration minimize or altogether avoid even planned downtime. As the system scales to 10's or 100's of servers, administration overhead remains constant.
- **Dynamic Mixed Workload Management** - Aster Data provides the first-ever dynamic workload management capability for an MPP system that runs on commodity hardware. Automated policy controls ensure predictable performance and guaranteed service levels for simultaneous execution of interactive queries, large-scale reporting, trickle-feed data loading, and batch data mining.

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About Aster Data

Aster Data is a proven leader in big data management and big data analysis for data-driven applications. Aster Data's *nCluster* is the first MPP data warehouse architecture that allows applications to be fully embedded within the database engine to enable ultra-fast, deep analysis of massive data sets. Aster Data's unique "applications-within™" approach allows application logic to exist and execute with the data itself. Termed a "Massively Parallel Data-Application Server," Aster Data's solution effectively utilizes Aster's patent-pending SQL-MapReduce together with parallelized data processing and applications to address the big data challenge. Companies using Aster Data include Coremetrics, MySpace, comScore, Akamai, Full Tilt Poker, and ShareThis. Aster Data is headquartered in San Carlos, California and is backed by Sequoia Capital, JAFCO Ventures, IVP, and Cambrian Ventures, as well as industry visionaries including David Cheriton, Ron Conway, and Rajeev Motwani. For more information please visit <http://www.asterdata.com>, or call 1.888.Aster.Data.

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About Carahsoft

Carahsoft Technology Corp. is the trusted Government IT solutions provider, combining technological expertise with a thorough understanding of the government procurement process to help federal, state and local government agencies select and implement the best solution at the best possible value. As a top-ranked GSA Schedule Contract holder, Carahsoft is the



largest government partner and serves as the master government aggregator for many of its best-of-breed vendors. The company's dedicated Solutions Divisions support proactive sales, marketing and delivery of Symantec, Storage Solutions, VMware, Adobe, Open Source, HR, HP Software, Intelligence, and SAP.

Carahsoft is consistently recognized by its partners as a top revenue producer and is listed among the industry's fastest growing firms by VAR Business, CRN, Inc., Washington Technology, and the Washington Business Journal. In 2009, Carahsoft was ranked among the top ten companies by total revenue on the Inc.500 list of privately held companies, and received the VAR Business Top Revenue Generator Award. Visit us at www.carahsoft.com.

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