CERN and Seagate build Kinetic Storage Platform

Platform will used for the large Hadron Collider which has generated 100 petabytes of data

Brian Karlovsky (ARN) on 17 March, 2015 10:57

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The Large Hadron Collider at CERN.

Seagate has entered into a three-year partnership with CERN openlab to collaborate and develop the Kinetic Storage Platform for the Large Hadron Collider.

The partnership aims to help CERN manage and store the 100 petabytes of data the Large Hadron Collider has generated to date, as well as the additional 2-3 petabytes of information it produces on a monthly basis in its quest to further humanity's understanding of the universe.

Head of CERN openlab, Alberto Di Meglio, said CERN created a truly astonishing amount of data on a daily basis.

"Finding secure and efficient ways to store that information is one of the most important challenges we face," he said.

"We are excited to collaborate with Seagate on understanding how the Kinetic storage architecture could potentially contribute to the CERN infrastructure and aid the very demanding LHC program, by reducing complexity and operational costs in our storage systems."

The platform restructures the traditional storage server architectures from the bottom up, connecting object-oriented applications directly to the storage device.

By cutting out the many layers of hardware and software used in traditional stacks, it improves performance while significantly cutting costs – by 15-40 per cent.

Seagate vice president of marketing, Scott Horn, said it was a thrilling opportunity for Seagate to collaborate with CERN to more efficiently operate one of the most extreme and demanding storage environments in the world.

"We believe our partnership will not only deliver extensive benefits to CERN's large-scale storage system, but also help us further enhance the Seagate Kinetic Open Storage platform by testing it in an unparalleled data creation environment," Horn said.

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CERN openlab, which is now entering its fifth three-year phase, is a unique public-private partnership between CERN and leading ICT companies.

Its mission is to accelerate the development of innovative new solutions to be used by the worldwide LHC community. CERN openlab provides companies with a framework to test and validate cutting-edge information technologies and services in partnership with CERN.

A second, future research project between Seagate and CERN will look at CERN's EOS storage system to determine whether there are opportunities to enhance and improve the system.

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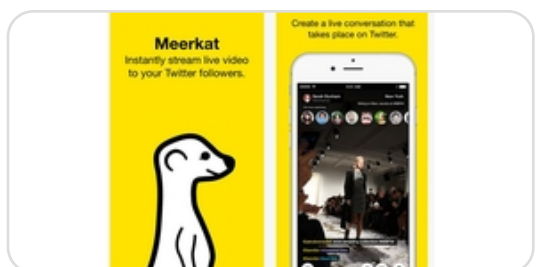
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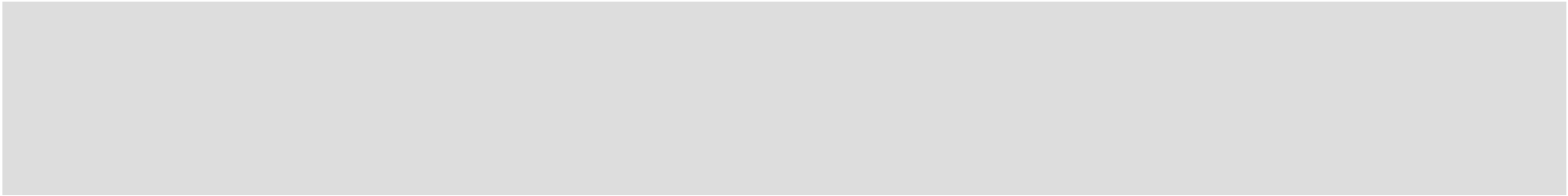**IN PICTURES: HP Global Partner Conference 2015**

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