

High-performance computing takes its place at SC07

In an Africa-first, the Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC) participated in the 19th SC07 event on 10-16 November 2007, which took place at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center in Reno, Nevada. [SC07](#) is the premier international conference on high performance computing, networking, storage and analysis. The first super computing (SC) conference took place in 1988.

Dr Happy Sithole and Dr Khomotso Kganyago were joined by Johan Eksteen and Jeremy Main at the event, where the CHPC took an exhibition booth. The CHPC was one of the 44 first-time exhibitors (and the first research institution from Africa ever to participate) and focused on disseminating information on the CHPC, the CSIR and the Department of Science and Technology to visitors. In total, 317 exhibitors filled the exhibit hall. SC has been expanding the frontiers of high-performance computation with tutorials, exhibits, workshops, an exciting education programme and demonstrations.

Kganyago confirmed that the CHPC booth was well visited, "We had a steady flow of visitors and hope to pursue these contacts in coming months. Discussions on our request for information (RFI), issued in October this year, were also held at our and other vendors' booths."

For the CHPC team a highlight included the opportunity to explore new products like the open petascale computing environment, which combines ultra-dense, high-performance computing, networking, storage and software into an integrated general purpose system, and technologies like the quad-core microprocessor. Many industry trends were revealed by the end of the conference week.



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