Stratus Technologies, Inc.
111 Powdermill Road
Maynard, MA 01754-3409
U. S. A.

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Contacts:

Ed Marshall
Beaupre & Co. Public Relations
603-559-5816
emarshall@beaupre.com

Ken Donoghue
Stratus Technologies
978-461-7269
ken.donoghue@stratus.com

Analyst report predicts growing demand for fault tolerant servers

Yankee Group says continuous availability needs will expand with trends such as virtualization, consolidation, telecom convergence

MAYNARD, Mass., May 14, 2007 — Virtualization, infrastructure consolidation and telecommunications convergence will drive demand for fault tolerant solutions, such as those offered by Stratus Technologies, as continuous availability becomes IT managers' top concern, according to a Yankee Group report, "Server Virtualization Creates New Opportunities For Fault-Tolerant Servers."

Fault-tolerant servers' 15 percent share of the $58 billion server market will increase steadily as companies virtualize and consolidate their server infrastructures to run more critical applications on more resource-efficient networks, according to the Yankee Group's report. The common thread through the trends driving fault-tolerant computing's growth, the report says, is the re-emergence of single points of failure in network architectures.

IT managers are simultaneously running more critical applications on networks while consolidating them to use now-dormant processing power; eliminate redundant servers; and

increase server utilization from as little as 10 percent to as much as 80 percent. Fault-tolerant servers are an attractive option for IT managers because they minimize the risk of running four or five logical servers on one physical server. Stratus Technologies continuous availability servers provide 99.999 percent uptime, which virtually eliminates unscheduled downtime of critical applications.

“When we identified the need for fault-tolerant hardware to support consolidated and virtualized architectures, Stratus products emerged as the strongest option,” said George Hamilton, IT infrastructure management director for the Yankee Group. “Stratus’ ability to run two servers in lockstep in one chassis provides an excellent balance of reliability and efficiency. IT managers can’t shrink their networks if they rely on clustering because clustering requires additional servers and makes the network ridiculously complex. The Stratus servers give them higher reliability in a compact, easily managed form factor.”

Stratus® ftServer® systems are designed to fit easily into existing networks. They are based on industry-standard hardware and run standard Windows and Linux operating systems. Stratus’ system software runs the two redundant server halves in lockstep to provide fault tolerance with no unplanned downtime or data loss caused by failover.

“Stratus is built around the notion that companies should not have to choose economy and versatility over reliability. With networks evolving the way the Yankee Group report describes, they need those three qualities in a single solution,” said Denny Lane, Stratus director of product management and marketing.

For a copy of the report please visit http://www.stratus.com/news/analysts/.

About Stratus Technologies

Stratus Technologies is a global solutions provider focused exclusively on helping its customers achieve and sustain the availability of information systems that support their critical business processes. Based upon its 25 years of expertise in server and services technology for continuous availability, Stratus is a trusted solutions provider to customers in manufacturing, life sciences, telecommunications, financial services, public safety, transportation & logistics, and other industries. For more information, visit www.stratus.com.

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