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SolidSpeed Networks Develops Revolutionary 'Napster-like' Web Site Testing Service

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2000 2:58:00 PM EST

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Aug 31, 2000 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- Content DeliveryNetwork provider, SolidSpeed Networks, today introduced a revolutionary newperformance measurement technology, called Probestor(TM). Based on the trendsetting ideas incorporated in Napster and Gnutella, the wildly popular Internetmusic-sharing programs, Probestor will use the computers of thousands of webservers to measure the performance of web sites. "Accurate performance measurement is a tough problem," says Jon Zeef, company CTO. "If you want to measure the speed that users actually experience, you need to simulate the entire environment. Currently there are not enough probes located on high bandwidth backbones to provide the measurement. Probestor will take care of this by enlisting the help of thousands of idle, yet connected, computers providing the most accurate measurement of total Internet performance ever."

Under the Probestor model, software is installed on a user's personal computer, where it connects to the SolidSpeed system and is assigned a small number of URLs to probe on an infrequent basis. Download times are recorded and returned to SolidSpeed where they are presented as graphs of average web site performance. The software only runs when the computer is idle, so there is no effect on performance while the computer is in use.

SolidSpeed initially developed a performance monitoring system to provide performance reports to customers and to allow them to compare the performance of their web site to SolidSpeed's web acceleration service. To provide for the large amounts of data transfer involved, the probe sites had to be located at sites with high bandwidth capability. This didn't provide a close simulation of the limited bandwidth that most users had, so SolidSpeed started development on the Probestor measurement system.

According to Dean Massab, SolidSpeed VP of Sales and Marketing, they are exploring various options for rewarding users for running the Probestor software including WebCash and airline miles. For more information visit www.solid-speed.com.

About SolidSpeed

SolidSpeed Networks is an emerging service-based Internet infrastructure company providing small- and mid-size-business (SMB) Web sites significant performance enhancements. Customers typically experience 5x reliability and up to 10x speed improvement of their web sites as well as the ability to handle spikes in demand despite frequent outages and traffic jams on the Web. With its content delivery network (CDN), 5-minute online sign-up process, and revolutionary Web site performance-monitoring technology, SolidSpeed has rapidly acquired over 165 subscription customers since its initial commercial release on June 5, 2000. Already SolidSpeed, Inc. has raised almost \$2.5 million in venture capital from investors such as John Landry -- Former CTO of Lotus Development and e-business advisor to IBM, Gideon Gartner -- Founder of the Gartner Group and GigalInformation Group, and Kevin Kalkhoven -- Former CEO of JDS Uniphase. Arbor Venture Partners II is the lead venture capital fund.

SOURCE SolidSpeed Networks

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URL: <http://www.solid-speed.com>
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KEYWORD: Michigan
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