

Client Server News

Competitive Intelligence On Systems, Virtualization and Cloud Computing

Salesforce & Workday To Unite Their Clouds

Salesforce and Workday, two of the leading enterprise SaaS vendors, are uniting their clouds in the expectation that their alliance will accelerate the shift to the cloud.

They said Wednesday that they've going to integrate their platforms so their widgetry can be access by all their customers. Salesforce's customer relationship application including force.com and Chatter collaboration vehicle will be integrated with Workday's human capital management, financial management and new Big Data Analytics applications and vice versa.

Workday will offer its tools on AppExchange, the salesforce cloudified applications marketplace, and Workday HCM users will be able to use data from Salesforce.

The companies are also going to standardize on each other's widgetry internally.

They call it the "first comprehensive solution for running the world's largest enterprises in the cloud" and Workday co-founder and co-CEO Aneel Bhusri claimed the alliance would enable businesses "to manage every critical business function in the cloud, empowering them to achieve new levels of speed, efficiency and growth."

The alliance is likely to peeve Oracle, especially since salesforce and Workday chose to step on its toes with an upstaging conference call with press and analysts – that added little to the press release they sent out earlier Wednesday – to distract from Oracle financials an hour later.

Oracle, which competes with both, signed a similar agreement with salesforce in June but salesforce, which uses Oracle's ledger internally,

KVM Vets Claim To Have First OS Designed for the Cloud

A couple of the guys who did the KVM hypervisor at Qumranet and went along with the Israeli start-up when it was acquired by Red Hat for \$107 million in 2008 have started a new company called Cloudius that means to replace Linux as the guest operating system in the cloud.

It will not replace Linux as the host operating system or as the development environment.

Cloudius CEO Dor Laor, who managed the KVM and Xen hypervisor team at Red Hat, and CTO Avi Kivity, who led KVM development, have been joined by Qumranet co-founder and former CEO Benny Schnaider, who's moonlighting from his day job as co-founder, chairman and president of Ravello Systems, where much of the Qumranet team reassembled, to help Cloudius with its financing as its chairman.

When Red Hat bought Qumranet it made Schnaider VP of business development. Revello got \$26 million in funding for its cloud widgetry in February from Sequoia, Norwest and Bessemer.

The 10-month-old Cloudius has attracted some private investors such as Schnaider and will be looking for a venture round.

It's developing an open source project called OS^V that it figures is the first operating system designed for the cloud. It's supposed to recover performance lost by applications by optimizing CPU consumption and memory overhead.

It's supposed to produce unparalleled application throughput, cut latency and minimize operating costs by shrinking the number of OS instances/sizes needed and eliminating the need for administration, template management, patching and tuning of applications.

The widgetry's core is written in C++, with Ruby used for the management pieces. Cloudius considered using Linux or Free BSD for the project but because of known difficulties with Linux – some of them learned at Red Hat – and the amount of rebuilding that would have been needed it discarded the idea. As a result, OS^V's scheduling is said to five times better than Linux.

The problem Cloudius is seeking to solve is the fact that the run time (JVM), OS and hypervisor that most cloud workloads run on duplicate the mechanisms used for protection and abstraction, imposing a lot of overhead on the CPU and memory.

OS^V, which is optimized to run directly on top of the hypervisor, is supposed to let developers and administrators deploy their application directly from the development environment (IDE) to the cloud, bypassing legacy deployments. Its stateless

says the pact with Workday is, well, more strategic. Larry Ellison will doubtless have something to say next week at OracleWorld.

It's reportedly hard to integrate Workday by the pair says testing is already underway. The integration might save customers some money, but there won't be any cross-selling.

More details are expected in a couple of months at Dreamforce, the annual salesforce get-together.

Barron's quoted Nomura Equity Research's Rick Sherlund speculating that SAP may try to get a similar deal with salesforce.

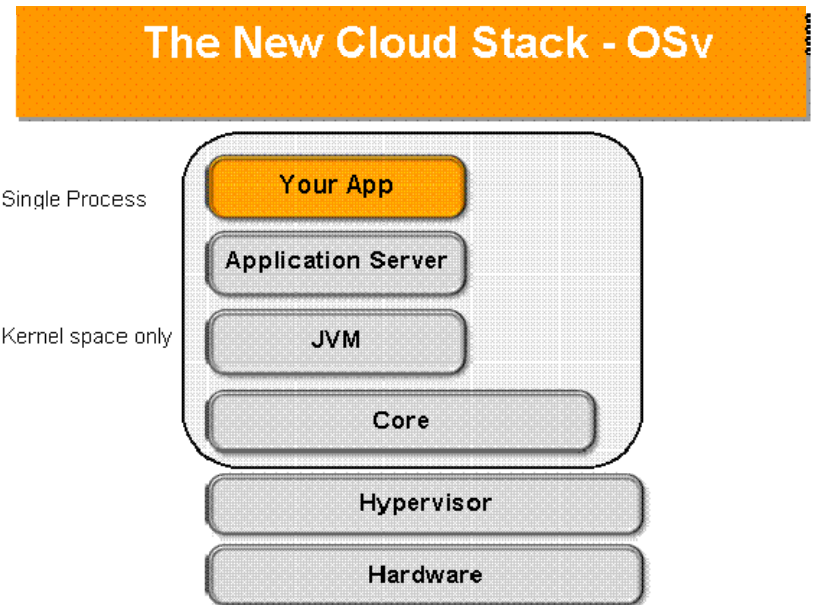
"Integration," he said, "has historically been a key advantage of SAP, so we view these announcements as a relative benefit to Salesforce."

Considering the Oracle-salesforce alliance, Sherlund thought "Oracle was likely motivated to gain competitive edge against Workday, although Workday now seems to have neutralized any potential relative integration advantage that Oracle might otherwise have derived vs. Workday. Were SAP compelled to also integrate with Salesforce, this would provide a further significant advantage to Salesforce.com."

The Wall Street Journal wonders whether customers want "to stitch together a cow and a giraffe" and integrate sales and marketing software with human resource and financial applications.

By the way, Workday's Big Data Analytics, meant for non-technical managers and part of the new Workday 20 update, can draw information from a company's SAP database and make it part of Workday's repository. It's supposed to make figuring out revenue per employee, employee attrition and the cost of losing a specific employee easy.

applications are packaged as single units and are reportedly easily updated.



OS^V will initially run on KVM and Xen. It's expected to be hypervisor-agnostic and ultimately run on VMware and Hyper-V as well.

OS^V works with frameworks such as Tomcat, JBoss and SpringSource. Common open source technologies such as Hadoop and NoSQL are being optimized and integrated to run on top of OSV. Ruby, Python, JavaScript, Scala et cetera are supported over the JVM.

Cloudeius expects OS^V to reach limited general availability on Amazon EC2 in 2014. The widgetry should also work on private clouds, Meantime it needs to develop a community and hopes to partner with multiple companies. It isn't forecasting revenue until 1Q15.

The widgetry will be licensed under a BSD license.

The company is hiring.

IBM To Put a Billion Dollars Behind Linux-on-Power

IBM said Tuesday that it's going to spent a billion dollar over the next four or five years trying to convince people they should be running Big Data apps and cloud computing on its decades-old RISC-based Power System servers fitted out with Linux and not on x86 machines.

It claims the mid-range boxes, which cost more than x86 servers, are "built to handle the new wave of applications coming to the data center in the post-PC era."

IBM recently offered to license the Power microprocessor in its servers to third parties for open development and collaboration

under a completely uncharacteristic OpenPOWER initiative. It's the first time IBM has ever made its proprietary server hardware available to drive open innovation.

IBM said the money would be used initially to open a new center in Montpellier, France where developers will be able to build and deploy new applications for Big Data, cloud, mobile and social business computing on Linux and its latest POWER7+ processor technology. It has similar centers in Beijing, New York City and Austin, Texas.

It will also deploy a free Linux-on-Power development cloud. It imagines businesses prototyping, building, porting and testing Linux applications on the Power platform as well as applications built for AIX, IBM's Unix variant, and IBM.

Longer term the money will go into product research, design, development, ecosystem skills and go-to-market programs.

Brad McCredie, an IBM fellow and a VP of Power development, said in a press release that "Many companies are struggling to manage Big Data and cloud computing using commodity servers based on decades-old, PC era technology. These servers are quickly overrun by data which triggers the purchase of more servers, creating un-sustainable server sprawl. The era of Big Data calls for a new approach to IT systems; one that is open, customizable, and designed from the ground up to handle big data and cloud workloads."

This will be the second time IBM has fostered Linux with a billion-dollar investment. The first time was in 2000 and managed to put Linux on the path to becoming a mainstream data center technology.

IBM made this week's announcement at the Linux Foundation's LinuxCon event in New Orleans. Linux Foundation executive director Jim Zemlin said, "We look forward to seeing how the Power platform can bring about further innovation on Linux."

Back in the spring IBM tried to sell off its x86 business to Lenovo but couldn't come to terms.

Nirvanix Apparently Down for the Count

The cloud storage start-up Nirvanix, which isn't answering its phones, reportedly told its enterprise customers abruptly Monday that it's shutting down and that they have until the end of the month to move their data off its systems.

CRN says that its cloud partners have also been told that their customers can no longer replicate their data to the Nirvanix cloud for disaster recovery and archiving. They will have to scramble to find other facilities.

It's unclear whether Nirvanix users have been given enough time to salvage their data.

One source told CRN that "When you have, say, a petabyte of data in a cloud, it's not easy to get it out. It takes time to federate the data. It might still take a year to move it all electronically."

If it goes Nirvanix will take \$70 million in VC funding with it. Its backers included Khosla Ventures, Intel Capital, Valhalla Partners, Mission Ventures and Windward Ventures. Apparently they weren't willing to ante up any more.

One can conjecture that Nirvanix lost out to hyper-competitive, rate-cutting rivals like Amazon, which along with other brand names will likely benefit from the failure of the smaller wannabe.

The UK-based site Information Age, which broke the story, reports that one British-based Nirvanix partner, Aorta Cloud, whose CEO, Steve Ampleford, also owns an investment boutique called Aorta Capital, was exploring the possibility of raising more money to keep Nirvanix going.

Since Monday Ampleford has posted two messages on the Aorta Cloud site saying:

"Aorta Cloud alongside sister company Aorta Capital (www.aorta-capital.com) is currently structuring a package to take over and continue Nirvanix Inc following their recent challenges. Clearly, less than 12 hours after customers were informed, it is very early days. Nevertheless given that customers have to remove their data (in many cases with multiple petabytes) before the end of September we have to be swift.

"Our current plan is to raise the funds to allow operations to continue in sustain mode (i.e. no new business) for a minimum of 2 months to allow a stabilisation period and for proper financing to be put in place. If nothing else this will allow a more gentle managed exit for customers, but the intention is obviously to take the good work, great people and great technology forward as a going concern.

"If you are interested in supporting this package, either as a fellow finance house, an existing investor, customer or just an interested party, please do get in touch at nirvanix@aortacloud.com and we'll be in touch very shortly. Clichéd but true:

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

"Thank you very much for your time, and I hope to have some good news within the next few days.

"Update 17 Sept 13:30

"We have had a seven-figure commitment to provide liquidity during the early stages, and have a bank that will match that investment. Our current thinking is that if we could consolidate the seven global data-centres into two or three (allowing the required availability and redundancy for continued operations but without the additional overhead) this will allow time for consolidation and for a more considered strategic response. In parallel we'd be interested in seeing if existing customers would like a part to play in their future, by taking a stake in whatever package and structure results.

"After all, the hurdles for existing customers to move their data are substantial and if there is any way that we can help Nirvanix continue its operations this has to be a preferable scenario for those customers to any alternative.

"So to reiterate, we would like existing customers to make themselves known (pls email us at nirvanix@aortacloud.com) and we'll see if we can get sufficient groundswell and tolerance from you to allow us to continue the story we shall. The technology is robust and solid, the business is credible, the market clearly exists and demand is there. We must be able to find a way forward together."

Once touted as the "new VMware," Nirvanix stored data for folks like Fox Networks and National Geographic. Dell signed a reseller pact with Nirvanix last September and IBM OEM'd Nirvanix technology for its SmartCloud Enterprise storage services portfolio backed in 2011.

Nirvanix was also supposed to be available to users of Intel's AppUp SMB Service, the subscription-based service built on Intel's Hybrid Cloud Platform starting in January, which is about the last time the six-year-old company updated its web site.

That was a month after Nirvanix lost its CEO Scott Genereux to Oracle. Zynga CIO Debra Chrapaty was named CEO in March.

The company reportedly holds a number of patents around managing storage in the petabyte range.

Box Adds Native Text Editor

Box, the file-sharing cloud, branched out into online content creation this week with a simple native text editor that will let its users – it claims 20 million of them at 180,000 companies – create, capture and share ideas in real-time.

It fancies the widgetry will "unlock the collective knowledge of organizations."

The searchable content created in Box Notes, as the free app is called, will be filed alongside related documents although, to a certain extent, it's meant to displace the third-party tools like Word and Google Docs that Box aficionados use to create those documents.

Box integrates with Google Docs so users can create, view and edit documents from directly within Box, but thinks Docs isn't stripped down enough.

Box Notes will allow real-time concurrent editing with little Facebook-like Note Heads popping up along side edits, annotations and comments to identify who's making them; hyperlinks to other content on Box; and Box' HIPAA-compliant data encryption and security.

The company promises not to clutter Notes with features but it does aim to add the ability to embed rich media like videos, images and audio; version history to revert back to a previous iteration and offline editing. It's also promising a mobile version to integrate Box with iOS and Android.

Separately, Box has got new technology to convert files from PDF or Microsoft's Office format into HTML5 to make navigation and cutting and pasting easier.

The widgetry is being overseen by Sam Schillace, who developed the Writely program that Google turned into Google Docs and is now senior VP of engineering at Box, and Box has the former president of Microsoft's Windows Division Steven Sinofsky as an advisor.

Box is currently accepting sign-ups for a limited private beta at box.com/notes.

Violin Gets Ready to IPO

Violin Memory, the flash array outfit that Toshiba owns 14% of and is supposed to be number one in flash storage ahead of EMC, IBM and NetApp, set a nominal price range of \$8-\$10 a share for its upcoming IPO in a filing Monday.

It plans to unload 18 million shares and raise a possible \$180 million less expenses for the

company's working capital and debt repayment.

The actual price will probably be set next week but it will be an utter surprise if Violin pushes it up any. Its numbers are against it since it continues to lose more than it's bringing in and hasn't been able to replace its biggest reseller, HP, which pretty much bolted last year in favor of its own 3Par acquisition.

In the fiscal year ended January 31, the company lost \$109.1 million, up from \$44.8 million the year before, on revenues of \$73.8 million.

In the July quarter, its best quarter so far, Violin lost \$30.6 million on \$26.5 million in revenue. Sales and marketing costs jumped 40% and its gross margin slumped to 42%.

The filing suggests Violin thinks the situation isn't going to change much any time soon. "We expect," it says, "that sales of our products to a limited number of customers will continue to account for a majority of our revenue for the foreseeable future."

Violin is supposed to go public on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol VMEM. JPMorgan Chase, Deutsche Bank and Bank of America will be taking it out.

Toshiba's position in the company will drop to 11% with the offering but when the rest of its backers, which include Juniper and SAP, will be able to cash out remains to be seen. They're into Violin, valued at \$800 million, for a whopping great \$268 million.

Fusion-io, another flash house, valued at \$2 billion when it went public, now has a market cap of \$1.3 billion and stock price of \$13.78 at the close of business Monday.

In its fiscal year ended June 30 Fusion lost \$38 million on \$432 million in revenue, but Violin is growing faster than Fusion and there's an agreement with Toshiba signed in July for Violin to develop a derivative product to its Velocity PCIe Flash Memory Card by this time next year. It's hopeful of negotiating a license for its IP with Toshiba.

Ahead of any IPO Violin Thursday unwrapped Maestro, a non-disruptive 8TB software-driven appliance that let users add flash arrays to their existing SANs, preserving their investment in legacy storage.

It's supposed to improve performance and manage data movement between flash and disks, without changing the applications or underlying infrastructure.

Violin said it can reduce latency by 5x and triple the transactions in an Oracle environment compared

to a traditional SAN.

Violin's long-awaited S-1 is at http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1407190/000119312513346734/d366503ds1.htm#toc366503_14.

Red Hat Takes a Fancy to dotCloud & Docker

Red Hat has cuddled up with dotCloud, a months-old company that came into being to commercialize Docker, an open source project that packs, ships and runs an application as a lightweight container.

Docker has sparked considerable interest in a short period of time and now Red Hat and dotCloud are going to collaborate on next-generation Linux Containers technology in the name of driving the evolution of OpenShift, Red Hat's Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS).

The two companies figure their communities can create simpler, more secure, lightweight and portable environments for applications by pairing the usability, portability and versatility of Docker with the security and stability of the Red Hat Enterprise Linux Gears in OpenShift. Gears is the container technology Red Hat uses.

Docker is an open source engine that lets any application and its dependencies be encapsulated as a lightweight container that can run in almost any Linux environment: bare metal, virtualized, public cloud or private cloud. It's a lightweight alternative to traditional server virtualization such as KVM, Xen and ESX.

Red Hat's backing is a tremendous coup for dotCloud.

It moves Docker, which previously worked only on Ubuntu, into the rarified world of Red Hat Linux and its derivatives.

DotCloud CEO Ben Golub, who used to run Gluster before he sold it to Red Hat, was impressed with Red Hat's investment of time and people in Docker so far.

The widgetry produced will appear first in Fedora, Red Hat's traditional testing ground, and then be integrated with on Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Red Hat's Security-Enhanced Linux and the SELinux-based OpenShift.

Docker has been initially packaged up for Fedora and the community should find it there and be able to work on it this month.

The plan is to remove Docker's dependency on

UnionFS filesystems to meet mission-critical requirements from enterprise customers.

Seems Red Hat and dotCloud have developed a new approach to provisioning based on the device-mapper thin provisioning technology included in Fedora, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, and other distributions.

They also want Docker to be able to use the open source virtualization API project, libvirt, as an option for creating containers so it has access to enterprise-grade networking capabilities and to integrate with OpenShift's cartridge model for application orchestration.

That'll combine the power of Docker containers with OpenShift's ability to describe and manage multi-container applications and help customers build more sophisticated applications with maximum portability.

Five months after launching, Docker has been downloaded over 90,000 times, gotten over 5,500 Github stars, and is getting contributions from more than 150 community developers. Over 13,000 "Dockerized" applications are now available at the Docker public index.

dotCloud is backed by Benchmark (Peter Fenton), Trinity Ventures (Dan Scholnick), AME Cloud Ventures (Yahoo founder Jerry Yang), Y Combinator and SV Angel (Ron Conway).

Ubuntu Works Juju on Azure

Calling it a "major milestone," Canonical said Tuesday that Ubuntu's open source Juju orchestration tool fully supports deploying services on Ubuntu into Microsoft's Azure cloud and that the widgetry's got Microsoft's blessing. It should improve ease of use and portability for cloud users.

When Canonical did the latest Ubuntu Server and Cloud Survey it found that 49% of Ubuntu users don't use any cloud service orchestration tools at all; 24% percent of respondents are using Puppet and 16% are using the newer Juju.

It figured that means a lot of the cloud orchestration market is up for grabs and Azure, projected to own 35% of the cloud market by 2014, according to Forrester, looked particularly tasty.

With Juju and its intuitive GUI sophisticated applications can be deployed instantly into Azure, resulting in a seamless environment for running both Microsoft and Ubuntu workloads.

Ubuntu Certified images for all supported Ubuntu

releases are currently available on Azure. With Juju Ubuntu users can now deploy over 100 services (Juju Charms) onto their Azure Ubuntu instances. Service relations and scaling are built into Juju so automating the cloud infrastructure is easier.

Canonical says Juju leverages Simple Stream cloud data to automatically know which Azure cloud image is the freshest for a given release and region so users don't have to worry about image IDs and keeping up with the latest published images.

It added that being able to design and deploy services using the same tool and process, regardless of the deployment target, is invaluable. Being able to take a whole set of applications and reproduce the exact same setup on another cloud in minutes gives cloud users real choice.

Riverbed Leverages Amazon's Glacier with Bigger Appliances

Tape is ugly and past its prime while the cloud is sexy and alluring.

People want to replace tape with the cloud. Starting at a penny a gigabyte a month Amazon Glacier is particularly alluring and S3 ain't that shabby either at eight cents a gig a month. All users have to do is get their data there and back again when they need it and meet what they call in the trade RTO or recovery time objectives.

Enter Riverbed with three new Whitewater appliances that can handle more data than ever before and back it up to the cloud.

The new 3030 model, the company's largest appliance yet, supports close to 15PB of data for archiving and backup along with 10 gigabit Ethernet transfer rates through to the cloud. So do the new smaller 730 and 2030 Whitewater models.

Riverbed estimates that customers who deploy the 3030 can save more than \$750,000 over three years when backing up to Amazon Glacier.

Riverbed has also updated the Whitewater Operating System (WWOS) so rev 3.0 can do pairwise replication and pinning, nifty features for service providers and other folks with lots of data.

Pairwise replication envisions two Whitewater appliances set up in different locations. One backs up the other in case of tragedy. A third copy of the data can be sent to the cloud in case the primary appliance goes down.

Important, recent or frequently accessed data can be cached locally – pinned in the cache – for

immediate recovery.

Riverbed figures it's making it possible for more organizations to avail themselves of cloud storage and give up tape.

The new appliances run from \$8,900 for a virtual machine to upwards of \$100,000 for the biggest of the physical boxes.

The 3030 has 32TB of cache in a 2U form factor and can scale to 96TB. It's supposed to swallow 2.5TB of deduplicated data an hour and move 14.4PB of data to the cloud assuming a 30:1 deduplication rate. It's got three times the capacity the 3010, Riverbed's old high-end machine.

The 2030 can cache 16TB-48TB and move 7.2PB of deduped data to the cloud. It can ingest 2TB an hour. The 730 has an 8TB cache capacity, supports 1.2TB of data in the cloud and ingests 1.5TB an hour.

Riverbed supports Amazon, Azure, Rackspace, Google, EMC Atmos, Savvis and AT&T Synaptic. It's added Amazon GovCloud.

Google Buys Bump

Google has acquired Bump Technologies, the start-up that lets folks share content and pictures by bumping their devices together.

It works across Android and iOS and across phones and computers.

Google paid \$40 million according to the New York Times. Bump was into the VCs like Andreessen Horowitz and Sequoia Capital for about \$20 million.

Apple announced a similar wireless file-sharing

called AirDrop as part of its new iPhone software.

Google said, "The Bump team has demonstrated a strong ability to quickly build and develop products that users love, and we think they'll be a great fit at Google."

Bump co-founder and CEO David Lieb said, "We couldn't be more thrilled to join Google, a company that shares our belief that the application of computing to difficult problems can fundamentally change the way that we interact with one another and the world."

OpenStack Foundation Launches Training Marketplace

The OpenStack Foundation has launched a Training Marketplace, where engineers can find both paid and free training courses offered by technology providers in the OpenStack ecosystem including Aptira, hastexo, The Linux Foundation, Mirantis, Morphlabs, Piston, Rackspace, Red Hat, SUSE and SwiftStack.

The obvious goal is to grow the OpenStack talent pool.

The BSA Global Cloud Scorecard predicts 14 million cloud jobs will be created by 2015. The foundation claims OpenStack job pay 36% more than average cloud engineer salaries.

It also claims that employers have doubled the number of job postings over the past year.

The new marketplace lists dozens of courses across 10 countries and 25 cities.

See www.openstack.org/marketplace/training.

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HP Hires Head of Azure Planning

A few weeks ago HP quietly hired Bill Hilf, the general manager of Microsoft's Azure product management, who did Azure product planning, as VP of its converged cloud product and services. The news came out at GigaOm's Structure: Europe Conference Wednesday. HP is using OpenStack and Hilf's the guy who created Microsoft's strategy and work with open source projects. He previously worked at IBM where he led its Linux technical strategy.

Microsoft Boosts Dividend

Having ticked off some of its shareholders by agreeing to buy Nokia's phone business and license its patents for \$7.2 billion and pleased others by saying CEO Steve Ballmer would retire in the next year, Microsoft Tuesday boosted its quarterly dividend a more-than-expected 22% to 28 cents a share from 23 cents, raising its annual yield to roughly 3.4%, and said it would spend \$40 billion buying back shares. Its current \$40 billion buyback program expires at the end of the month. The new one was no expiration date.

Dell Borrows To Pay for LBO

Bloomberg said Monday that Dell was planning a \$3.25 billion bond sale to help pay for its \$24.9 billion leveraged buyout. It expected Credit Suisse, Barclays, Bank of

America, the Royal Bank of Canada and UBS to manage the offering.

Nvidia Ends Two Year CFO Search

On Monday Nvidia said it had hired Collette Kress out of Cisco as its CFO. It hasn't had a permanent CFO for the last two-and-a-half years. Instead it's been relying on interim CFO Karen Burns. Kress worked at Microsoft from 1997 to 2010 serving last as CFO of its Server & Tools unit.

AT&T To Resell SAP Mobile Software

AT&T is going to start peddling SAP's suite of mobile software to its business clients in Q4. Using SAP's Mobile Platform, a mobile application development platform, they're supposed to develop, launch, distribute and manage mobile apps, content and devices that integrate with existing infrastructures, including both SAP and non-SAP back-end systems. SAP's got enterprise mobility management solutions and an existing library of pre-packaged mobile business applications. AT&T will be pushing its 4G LTE network.

Intel To Close Hudson Fab

Intel means to close a fab in Hudson, Massachusetts that it got from DEC in 1998 and where it now makes low-end chips. Some 700 people will be let go by the end of the year as a result, according to a report in the Boston Globe. The site no

longer meets Intel's requirements. The gear there is more the decade old and four generations behind Intel's latest equipment.

October 15 Rumored for Next iPad Launch

Rumor has it that Apple will roll out its new iPad on Tuesday, October 15. Presumably these devices will use Apple's new 64-bit A7 processor that it's using in its new iPhone 5S and perhaps that means they'll come with more DRAM – and if not now then down the road – since the historical point of 64-bit was that it could support 4GB of DRAM. The A7, which is supposed to double the performance of the A6, even on 32-bit apps, is believed to have two cores but Apple hasn't confirmed that yet. The theory that's emerging is that Apple wants to use the same chip across iPhones, iPads and Macs and combine the underlying code base.

Walt Mossberg & All Things Digital To Split with WSJ

The Wall Street Journal won't be picking up its option on All Things Digital, the six-year-old tech news site, and will be parting company with long-time PC columnist Walt Mossberg, Kara Swisher and crew at the end of year when their contract runs out. All Things Digital will be looking for a new home. Dow Jones owns the brand and archives as well as the D: All Things Digital conference. The Journal quoted ComScore saying that in August AllThingsD drew 1.66 million unique visitors, down 16% from a year earlier.