The Promise of InfiniBand for Cluster Computing

Greg Pfister
Server Technology & Architecture
International Business Machines (IBM)
Austin, USA.
Email: pfister@us.ibm.com

Abstract

The InfiniBand(tm) Architecture is a new industry-standard architecture for server I/O and inter-server communication. It was developed by the InfiniBand(sm) Trade Association, a collaboration of over 200 companies including all the major server vendors, to provide the reliability, availability, performance, and scalability needed in server systems. This talk will provide an overview of InfiniBand: the problems it solves, how it was defined, what it specifies (and doesn't), and how it may radically change the position of cluster computing in the industry.