SAP Entrusts Its Database to MySQL Open Source Community

SAP to Collaborate with MySQL AB, Developer of the World's Most Popular Open Source Database; Move Brings SAP's Business Solutions Expertise to Quickly Growing Open Source Movement

WALLDORF, Germany - May 27, 2003 - SAP AG (NYSE: SAP) today announced that it is collaborating with MySQL AB, developer of the world's most popular open source database, to jointly deliver a next-generation, enterprise-ready open source database for businesses. This move will infuse the successful open source DBMS movement with a proven, free, enterprise-scale database that runs in a large variety of customer sites around the globe. In the coming years, SAP and MySQL AB will co-develop the next generation MySQL Database Management System (DBMS). MySQL AB will take on the primary development responsibility for future releases of SAP® DB, while SAP will continue to support and further develop new and existing customer installations of SAP DB. Beginning in Q4 2003, SAP DB will be marketed as a MySQL brand.

With this cooperation, MySQL AB plans to become a recognized global technology partner of SAP AG. The collaboration combines SAP's strong experience in enterprise-scale solutions with the power of MySQL AB's growing and active open source community. The result will be an accelerated distribution of the database and increased expertise in developing and deploying innovative DB technologies.

SAP DB was designed to support environments with thousands of simultaneous users, high volumes of data, and distributed IT infrastructures. SAP DB was made available as open source software in October 2000 and, since that time, SAP has continued to accommodate the growing demand from customers for open source solutions. The open source development method, of which the Linux operating system is the most widely recognized example, makes software source code freely available for anyone to review, enhance, and redistribute.

"This cooperation will directly benefit SAP's customers, who are looking for a proven open-source database that achieves lower cost of ownership for enterprises through smooth, virtually unsupervised operation," said Karl Heinz-Hess, executive vice president, Management Technology Development, SAP AG

"MySQL AB brings the innovation and speed of a global network of developers, ensuring that SAP DB continues to deliver an unsurpassed price/performance ratio for the enterprise customer."

MySQL is the world's most popular open source database and is used in an estimated four million installations around the world, powering Web sites, data warehouses, business applications, logging sytems, and more. Currently, the product is downloaded at no extra cost to the user from the company's Web site approximately 30,000 times each day. MySQL AB employs two licensing models: the first, a GNU GPL (General Public License), allows anyone to download the product at no cost and use it in any fashion, provided they make any developments available to the open source community; the second model, a commercial license, enables customers to use the database without having to share their source code.

"This is a unique opportunity for MySQL to extend DBMS functionality to support mission-critical business applications," said Mårten Mickos, CEO of MySQL AB. "By becoming a global technology partner of SAP, MySQL AB can draw upon independent software vendors and consultants of all levels to support customers who wish to extend their current SAP DB functionality into other areas of their business."

About SAP
SAP is the world's leading provider of business software solutions. Through mySAP™ Business Suite, people in businesses around the globe are improving relationships with customers and partners, streamlining operations, and achieving significant efficiencies throughout their supply chains. The unique core processes of various industries, from Aerospace to Utilities, are supported effectively by SAP's 23 industry solutions. Today, more than 19,600 companies in over 120 countries run more than 62,000 installations of SAP® software. With subsidiaries in over 50 countries, the company is listed on several exchanges including the Frankfurt stock exchange and NYSE under the symbol "SAP." (Additional information at http://www.sap.com)