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October 24, 2001

Dr. Ken Kennedy
Ann and John Doerr Professor of Computational Engineering
Director, Center for High Performance Software
Rice University, MS 41
6100 Main Street
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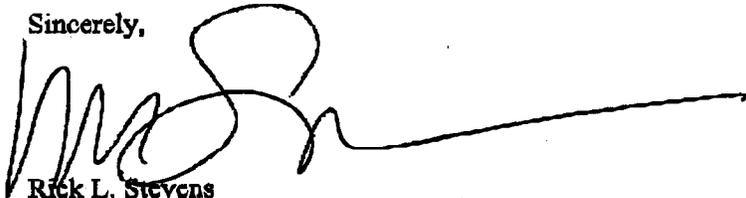
Dear Ken:

I am writing in support of your NSF Science and Technology Center (STC) proposal entitled "Center for Grid Application Software Development (CGrADS)." The new NSF TeraGrid project, a partnership among Argonne, Caltech, SDSC, and NCSA is developing a distributed Grid of computation, data management, and visualization clusters based on Linux and the new Intel/HP McKinley processor. This production Grid will support a new generation of scientific applications that couple remote facilities, data archives, and scientific groups.

However, as we look to fully realize the long-term vision of Grids as a new access model for distributed services, it is clear that new software and techniques will be needed to manage distributed resources, schedule computations, and adapt to changing resource availability. Although this vision of a Grid economy extends far beyond the planned TeraGrid infrastructure, it will enable and empower the TeraGrid's evolution.

On behalf of the TeraGrid executive committee, I am happy commit to ongoing collaborations with CGrADS on new Grid technologies, to provide access to TeraGrid hardware facilities for CGrADS tests, and to work with CGrADS on application experiments. The principal investigators are all researchers of international stature and all have a demonstrated record of interdisciplinary collaboration. The proposed research will yield major benefits the evolution of the TeraGrid, lowering the barriers to high-performance computing and allowing researchers to tackle new computational problems scientific endeavor. We look forward to working together as a partner in this important effort.

Sincerely,



Rick L. Stevens
Project Director,
Distributed Terascale Facility
Division Director, Mathematics &
Computer Science Division
Professor, Department of Computer Science
The University of Chicago