

SilverStorm Host Channel Adapter 9000

Host Channel Adapter

DATA SHEET

An integral member of the SilverStorm family of virtual I/O and clustering offerings, the SilverStorm Host Channel Adapter (HCA) 9000 PCIe is a dual port 4X InfiniBand HCA utilizing an 8X PCI Express interface to enable higher server bandwidth than is possible with PCI-X. It offers an aggregate of 20 Gb/sec of full duplex bandwidth. PCI Express offers up to four times peak bandwidth improvement over PCI-X slots coupled with lower latencies.

The increased bandwidth and lower latency are critical attributes for High Performance Business Computing (HPBC) and storage applications. RDMA protocol support provides InfiniBand with added advantages.

The SilverStorm HCA 9000 PCIe creates an expressway of balanced bandwidth between the server and the InfiniBand fabric, allowing information transfer at 20Gb/s, up to 16 times the bandwidth of GbE and 8 times Myrinet—with up to 90% reduction in internal latency. A comprehensive host environment of high-performance Upper Level Protocols (ULPs) contained within the QuickSilver software family, including QuickSilver VirtualNIC, QuickSilver VirtualHBA, MPI, IBolP, SDP, and uDAPL, enables the SilverStorm HCA 9000 to supercharge High Performance Business Computing (HPBC) applications such as modeling and simulation, clustered databases, and embedded clustering applications. Like all offerings from SilverStorm Technologies, the SilverStorm ULPs seamlessly integrate with existing server environments requiring no changes to the operating system or application code.

SILVERSTORM HCA

IN THE ENTERPRISE

Combined with its ULPs, SilverStorm HCA is the channel by which today's complex and costly enterprise environments can quickly evolve to feed ever-growing processing requirements. A SilverStorm HCA combined with a rich suite of standards-based ULPs can replace physical Ethernet NICs and HBAs with virtual Ethernet and Fibre Channel I/O gateways. This savings enables physical Ethernet and Fibre Channel ports to be shared by many virtual connections, thus reducing network complexity. A SilverStorm key is that unlike other approaches, the virtual Ethernet connection supports all Ethernet protocols, not just IP. This includes IPX, SNA, and custom protocols designed to use Ethernet as transport, leaving no application behind.

The net effect is a significantly reduced level of infrastructure complexity and improved business responsiveness, with a lower total cost of ownership.

The HCA 9000, combined with SilverStorm ULPs and SilverStorm's entire family of InfiniBand switching and virtual I/O products, is part of a complete end-to-end InfiniBand solution package ready to enable the new more powerful servers of today with the ability to handle tomorrow's processing requirements.

SilverStorm HCA 9000

Strategic Benefits

- ⌚ Seamless InfiniBand enabling of PCI Express servers
 - no operating system or application changes required
- ⌚ Improved server CPU utilization with RDMA protocols
- ⌚ Economical 10Gb/s technology today for High Performance Business Computing (HPBC)
 - modeling and simulation
 - clustered databases
 - embedded clustering applications
- ⌚ Server connectivity to InfiniBand based intelligent virtual I/O and clustering fabrics

Key Design Features

- ⌚ Dual 4X (10Gb) InfiniBand ports
- ⌚ 8X PCI Express support
- ⌚ Fully PCI Express compliant
- ⌚ Low profile design
 - supports greatest variety of servers
- ⌚ Comprehensive suite of high performance Upper Level Protocols (ULPs)
 - QuickSilver VirtualNIC
 - QuickSilver VirtualHBA
 - IPoIB
 - uDAPL
 - MPI
 - SDP
- ⌚ Higher performance than PCI-X
 - 20% better latency
 - three times the data throughput



