BeeGFS®

"HPC really helps solve real world problems and we feel that by providing a faster file system using BeeGFS, we can help researches come up with solutions to some of the big problems that we face today like finding a cure for cancer to environmental problems, faster than before" *Howard Weiss, Pacific Teck*

Interview

Pacific Teck
HPC and Machine Learning Experts

In November 2018, Pacific Teck was awarded Platinum Partnership by ThinkParQ, representing BeeGFS throughout the APAC region. We sit down with Howard Weiss, Managing Director of Pacific Teck to learn more about the company, his role, their customers and the APAC region.

TPQ: Howard, firstly congratulations on becoming a Platinum Partner of ThinkParQ. Let's start off by introducing yourself to our readers.
Howard: I am the Managing Director of Pacific Teck and I am responsible to identify the best leading-edge technology for our customer base in the Asia Pacific Region and ensuring that our customers get top class support.

In a short period of time, Pacific Teck excelled and quickly became a Platinum Partner of ThinkParQ. Please tell us more about Pacific Teck and your core business focus.
Pacific Teck brings cutting edge technology products from around the world to the Asia Pacific region. We focus on products related to building the best environments for enterprise computing, high performance computing and machine learning applications. We work together with our partner vendors to provide first class pre-sales and post-sales support in local time-zones in English, Chinese and Japanese languages.

Since 2017, Pacific Teck has been a ThinkParQ partner. Why did Pacific Teck choose to become a ThinkParQ partner?
We are seeing the market move towards NVMe drives and we see compute resources also being used for storage. BeeGFS is a perfect fit for these market trends as it has great performance on NVMe drives, and BeeOND enables one to create a file system on the fly with NVMe drives in compute resources.

What is your favorite feature of BeeGFS?
It is hard to pinpoint it down to just one feature, but storage pools is an excellent feature for an environment that has both fast NVMe drives and slower HDD drives.

Which vendors are mainly being used and why?
Pacific Teck works with all storage and server vendors closely. We do not offer any hardware. Being neutral enables us to support a broad part of the market.

BeeGFS is widely used around the globe. How many installs / deployments do you have with BeeGFS?
There are really too many for us to count. We have references in the commercial sector, government labs, and education including CSIRO, A*STAR, AIST ABCI, Spookfish and Tokyo Institute of Technology. You can find some of our references on our website www.pacificteck.com

What excites you the most about High-Performance Computing?
HPC really helps solve real world problems and we feel that by providing a faster file system using BeeGFS, we can help researches come up with solutions to some of the big problems that we face today like finding a cure for cancer to environmental problems, faster than before.

In March Pacific Teck exhibited at SCAsia in Singapore- how was the event for you?
SCAsia was an excellent event for both Pacific Teck and ThinkParQ. Since the event, we have been working on architecting many new advanced storage systems for customers around Asia.

Lastly, any predictions for the future?
I see that we are in the beginning phase of moving from HDD to solid state NVMe storage. Ironically our notebooks have already gone through this transition. It is about time for the machine learning markets to have access to fast flash based NVMe storage devises. BeeGFS is a key technology that will enable this transition.