

\$100 M partnership to advance nanotech

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A \$100 million partnership has been made to create what collaborators consider will be the world's most powerful university-based supercomputing center.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute announced Thursday the partnership with IBM and New York state to create the Computational Center for Nanotechnology Innovations based on the Rensselaer campus and at its Rensselaer Technology Park in Troy.

The Center aims at reducing the "time and costs associated with designing and manufacturing nanoscale materials, devices, and systems" as well as extending nanotechnology to other industries, collaborators said.

Electronic Design Automation software company Cadence Design Systems and microchip company AMD will also be collaborating with Rensselaer and IBM in the advanced simulation modeling of nanoelectronic devices and circuitry.

In addition, the CCNI system will include massively parallel Blue Gene supercomputers, POWER-based Linux clusters and AMD Opteron processor-based clusters, providing more than 70 teraflops of computing muscle, the Institute said.

The center is expected to be operational by the end of the year.

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