

Cloud 20/20: Launching Successes

What do you get when you mix talent, enthusiasm and Cloud 20/20? A sure-fire recipe for success. Unisys India has dedicated itself to providing a platform for young, enthusiastic, skilled individuals to showcase their ideas and innovations through the annual Cloud 20/20 technical project contest. Launched in October 2009, the much-looked to event provides students across India with a forum to demonstrate their technical prowess and a unique opportunity to gain some hands-on experience and move beyond theory to develop real-world cloud computing solutions.

Since its inception, the contest has drawn large and increasing participation from universities across India, with the number of participating institutes growing to 2,400 in 2011. This growing participation coupled with the high caliber of entries that come through each contest is a testimony to the tremendous talent pool of skillful and technically proficient young people in India. It is also a clear indication of Unisys India's long-term commitment and vision to collaborate with academia in driving innovation and R&D and more importantly, in identifying, rewarding and nurturing potential. Each year, contest winners are given the opportunity to participate in various internship projects at Unisys India as well as explore future career options with the organization.

Ask Dharmesh Kakadia, winner of last year's Cloud 20/20 contest.

Having won the 2011 contest, Dharmesh, a research student at IIIT (International Institute of Information Technology) Hyderabad, was given the opportunity to intern at Unisys India, where his research on optimizing partition placement in ClearPath Forward! led to him filing for a patent, along with Nandish Kopri, work stream lead for ClearPath Forward Systems Management, Unisys India.

At Unisys, interns have the opportunity to explore their interests, work on projects of their choice and learn a number of key skills including technical problem solving, project delivery, and, communication and presentation skills, among others. They are also trained and mentored by global experts across Unisys, who not only help them navigate the ins and outs of the organization and the market, but also support and guide young talent in developing solutions with real-world business implications.

Dharmesh's success was carefully anchored by his mentor Nandish, who worked side-by-side with Dharmesh to shape and guide his research. Their approach details the optimal placement configuration of partitions, which in turn enables enhanced performance, scalability and optimal resource utilization. Apart from the hands-on exposure gained in solving real-world cloud computing issues, Dharmesh also got a first-hand lesson on the importance of soft skills including communication and presentation skills, time management and team work.

Dharmesh, Nandish, take a bow! This accomplishment underlines what Unisys India believes in very strongly, that success results when talent, hard work and preparation meet the right opportunity. Unisys India is committed to just that! Providing students with the right platform that will not only help to showcase their potential, but also realize their long-term career aspirations, which in turn, allows them to make significant contributions to Unisys and its clients, and, the industry at large.