



NEWS

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Florida TaxWatch Joins The Grid on World AIDS Day

TALLAHASSEE — Florida TaxWatch is pleased to announce their partnership with the IBM World Community Grid. World Community Grid establishes a permanent, flexible infrastructure that provides researchers with a readily available pool of computational power that can be used to solve problems facing humanity, including finding a cure for the AIDS virus. Likewise, the grid will allow Florida TaxWatch and its research consultants to use the grid for research requiring advanced computing power.

Grid technology joins together many individual computers, creating a large system with huge computational power. When idle, computers linked to the grid request data from World Community Grid's server. Computers then perform computations using this data, send the results back to the server, and prompt it for a new piece of work. World Community Grid only uses cycles that are not being used by other applications and will yield to any request for those cycles.

This vast computing capacity can be applied, on a global scale, to humanitarian issues such as researching cures for diseases like HIV and AIDS, genomic research, and predicting natural disasters.

In 2003, the IBM Corporation was one of the sponsors of a smallpox study that took advantage of grid computing. This study, using today's largest available super computers, would have taken years to complete. With grid computing, this study was completed in less than six months and identified 45 potential smallpox treatment candidates.

Last week, in a partnership with Scripps Research Institute, IBM added a new AIDS research program called Fighting AIDS@home. World Community Grid will allow AIDS researchers to complete their work in record time as well.

With over 92,000 members and more than 148,000 devices, World Community Grid will be the largest public computing grid benefiting humanity.

For more information on the World Community Grid, go to www.worldcommunitygrid.org.

Florida TaxWatch is a private, non-profit, non-partisan research institute that over its 25 year history has become widely recognized as the watchdog of citizens' hard-earned tax dollars. Our mission is to provide the citizens of Florida and public officials with high quality, independent research and education on government revenues, expenditures, taxation, public policies and programs and to increase the productivity and accountability of Florida Government. On the web at www.floridataxwatch.org