

The
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE for **NOV 15-20**
HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING
CHICAGO, IL NETWORKING, STORAGE, & ANALYSIS

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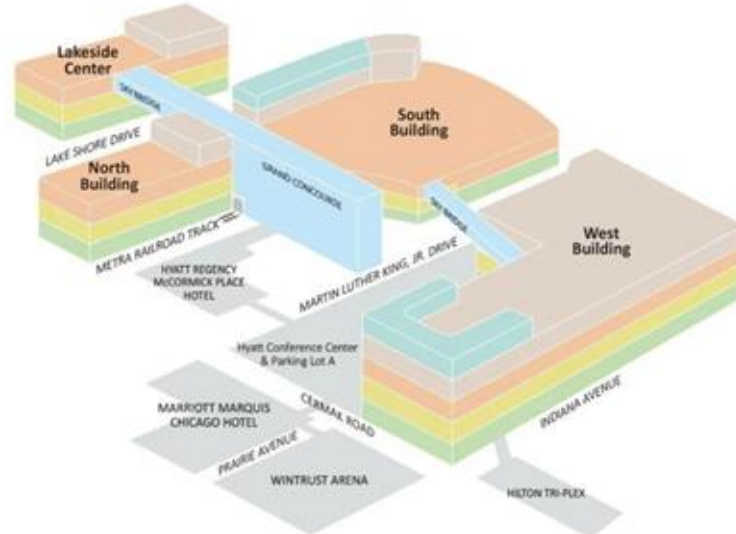
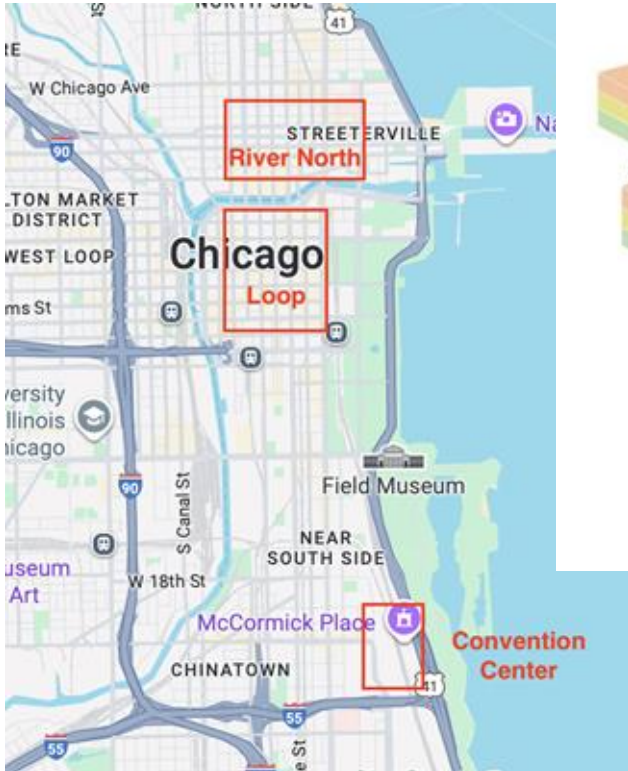
Contributor Relations Webinar

April 21 and 23, 2026

SCinet Contributor Relations Team and
SCinet Logistics Team

- **SC26/SCinet 26**
- **2026 Leadership Team**
- **About Contributor Relations and Logistics**
- **Benefits of Being a Contributor**
- **Requirements/Recognition Tiers**
- **Additional Contributor Opportunities**
- **Key Deliverables**
- **Shipping Processes**
- **Key Dates**
- **Resources**
- **Q&A**

- **Chicago, IL at McCormick Place**
 - **New Venue for Supercomputing!**
 - **West Building, Halls F1 and F2**
 - **November 16-19**



- Conference General Chair
 - Kevin Hayden (Argonne National Lab)
 - Former SCinet Chair for SC20
- SCinet 2026 Chair
 - Dylan Jacob (ESnet)
- SCinet 2027 Chair
 - Debbie Fligor (University of Illinois Urbana Champaign)
- ~20 SCinet teams
 - About 200 total SCinet participants

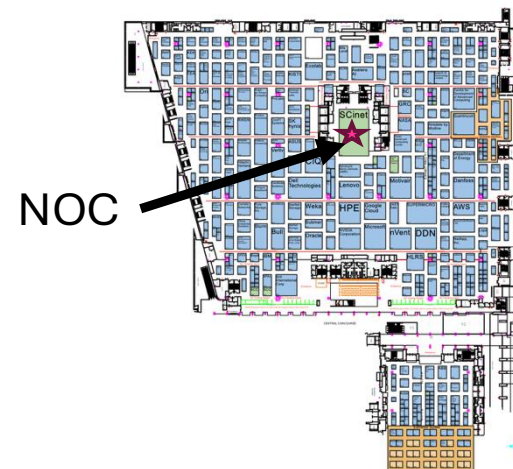
- Contributor Relations Co-Leads
 - Brian Smith (ORNL)
 - Katrina Trujillo (LLNL)
 - Deputy: Matthew Chung (UC Riverside)
 - Email: contributor-relations@scinet.supercomputing.org
- Logistics Co-Leads
 - Patrick Finnegan (Purdue)
 - Andy Sydelko (Purdue)
 - Email: logistics@scinet.supercomputing.org
- CR Portal:
 - <https://scinet.supercomputing.org/contributor-relations>

- SCinet is the world's fastest and most powerful temporary network
 - “1 year to plan, 1 month to build, 1 week to run, 1 day to teardown”
- Access and exposure to the largest HPC/AI audience
 - 19,000+ attendees in 2025 in St Louis
 - Exhibit floor already full for 2026
- Demonstrate new equipment
 - Stress test new equipment in a less stressful environment
- Enhance your image by sharing innovative implementations through our communications channels
- Connect with decision makers from academia, government, and industry
- Elevate your brand awareness through logo placement and speaking opportunities
- Participate in the Research Expo and Network Research Exhibition

- Participating in SCinet provides credibility and prestige
 - SCinet is globally recognized as a leader in high-performance computing networking
 - SCinet pushes the boundaries of innovation in networking
 - First demonstrations of new technology and network services
 - Contributing to SCinet provides competitive differentiation
 - Limited set of accepted contributors in crowded markets
 - Heterogeneous Environment
 - Experiment and validate gear in a unique high-performance multi-vendor environment that is not replicated anywhere else
 - Third-party Validation
 - SCinet's endorsement demonstrates that a respected, external authority believes in an organization's value and technical accomplishments/abilities

Marketing Benefits of Being a Contributor

- SCinet NOC/DNOC wall posters
- Logo placement on SCinet banner
- SCinet Partner Highlights
- SCinet Contributor Webpage
- Discounted (or Free) exhibit floor network connections
- Press release coordination
- Recognition via SCinet Displays
- Exhibit Floor Admission(s)
- Exhibitor Forum Speaking Opportunities



- Logo and mention by SC26 General Chair during Keynote (Diamond only)
- Premium/Prominent Logo Placement on NOC and banner
- Additional free/discounted wired booth network connection (transferable)
- Recognition in SCinet Awards Ceremony before Opening Gala
- See [Contributor Guide](#) for full list

- SC Theater is a booth on the show floor near the SCinet NOC intended to provide a platform for short presentations relevant to SCinet and SC.
 - Contributors welcome to propose sessions for inclusion in the schedule.
 - Content must be focused on technologies as opposed to product specific sales pitch
 - Can tie into products utilizing the technology and how it provides a SCinet solution.
 - contributor-relations@scinet.supercomputing.org
- Network Research Exhibition (NRE)
 - Live experiments and demos that are run on the show floor utilizing SCinet's high performance research network for both internal and external connectivity.
 - Requires a host booth on the show floor for the demonstration
 - <https://sc26.supercomputing.org/scinet/network-research-exhibition/>

- The Experimental Networks Team engages partners in research, education, and industry to facilitate high-performance networking experiments during the SC Conference within SCinet.
 - Pre-production 10GE, OpenFlow, IPv6-only, etc. in past years
- For SC26, XNet will build a White Rabbit Precision Time Infrastructure
 - Invented at CERN, used by many Chicagoland FinTech firms & Fermilab
 - Recent use-cases such as Quantum research have sparked more interest
- If you are contributing gear that supports PTP, 1PPS or 10MHZ timesource, consider syncing up with us!
 - xnet@supercomputing.org
 - Includes gear with capture cards (i.e. IDS) and certain SmartNICs

- General media inquiries for SCinet - contact the Contributor Relations team first
- Contributor Relations will also work with SCinet Contributors to identify areas of interest for future stories
 - Content should highlight:
 - Contributor technology provided to SCinet
 - SCinet volunteers making use of the technology
 - Challenges being addressed and impact for the HPC community
- SC Communications committee maintains:
 - Blog and Newsletter - <https://sc26.supercomputing.org/media/blog/>
 - 1st Friday of the Month
 - Social Media
 - Instagram, YouTube, Facebook LinkedIn, Twitter
 - Ongoing Content Series
 - Highlight the people and diverse backgrounds in the HPC community

- Recognition tier system was revamped in 2024
 - Ensure contributor time recognized as well as material loans
 - Points awarded for hardware, software/services, and volunteer commitments
 - Donated equipment gets a multiplier and then “depreciates” over 5 years
 - No changes in 2025
- Minor tweaks for 2026
 - Exhibit floor passes based on points, but we have increased the default number based on feedback (i.e. min of 3, 4, and 5 for Bronze, Silver, and Gold)
 - See the [CR Guide](#) for specifics.

SCinet Point Values

1 to < 10 10 to < 25 25 to < 50 50 to < 125 125+



SCinet Contributor Levels

- Points are issued based on dollar value of loaned equipment, software, and services (e.g. bandwidth)
 - Insured value of hardware (not MSRP) will be used for loaned hardware
 - If only MSRP is submitted, SCinet will use 30% of the value for evaluation purposes
 - The cost of software licensing (prorated to the months of use, defaulting to 1 unless otherwise explained)
 - The cost of services such as bandwidth will be prorated to the months of use, defaulting to 1 unless otherwise explained).
- Dollar amounts divided by \$50,000 (rounded up) provide base point value

- Team Leadership – Full SCinet planning year (December to December) – 6 Points
- Design & Planning - Now through Staging – 4 Points
 - Designing the network
- Staging - October 24 - October 30 – 3 Points
 - Inventory equipment, unboxing, racking, start configuration and fiber patching
- Setup - November 9-14 - 2 Points
 - Final configuration, testing, prepare to go live
- Show - November 15-19 - 1 Point
 - The Big Deal
- Teardown - Nov 19-Nov 20
 - Counts as “Show” for people points
 - Semi-controlled chaos - unracking, repacking, organizing for return shipment
 - Any gear originally inventoried by CR/Logistics must be released by CR/Logistics before leaving the convention center
- Equipment departing - Saturday November 21
 - All gear has left the building

- Network Gear Provider
- Provides gear with \$1.5m replacement value - 30 points *(i.e. $\$1,500,000/\$50,000 = 30 \text{ pts}$)*
- Provides 1 person at setup - 2 points *(i.e. $1 * 2 \text{ pts}$)*
- Provides 5 people at show - 5 points *(i.e. $5 * 1 \text{ pt}$)*
- Total: 37, Gold *(base evaluation – subject to change)*

- (Small) Network Gear Provider
- Provides gear worth \$75000 - 2 points *(i.e. $\$75000/\$50000 = 2 \text{ pts}$)*
- 2 employees as SCinet team leads - 12 points *(i.e. $2 * 6 \text{ pts}$)*
- 2 more people for Design and Planning – 8 points *(i.e. $2 * 4 \text{ pts}$)*
- 2 people at staging – 6 points *(i.e. $2 * 3 \text{ pts}$)*
- 2 people for setup - 4 points *(i.e. $2 * 2 \text{ pts}$)*
- 2 people at show - 2 points *(i.e. $2 * 1 \text{ pt}$)*
- Total: 34, Gold *(base evaluation – subject to change)*

- In addition to loaned/donated equipment and personnel time, contributors can provide “Extra Mile” items.
- “Extra Mile” help will increase the contributor’s benefit tier by 1 level (i.e. Silver->Gold)
- Opportunities:
 - SCinet Co-Branded Apparel
 - Funding SCinet Social Events
 - Attended by SCinet volunteers
 - Travel assistance funds
 - Direct financial support to help with travel expenses for SCinet volunteers
- Note: “Extra mile” items cannot bump a contributor from Platinum to Diamond

- Intent to Contribute Form - May 29
 - Provides executive and technical contact emails for CR/Logistics
 - <https://tinyurl.com/SC26-IntentToContribute>
- Bill of Materials (BOM)
 - Initial BOM Due June 19
 - Updated BOM Due August 7
 - Final BOM Due September 4
 - <https://tinyurl.com/SC26-BOM>
- Liability Waiver (only for hardware providers)
 - Due with initial BOM
 - <https://tinyurl.com/SC26-LW>
- Logos - Due July 31
 - Logos need to be a scalable graphics format so they can be printed at very large sizes - typically EPS/PS/PDF, AI, or SVGs
 - Send to contributor-relations@scinet.supercomputing.org
- Gear - Freeman's warehouse in Chicago **by October 12**

- The BOM provides an accounting of a contributor's intended contributions.
 - Used to help determine the contributor's tier
 - Hardware – Also used for Insurance purposes
 - Tracking equipment in and out of the conference spaces
- The initial BOM is a best guess based on early work with teams.
 - It should have the key “big-ticket” items.
 - Determines initial contributor tier
 - **Rough estimate is best – it can be adjusted. Perfection is the enemy of ‘good enough’**
- Middle BOM should refine big-ticket items and have a good guess of e.g. optics types/counts or “modules” in a big-ticket item
 - Determines final contributor tier (along with extra mile contributions)
- Final BOM should reflect everything shipped to the conference.
 - This is the list that will be submitted for final insurance purposes.
 - BOL/Inventory will override BOMs but please provide updated BOMs as gear ships

- **We do not need 1gb or 10gb optics if your gear can support 3rd party optics**
 - SCinet owns enough optics for our typical uses
 - NOTE: The minimum wired floor connection for exhibitors in 2026 will be 10gb
 - If you must use branded 1gb or 10gb optics please make sure Contributor Relations and Logistics know to expect those optics (check the box on the BOM form for the line item)
- BOM template at <https://tinyurl.com/SC26-BOM>
- **Final tier evaluation determined on November 13 (after gear check-in)**
 - This ensures that final arrival of equipment is reflecting your achieved levels
 - CR/Logistics will work with team leads to determine if any gear replacements are sufficiently similar to September BOM valuations
 - We recognize supply chain issues, loaned gear availability issues, etc. but want to ensure contributors are making an effort to help ensure the SCinet network is successful

- Receiving handled by Freeman is the default, and preferred
- Provided shipping labels must be on every item (at least one per box and one per side on pallets)
- Labels are available on the CR Wiki:
 - <https://tinyurl.com/SC26-ShippingLabel>
- **All shipments are strongly encouraged to provide tracking information to CR/Logistics but shipments with Optics MUST provide tracking information**
- Inventoried gear list will supersede the final BOM for insurance purposes
- Differences between the Inventory list and BOM require a signature by a representative of the contributor or SCinet team lead.
- Contributors need to arrange inbound shipping

<p>F R E E M A N</p> <p>R U S H</p> <p>DO NOT DELAY</p> <p>TO: MGMT/SCiNet</p> <p>SC26 C/O Freeman 8201 W. 47th St. Door 21 McCook, IL 60525</p> <p><u>MUST ARRIVE BY</u> <u>OCTOBER 12, 2026</u></p> <p>SC26 SCINET BOOTH 3034 PRE-STAGE MATERIAL</p>	<p>F R E E M A N</p> <p>R U S H</p> <p>DO NOT DELAY</p> <p>TO: MGMT/SCiNet</p> <p>SC26 C/O Freeman 8201 W. 47th St. Door 21 McCook, IL 60525</p> <p><u>MUST ARRIVE BY</u> <u>OCTOBER 12, 2026</u></p> <p>SC26 SCINET BOOTH 3034 PRE-STAGE MATERIAL</p>
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THE ABOVE LABELS ARE PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE. PLACE ONE ON EACH PIECE SHIPPED TO ENSURE PROPER DELIVERY. IF MORE LABELS ARE NEEDED COPIES ARE ACCEPTABLE.

- **Preference is to ship via Freeman**

- Shipping via other carriers require you to hand carry the equipment out of convention center or arrange pickup
- Current plan of record is outbound shipping via Freeman will be covered by SCinet
- CR/Logistics will apply shipping labels on all equipment boxes
- Verify outbound equipment with the check-in inventory list
- Hand carried equipment requires a signature which releases all responsibility to the signatory
 - Hand carry items will be dispatched as they are checked in and cannot be guaranteed to be ready by any specific time during teardown. CR/Logistics will make a “best effort” to get hand carry items released early if informed ahead of time
- More details from Logistics closer to the conference
- Outbound shipping information due before show starts (Logistics/CR will send email for an outbound shipping form)

- Contributor Intent to Participate Due Friday, May 29
- Initial Bill of Materials Friday, June 19
- Liability Waivers due Friday, June 19
- Updated Bill of Materials Due Friday, August 7
- Final Bill of Materials Due (used for insurance) Friday, September 4
- Outbound Shipper Paperwork Submitted Friday, September 4
- Loaned Equipment Received Wednesday, October 14
- “Extra Mile” Contribution Declaration Friday, August 28
- **Contributor Logos submitted Friday, July 31**
- SCinet Panel Artwork submitted Friday, September 4
- Request complimentary exhibitor passes Friday, October 30
- Network connection transfer request submitted Friday, September 25
- Co-branded Apparel Shipment Received Wednesday, October 14
- Confirmation of Initial Benefit Level Achieved Friday, August 14
- Apparel Sizes and Quantities Released Friday, August 14
- Final Valuation Change Deadline Friday, September 4
- **Confirmation of Final Benefit Level Achieved Friday, November 13**
- Freeman Outbound Shipping Date Saturday, November 21

- CR Portal:
 - <https://scinet.supercomputing.org/contributor-relations>
 - Forms, shipping labels, these slides, this presentation's recording, CR Guidebook, table of important dates
- Contributor Relations Email:
 - contributor-relations@scinet.supercomputing.org

- Questions?