Technology

Servicing the AI boom

SharonAI

To capitalize on the huge demand for AI-ready hardware, SharonAI uses Lenovo TruScale Infrastructure as a Service to ramp up its compute resources to deliver an attractive new GPU as a Service offering.

Lenovo
TruScale

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Who is SharonAI?

SharonAI is a High-Performance Computing (HPC) business focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Cloud GPU Compute Infrastructure operating across the Asia-Pacific region and the United States.

SharonAI is Australia's largest provider of storage services for Filecoin—a decentralized cloud storage network developed on the Interplanetary File System (IPFS) protocol with more than 14 exabytes of committed capacity. Filecoin allows users to store data at hypercompetitive prices, and data can be managed in several ways at users' discretion. This includes replication in geographically diverse locations and/or distribution of a single dataset across multiple nodes on the network, resulting in no single point of failure. These features make Filecoin an attractive alternative to traditional cloud storage services, especially for organizations with large storage requirements and limited budgets. SharonAI sees this reflected in its own client base, made up largely of higher education, medical research, public sector, and independent research organizations.

In addition to storage services, SharonAI also provides compute resources tailored for HPC and AI workloads—services that the company plans to ramp up significantly in the coming months and years.

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The Challenge

AI is developing at breakneck speed, with generative AI ushering in a new era of innovation. Both consumer and enterprise adoption of AI is soaring, putting the AI market on a trajectory of rapid growth. Demand for AI-ready hardware is at an all-time high, resulting in a global shortage of graphics processing units (GPUs)—the chips crucial for AI training and inference.

Getting hold of GPUs is a particular challenge for startups and research organizations, which typically do not have the budget to purchase sought-after, high-end GPU-accelerated servers. For organizations that access compute resources through public cloud providers, wait times for GPU resources can be up to a year.

SharonAI is on a mission to make infrastructure for AI more accessible by expanding its service offering to include GPU as a Service (GPUaaS).

“There is such huge demand for GPUs right now, but a real shortage of supply. Our goal is to fill the gap in the market for accessible, affordable, on-demand GPU resources for AI.”

Andrew Leece
COO, SharonAI

Delivering GPUaaS with Lenovo TruScale

SharonAI plans to deploy hundreds of GPU-dense servers over the next few years to expand its compute resource pool as part of its Lenovo TruScale Infrastructure as a Service contract. Lenovo TruScale enables SharonAI to access top-of-the-line Lenovo hardware through a pay-as-you-go model with minimal initial investment.

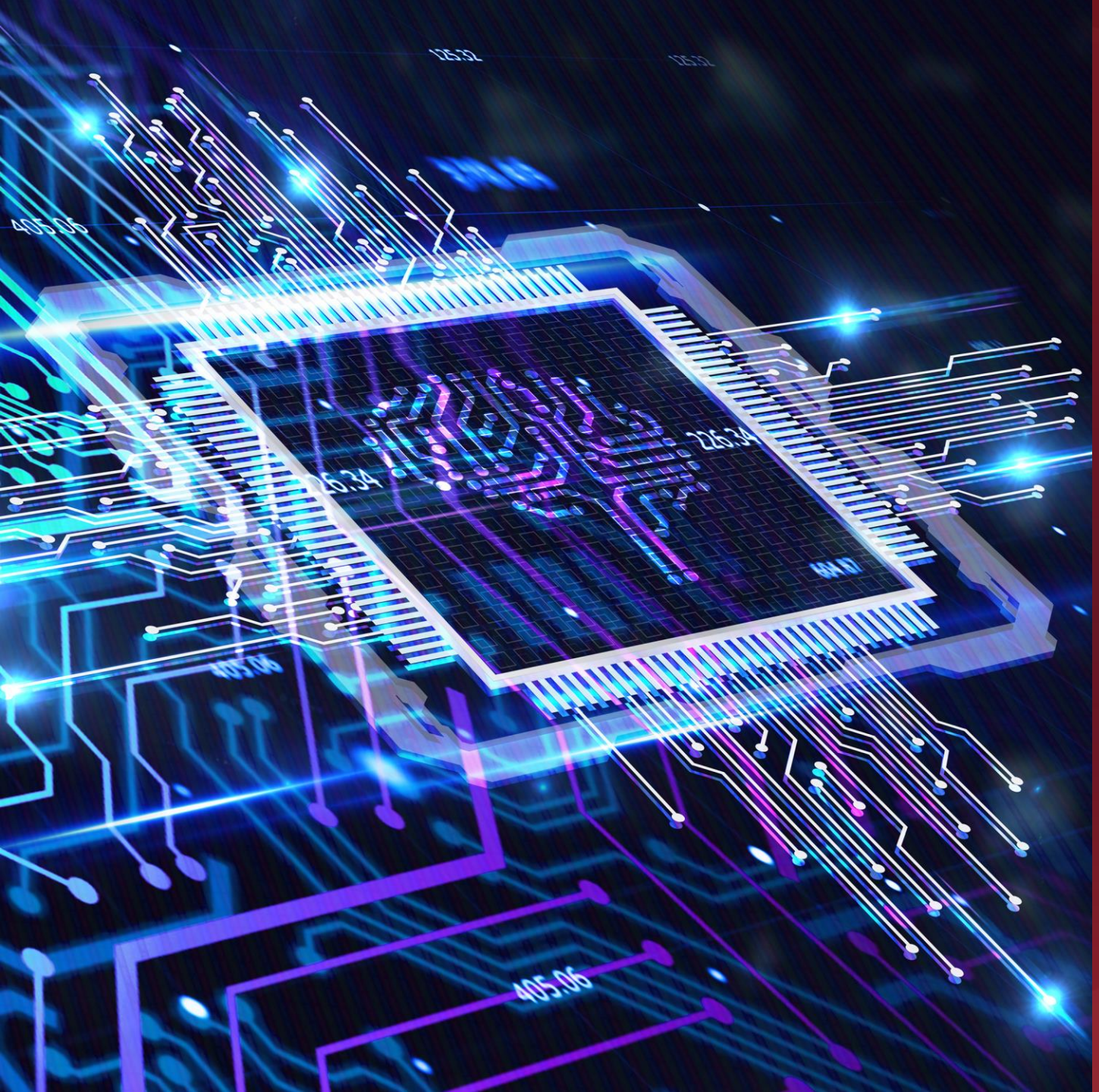
The first phase of Lenovo ThinkSystem SR675 V3 servers will give customers on-demand access to hundreds of GPUs to accelerate AI training and inference workloads. Subsequent phases will be deployed across SharonAI's new Tier 3 data centers in Australia and the US, delivering thousands of GPUs to AI and HPC users.

Services

Lenovo TruScale Infrastructure as a Service

Hardware

Lenovo ThinkSystem SR675 V3
NVIDIA L40S GPUs
NVIDIA H100 GPUs



> “Lenovo TruScale IaaS enables us to scale capital-efficiently, which is extremely valuable to us and unrepeatable with other vendors.”

Andrew Leece
COO, SharonAI

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Results

The momentum behind AI adoption and innovation shows no sign of slowing. Backed by Lenovo TruScale, SharonAI is well-positioned to meet ever-growing demand for GPU-accelerated infrastructure.

“AI is the future, and every organization is going to want to harness its power in some way,” says Leece. “I see this every day: nine out of the sixteen businesses in our office building are AI startups. They’re going to need infrastructure to train their AI models, but don’t have the budget—or the desire—to purchase and maintain their own servers. That’s where our GPUaaS offering comes in.”

With Lenovo TruScale, the company can easily scale compute capacity and GPU resources in line with business needs. “Lenovo will be a key enabler for our expansion plans,” confirms Leece.

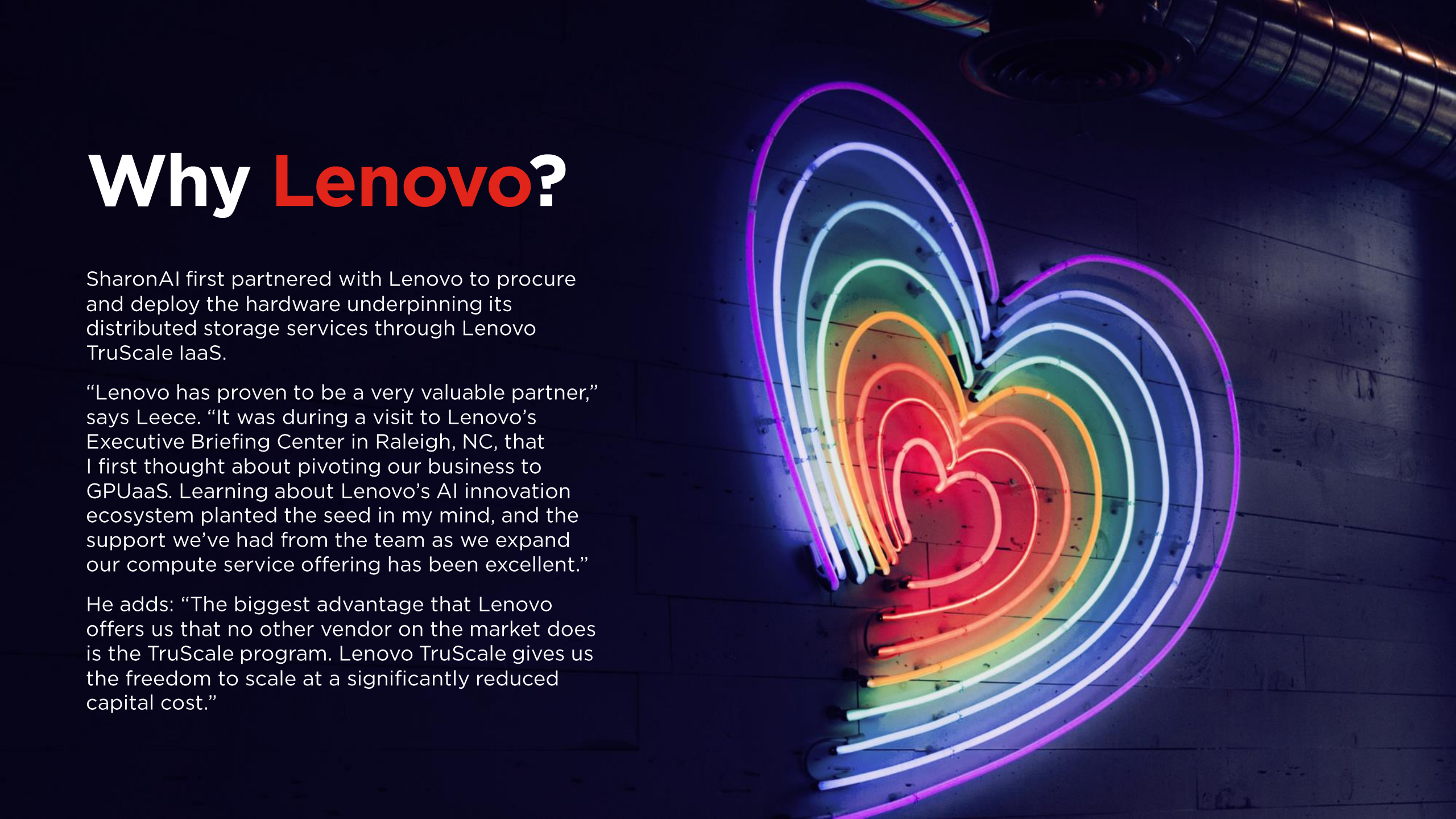
- High-end GPU-accelerated infrastructure
- Flexible pay-as-you-go model
- Easy scalability

Why Lenovo?

SharonAI first partnered with Lenovo to procure and deploy the hardware underpinning its distributed storage services through Lenovo TruScale IaaS.

“Lenovo has proven to be a very valuable partner,” says Leece. “It was during a visit to Lenovo’s Executive Briefing Center in Raleigh, NC, that I first thought about pivoting our business to GPUaaS. Learning about Lenovo’s AI innovation ecosystem planted the seed in my mind, and the support we’ve had from the team as we expand our compute service offering has been excellent.”

He adds: “The biggest advantage that Lenovo offers us that no other vendor on the market does is the TruScale program. Lenovo TruScale gives us the freedom to scale at a significantly reduced capital cost.”



How do you deliver AI-ready hardware on demand?

With Lenovo TruScale Infrastructure as a Service, SharonAI can scale its compute resources capital-efficiently to offer GPUaaS.

Explore Lenovo TruScale IaaS

Lenovo TruScale