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• **VaST Systems Names Alain Labat, Formerly Of TeraSystems, CEO**

By [Rizal Tupaz](#)

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VaST Systems Technology, an electronic design automation company, has named Alain Labat president and chief executive.

Prior to joining VaST, Labat was president and chief executive of TeraSystems, a provider of silicon virtual prototype software tools for system-on-chip design, a post he held from August 2002 to December 2004. Labat will focus on the operational and sales and marketing side of the company.

Founder and former president Graham Hellestrand takes on the role of chief technology and strategy officer and will focus on the company's technical strategy. Hellestrand will continue as chairman, a role he took on after Al Stein decided to step out of the company for undisclosed reasons.

In November, Linda Prowse Fosler was named vice president of marketing and business development. Fosler held prior vice president roles with Esterel Technologies, Ikos Systems and Cadence Design Systems.

VaST's most recent round of funding was a \$6 million Series C from Mohr, Davidow Ventures and Allen & Buckeridge in 2003. To date, VaST has raised approximately \$10 million. Mohr, Davidow Ventures is currently the lead investor.

VaST anticipates raising another round in the next few quarters to fund product development, customer support, and increasing its global reach. In terms of profitability, the new chief executive said the company is currently in a "break-even mode."

Labat is also a limited partner with Menlo Ventures, which provides long-term capital and management support to early-stage and emerging-growth companies.

VaST is based in Sunnyvale, Calif. with offices in Michigan, Texas, Australia, Germany, Japan, and the U.K. It currently has 30 employees and will continue to build its management team and hiring in product development, sales and technical support.
