

MAP1000 Unfolds at Equator 1
 New startup Equator Technology, founded by refugees from VLIW pioneer Multiflow, makes the first public disclosure of its (surprise!) VLIW-based media processor. The MAP1000 sports an impressive collection of on-chip peripherals to serve a variety of multimedia-related markets. Hitachi, which funded much of the development, will use the part in future digital television products.

Editorial: Shift to On-Chip Cache Pays Off 3
 Apparently just a passing fad, processor modules are on the way out. Having been rendered useless by large on-chip caches, Intel's Celeron modules will be replaced with 370-pin PPGAs; the rest of Intel's product line is likely to follow suit. Losers: SRAM manufacturers.

Most Significant Bits 4
 400-MHz K6-2 nears top of Intel's line; Cyrix alters socket strategy; Fujitsu shipping Hal's Sparc64-III; Intel reveals next-generation I/O plans; ATI, Silicon Motion introduce laptop 3D chips.

Transmeta Exposed 9
 A U.S. patent reveals details about what top-secret startup Transmeta may have up its sleeve. The patent describes code-morphing software that dynamically translates x86 binaries to run on a specially equipped VLIW host processor.

Embedded News 10
 Hitachi upgrades SuperH/DSP combination; MIPS exposes the family jewels; SandCraft shows superscalar SR1 MIPS core; Mentor scores IBM PowerPC cores; AMD K6E is officially embedded.

TigerSharc Sinks Teeth Into VLIW 12
 Analog Devices unveils its new 1-GFLOPS TigerSharc DSP. The new VLIW/SIMD processor will challenge the Texas Instruments 'C67xx for the high-end floating-point DSP market by mid-1999.

M•Core M300 Gains Poise, Performance 16
 The newest M•Core family member from Motorola boasts floating-point support and improved branch handling over its predecessors.

WinChip 4 Thumbs Nose at ILP 18
 Sticking with its simple-and-cheap design philosophy, Centaur Technology describes the inner workings of IDT's next-generation WinChip 4 processor. Unlike earlier WinChips, this one is designed from scratch for clock speed, targeting 500 MHz by 2H99.

The Slater Perspective: Evolution of the x86 Architecture 23
 The microprocessor world is changing. The once-rigid x86 instruction set has now undergone two major extensions: MMX and KNI. Even Intel's competitors have successfully extended it with 3DNow. Can Intel maintain control in this new, more fluid world?

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