

Digital Sells Its Chip Business 1
 Intel will purchase Digital's semiconductor business, including its only fab, for \$700 million to help settle the companies' lawsuits. Although Intel will build Alpha chips for Digital, the computer maker is likely to move from Alpha to IA-64 over time.

Editorial: Software Spiral, Intel Profits Both Stall 3
 A lack of compelling new software for high-end PCs has caused a shift in the market toward low-end boxes, reducing Intel's profits.

Most Significant Bits 4
 Intel plans low-cost Pentium II products; Cyrix readies MediaGX with MMX; S3 brings 3D to business desktops; Bug makes some Pentium systems vulnerable; IBM speeds P2SC, deploys first 64-bit chip; TI adds floating point to 'C62xx.

Embedded News 8
 Motorola updates ColdFire core to V3; 68K-to-ColdFire software translator emerges; IDT R4700 hits 200 MHz, New core-logic support for M32R/D.

MicroJava Pushes Bytecode Performance 9
 According to Sun, the MicroJava 701 will, when it ships in 2H98, execute Java bytecodes faster than any other processor while reducing memory demands, due to its native Java execution engine.

Siemens TriCore Revives CISC Techniques 13
 TriCore's retro-CISC instruction set combines microcontroller, DSP, and CPU features in a single processor core.

Centaur Improves C6 With No Extra Cost 17
 Even as it begins shipping its initial C6, IDT subsidiary Centaur has revealed plans to improve that part's performance, primarily on FP and MMX code, by 2Q98. New clock speeds will also boost the chip.

PA-8500's 1.5M Cache Aids Performance 20
 HP's next processor will include a record 130 million transistors and will reduce system cost even as it improves performance.

Gshare, "Agrees" Aid Branch Prediction 22
 Two new branch-prediction algorithms will become widely used in microprocessors due to their minimal cost and improved accuracy.

IBM's Power3 to Replace P2SC 23
 IBM has modified the failed PowerPC 620 processor to produce Power3, the first 64-bit PowerPC chip with high floating-point performance. Power3 will replace the P2SC in 2H98.

The Slater Perspective: RISC on the Desktop—Game Over 28
 With Digital now joining HP, Compaq, IBM, SGI, and others in the IA-64 camp, RISC workstations are likely to disappear over time.

Recent IC Announcements 29

Patent Watch 30

Literature Watch 31

Resources 32

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