## All the Cool Chip Designers Go to Tokyo

The city of Tokyo will play host to **Cool Chips I**, the first of a planned series of annual symposiums for designers of products based on high-end RISC, CISC, or DSP processors. Sponsored by Japan's IEICE (Institute of Electronics, Information, and Communication Engineers), the one-day conference will be held at Kikai-Shinko-Kaikan building in Tokyo on April 15.

Registration costs ¥19,500 (about \$150) for IEICE members or ¥25,000 for nonmembers. For more information, go to www.ieice.or.jp/eng/domconfs/04.15.98.09:05:38.02.10.98.html.

### ■ Windows CE Develops in San Jose

Microsoft's official Windows CE Developers' Conference (WinCE DevCon) will be held in the San Jose (Calif.) Convention Center April 6–8. The show is geared toward "in-depth, code-filled" sessions from Microsoft developers and vendors.

The conference costs \$1,195 per person. To register or for more information, call 800.509.8199 or set your Web browser to www.microsoft.com/events/windowsce.

## Berkeley Campus Spreads Out

To Boston, Austin, and San Francisco, specifically. The University of California at Berkeley (or wherever) is offering two courses in **real-time programming for embedded systems**. The two two-day courses cover either the fundamentals of real-time

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# **Battle for the Desktop:**Strategies for x86 Microprocessors

by Michael Slater

Competition has never been greater in the x86 market, with AMD, Cyrix/National, and IDT/Centaur all offering viable alternatives to Intel. Can these alternatives attain a sustainable, profitable market share, or will Intel's commanding market and technology position make it increasingly difficult for x86 alternatives to flourish?

Michael Slater gives an inside look at the technology, market, and business strengths and weaknesses of each x86 vendor. If you have to make choices about these companies, from technology adoption to investment decisions, this report is a must-read for your analysis.

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Each two-day course costs \$895. For more information check out *www.unex.berkeley.edu:4243/eng* or call UC Berkeley at 510.642.4151.

### Embedded Engineers Chill in Chicago

The semiannual **Embedded Systems Conference** is coming to Chicago's Navy Pier Festival Hall for three days starting on March 31. As with previous sessions, ESC features a conglomeration of 90-minute technical presentations, exhibits, and birds-of-a-feather sessions. Topics will cover the alphabet from C++ to PCI, USB, RTOS, CE, IPv6, CAN, PERC, RISC, and DSP. Among the presenters will be our own Jim Turley.

Admission fees run from \$25 (exhibits only) to \$1,445 for the full conference-plus-tutorials package. To register or for more information, contact Miller Freeman (Euless, Texas) at 800.789.2223; fax 888.811.7391; or visit www.embedsyscon.com.

### Embedded Software Resource On Line

The **Embedded Software Association** (ESOFTA) maintains a list of member companies and related resources on its Web site (*www.esofta.com*). The site maintains a development directory and links to several software specifications.

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