

AMD K7 Rechristened Athlon 1
 AMD's powerful new Pentium III killer has begun shipments at speeds up to 600 MHz. Priced below Intel's high-end P III-550, the new Athlon is 10-45% faster, according to AMD's benchmarks.

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 Is it new microarchitecture or performance improvement that defines processor generations? And where does Athlon fit?

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 Intel's Coppermine hits glitch; Intel issues P6-bus license to Acer Labs; S3 to acquire Diamond Multimedia.

Via to Acquire Cyrix From National 5
 Stepping in to rescue Cyrix from limbo, Via has offered to take the x86 competitor off National's hands. The acquisition positions Via to compete against integrated PC processors like Intel's Timna.

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 Mips and Chartered form unique partnership; Motorola plugs PowerQuicc gap; LSI Logic and Lucent grow new ARMs.

PowerPC 405GP Has CoreConnect Bus 8
 IBM's latest system on a chip is based on a 200-MHz PowerPC 405 core with CodePack code compression and a host of memory and peripheral controllers connected via the on-chip CoreConnect bus.

SandCraft Adds Multimedia Extensions 10
 Apparently setting its sights on the advanced set-top box market, SandCraft has enhanced its MIPS-based SR-1 embedded core with SIMD instructions for improved multimedia performance.

HotRail Rides With New Core Logic..... 12
 Hoping to ride Athlon into the server market, Valley startup HotRail (née Poseidon) is creating a single-chip multiport switch fabric with 22-GByte/s peak throughput for symmetric multiprocessing systems.

Microsoft Updates Multimedia Roadmap..... 14
 At Meltdown, Microsoft unveiled the beta version of DirectX 7.0 with new features reflecting recent multimedia hardware innovations.

PC Processor Microarchitecture 16
 Microprocessors use a confusing array of sophisticated techniques to achieve their blazing speeds. In this article, we present a concise review of PC-processor technology.

The Slater Perspective: Digital Photography Coming of Age 23
 Although not quite ready for mainstream consumers or professional art photographers, the new two-megapixel cameras achieve excellent print quality, marking the beginning of the end of 35-mm film and creating a new growth area for microprocessors.

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