

■ "The Matrix" Isn't Real, But Virtual Reality Is

Researcher CyberEdge Information Systems has just updated its report on *The Market for Visual Simulation and Virtual Reality Systems*, which estimates that that market will grow nearly 50% in 1999 and exceed \$25 billion in revenue in 2000. The report documents the types of products used and identifies growth opportunities in this market.

The report is priced at \$1,745. For more information or to order, contact Cyberedge (Sausalito, Calif.) at 415.331.3343 or access the Web at www.cyberedge.com.

■ The ABCs of DSP

With interest in DSP growing, lots of engineers are tackling signal-processing applications for the first time. If you don't know your FFTs from your FIRs, check out the *DSP Primer* from McGraw-Hill. This 500-page tome covers everything from the basics to detailed how-to descriptions of decimator structures, adaptive filters, and speech processing. It comes with a handy CD-ROM containing hundreds of software tools and algorithms written in MS Visual C++. This software can then be customized for specific applications.

The *DSP Primer* (054004-7), including the CD-ROM, costs only \$75.95 plus tax and shipping. To order, contact McGraw-Hill (Columbus, Ohio) at 800.262.4729 or on the Web at www.books.mcgraw-hill.com.

■ Hidi HDI Hidi Ho

If you work with semiconductor packaging or substrate technology, check out **HDI Expo 1999**, the show on high-density interconnect. This event—held at the Sheraton Mesa Hotel in Mesa, Arizona—takes a close look at the latest advances in IC packaging such as microvias, flip-chip, chip-scale packaging (CSP), and organic substrates. It consists of a series of tutorials, workshops, and seminars on August 23–25, along with an exhibition of tools, product, and service vendors.

Early (by 6/30) registration fees range from \$495 for a one-day tutorial to \$1,055 for a three-day package; exhibition passes are free before 6/30. Contact HDI Expo (Dallas, Texas) at 800.789.2223 or on the Web at www.hdiexpo.com.

■ Attend Digital Design University

UC Berkeley Extension is offering in San Francisco a summer course that covers **The ABCs of Digital Design**. This three-day seminar, held August 2–4, provides an extensive overview of the fundamentals of digital design, focusing on the digital ICs that are commonly used in PCs. Consultant Robert Hanson of AmeriCom Test will present the material.

The course registration fee is \$1,095. Other UC Berkeley Extension courses cover basic electronics, semiconductor fabrication, and high-speed PCB design. For more information, call 510.642.4151 or access the Web at www.berkeley.edu/unex.