

■ Market Studies on Microprocessors

Micrologic Research and Integrated Circuit Engineering are offering *Processor98*, a special report in 12 chapters that covers market conditions and trends for microprocessors, microcontrollers, and DSPs. Included are forecasts through 2002, simple, nontechnical explanations of terms like superpipelined and superscalar, and regional quarterly historical consumption numbers. Four-bit through 64-bit chips are included, as are DSPs, peripherals, and all geographic areas.

Your \$2,750 check gets you your first copy in book or CD-ROM form; additional copies are \$550 apiece. For more information, or to order, contact ICE (Scottsdale, Ariz.) at 602.515.4260 or visit www.ice-corp.com.

■ Java Business Forum Joins Comdex

Among the festivities at Spring Comdex will be the **Java Business Forum**, held April 21 at McCormick Place in Chicago. Geared toward IS and IT managers in the enterprise, the half-day Forum includes speakers from IDC, JavaSoft, Perot Systems, and other Java believers. The program runs from 8:00 to 11:45 Tuesday morning.

Admission runs \$195 and includes access to all the presentations and speakers as well as a Java partners' pavilion. For more information, contact ZD Comdex (Needham, Mass.) at 781.433.1650 or www.javaexpo.zdcf.com.

■ BDT Scopes Out DSPs

Berkeley Design Technology is offering a free summary of its findings from benchmarking and evaluating dozens of competing DSPs on its Web site. Overviews describe key DSP features and provide background information and bases for comparison. Also included are several popular microprocessors with DSP capability such as Pentium/MMX and PowerPC 604e.

The BDT Web site is located at www.bdti.com. For more information, contact BDT (Berkeley, Calif.) at 510.665.1600.

■ This Book Is On FireWire

Addison-Wesley and Mindshare Press have released *FireWire System Architecture*, a complete 410-page guide to the IEEE-1394 design standard for serial communication. Chapters are devoted to both hardware and software issues, including cabling and connectors, arbitration, asynchronous transactions, self-identification, configuration ROMs, and more.

The book (ISBN 0-201-69470-0) sells for \$35. To order, or for more information, contact AW (Reading, Mass.) at 781.944.3700 or www.awl.com/cseng/titles/0-201-69470-0/.

■ Computers and Telephones Together in CT

The first biannual Computer Telephony Integration (CTI) conference comes to Norwalk (Conn.) May 19-22. For information, contact Alicia Pacifico at 203.852.6800, extension 142.

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TECHNICAL LIBRARY REPORT

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 weakness 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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