

At A Glance

First Mwave DSP Provides High Integration	1
Texas Instruments announced the M500, the first DSP to support the joint Mwave standard from TI, IBM, and Intermetrics, who hope to promote Mwave as a hardware and software standard for multi-media PCs.	
Editorial: Who Drives the PC Industry?	3
Slim profit margins prevent most PC manufacturers from supporting new R&D efforts, leaving it up to Intel and other chip makers to develop new hardware technology for personal computers.	
Most Significant Bits	4
Judge Ingram blocks AMD use of Intel Microcode; Intel demonstrates Pentium systems; Erratum—P5 not to provide 36-bit addressing; Intel launches “OverDrive Ready” campaign; IBM demonstrates 100-MHz “Blue Lightning”; Digital shows Alpha PC running windows NT; NEC plans to source Hobbit processor.	
Intel Unveils First PCI Chip Set	9
At Comdex, Intel revealed a three-chip set, the 82420, implementing the system logic to support the new PCI bus, aimed at high-end 486 systems. NCR showed a PCI-based SCSI controller.	
New GUI Accelerators Featured at Comdex	13
Trident announced its first accelerated graphics controllers. Matrox revealed its plans for a powerful new chip. Cirrus, Western Digital, and others showed new graphics chips, and a new improved WinMark debuted.	
PCMCIA Defines Standard for PC Cards	17
PCMCIA credit-card-size memory and peripheral cards will be used in most portable systems in the near future, and may eventually replace ISA cards in desktop systems as well.	
Appeals Court Reverses Disassembly Decision	23
In <i>Sega v. Genesis</i> , a federal Appeals Court ruled that disassembling a program to reverse-engineer the design is a “fair use” under copyright law.	
Microprocessor Developments Beyond 1995	25
At the recent Microprocessor Forum, a panel of computer experts discussed the direction of microprocessor technology into the second half of this decade. Here’s what they had to say.	
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During the holiday season, it is traditional to contemplate spiritual forces much bigger and more powerful than ourselves—forces like artificial life, nanotechnology, and cryonic life extension.	
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