

At a Glance

Unified Memory Architecture Cuts PC Cost	1
Weitek's new W464 chip set eliminates the cost of the graphics frame buffer by storing this information in main memory. Several other chip-set vendors are working on similar designs, which we expect to become common in mainstream PCs by 1997.	
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The latest wave of PowerPC systems is impressive but does little to position PowerPC as a viable contender against x86.	
Most Significant Bits	4
Pentium surges to 133 MHz; AMD ships enhanced 486s; TI samples 80-MHz 486DX2 at \$1/MHz; HP rolls out 120-MHz PA-7200 systems; R4400 reaches new performance level; Cypress enters Pentium chip-set market; Somerset seeks new head.	
Intel Plugs i960 into PC Servers.....	10
The i960RP is the first i960 processor with a significant amount of system logic on chip. The design includes dual PCI bus interfaces, allowing it to act as a smart peripheral controller in PC servers.	
PowerPC 604 Emerges in Systems.....	12
The long-awaited 604 finally appears in IBM's first PowerPC-based PCs and Apple's first PCI-based Macintosh, among others.	
Pentium Competitors Go Head to Head	14
System designers now have a choice among Intel's Pentium, AMD's K5, Cyrix's M1, and NexGen's Nx586. Intel's competitors all claim to deliver better price/performance, but we believe that Intel will retain the performance lead. Despite higher manufacturing costs, competitors will probably offer more aggressive prices.	
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Publisher and Editorial Director

Michael Slater
E-mail: mslater@mdr.zd.com

Editor in Chief

Linley Gwennap
E-mail: linley@mdr.zd.com

Senior Editor

James L. Turley
E-mail: jturley@mdr.zd.com

Editorial Assistant: Suzanne Gifford

Editorial Board

Dennis Allison	Rich Belgard
Brian Case	Jeff Deutsch
Mike Feibus	Bruce Koball
Dean McCarron	Bernard L. Peuto
Martin Reynolds	John Snell
Nick Tredennick	John F. Wakerly
John H. Wharton	Yong Yao

Editorial Office

480 San Antonio Rd., Suite 210
Mountain View, CA 94040

Phone: 415.917.3050 **Fax:** 415.917.3093

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MICRODESIGN

President: Michael Slater

Director of Operations: Donna Schaffer

Business Office

874 Gravenstein Hwy. So., Suite 14
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Phone: 707.824.4004 **Fax:** 707.823.0504

E-mail: cs@mdr.zd.com

Subscriptions: 707.824.4001

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