

Resources

Is There Room for RISC After Pentium Pro?

Intel's introduction of Pentium Pro has turned assumptions about RISC and CISC performance upside down. Its performance positions Intel to compete head to head with high-end RISC chips in workstation and server markets, putting high-margin system vendors like Sun, HP, and IBM in direct competition with PC makers. *Microprocessor Report* editor Linley Gwennap will be the featured speaker at a dinner meeting discussing the challenges that Pentium Pro represents for RISC chip vendors and system makers. The talk examines how Intel gained the performance lead, whether it can sustain a lead over its RISC competitors, and what RISC vendors can do to withstand the onslaught of Pentium Pro. The dinner meeting takes place at the Westin Hotel in Santa Clara (Calif.) on January 11, beginning at 6:00 PM.

The cost for the event is \$99, including wine, hors d'oeuvres, and dinner. Reservations are required. To register, or for more information, contact MicroDesign Resources (Sebastopol, Calif.) customer service at 800.527.0288 or 707.824.4001; fax 707.823.0504 or send e-mail to cs@mdr.zd.com.

Networks Come to Boston

The eighth annual **Networks Expo** comes to the East Coast when it arrives at the Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center in Boston February 13–15. The conference covers computer telephony, e-mail, messaging, videoconferencing, remote access, and a host of other network-related topics.

Early registration (before 1/31) costs \$150 for a single session or \$625 for all three days. Tutorials run an additional \$495; full packages are available for \$995. To register, or for more information, contact the Blenheim Group (Fort Lee, New Jersey) at 800.829.3976 or 201.346.1400; or access the Web at www.shownet.com.

Alpha Chips from the Inside Out

Digital Press has released *Alpha Implementations and Architecture* by Dileep Bhandarkar. The 300-page book includes an overview of RISC system development, a comprehensive description of the Alpha architecture, and a comparison of several RISC chips announced in 1995; it also covers software issues like compilers and binary translation.

The book costs \$40. For more information, or to place an order, contact Digital Press (Maynard, Mass.) at 800.366.2665 or 617.928.2500; fax 617.933.6333, or access the Web at www.bh.com/bh/dp.

Learn VHDL at Home in Your Spare Time

A new 712-page book, *The Designer's Guide to VHDL*, has been published by Morgan Kaufmann. The book was written by Peter J. Ashenden of the University of Adelaide (Australia) and covers the IEEE standard from the system level to gate-level designs.

Copies of the book sell for \$45. To order, contact Morgan Kaufmann (San Francisco) at 800.745.7323; fax 415.392.2665. Collateral information is also available via the Web at <http://mkp.com>.

Where Do Teachers Learn About Computers?

The 17th annual **National Educational Computing Conference** will be held next year in the Minneapolis Convention Center. The event will take place June 11–13, with two days of preconference workshops commencing June 9. The conference provides a forum for educators and administrators to discuss research findings and share techniques, ideas, and opinions.

Early registration costs \$100. To register, or for more information, contact NECC '96 (Eugene, Ore.) at 541.346.3537; fax 541.346.5890, or send an e-mail to NECCreg@oregon.uoregon.edu.