

BUSES**High-availability spec on CompactPCI remains elusive.**

There are almost as many ideas of how to make high-availability platforms as there are vendors looking to make them. Warren Andrews, *RTC*, 7/97, p. 15, 2 pp.

Hot Plug comes to PCI.

Compaq has developed the PCI Hot Plug technology as another method to increase availability of industry-standard servers. Karl Walker, Cindy Ramirez, Compaq; *RTC*, 7/97, p. 19, 2 pp.

Control the power interface of USB's voltage bus.

The USB voltage bus needs an in-line device for proper operation; picking the right one can make or break a design. Jonathan M. Bearfield, TI; *Electronic Design*, 7/21/97, p. 80, 4 pp.

Understanding Universal Serial Bus: part 2.

The article presents several USB peripheral controllers and investigates issues you must address to implement this new standard. John Canosa, Qestra Consulting; *Embedded Systems Programming*, 7/97, p. 42, 10 pp.

DEVELOPMENT TOOLS**Better designing through co-simulation of RF and DSP analysis engines.**

Single-environment signal-path-design solution targets communication system designs. Cheryl Ajluni, *Electronic Design*, 7/7/97, p. 76, 3 pp.

Selecting a logic analyzer for today's demands.

Playing an increasing role in integrating hardware and software, logic analyzers require many new features as well as manufacturer support. Phil Stearns, HP; *Electronic Products*, 7/97, p. 23, 3 pp.

IC DESIGN**Finally, behavioral synthesis is production-ready.**

Until now, you've had to take a hit the first time you used the technology. But new interactive tools are emerging to make your job easier. Barbara Tuck, *Computer Design*, 7/97, p. 57, 5 pp.

Bringing intelligence to HDL.

The next generation of HDL software promises productivity improvements through greater intelligence, ease of use, and performance. Peter Varhol, *Computer Design*, 7/97, p. 64, 3 pp.

3D parasitic extraction for deep submicron IC design.

Advances in process technologies have increased the requirements for a more complete analysis of interconnect characteristics. Wayne Dai, U.C. Santa Cruz, and Weikai Sun, Ultima Interconnect Technology; *Integrated System Design*, 7/97, p. 22, 5 pp.

Focus report: CMOS ASICs.

CMOS ASICs continue to provide designers with an increasing range of capabilities at the cost of design complexity. R.T. Maniwa, *Integrated System Design*, 7/97, p. 40, 3 pp.

MEMORY**Serial flash busts bit barrier.**

Nexcom's NX25Fxxx chip uses a single-transistor E²PROM cell with block and chip erasure and SPI serial interface. Tom Cantrell, *Circuit Cellar Ink*, 8/97, p. 82, 4 pp.

PERIPHERALS**24-port switch-on-a-chip slashes the cost of fast Ethernet.**

The price of fast Ethernet switches tumbles below \$100/port, thanks to an innovative RAM-based architecture. Lee Goldberg, *Electronic Design*, 7/7/97, p. 31, 4 pp.

PROCESSORS**Microchip's newest 8-pin controller.**

Update on the recently released 12C508/9 series of low-cost microcontrollers with enhanced features such as extended power-on and wake-up controls. William Grill, Riverhead Systems; *Microcomputer Journal*, 5-6/97, p. 58, 6 pp.

RISC architects address the embedded world.

Embedded RISC vendors are pursuing diversification and integration. Rick Grehan, *Computer Design*, 7/97, p. 90, 6 pp.

Have 'em your way: 8- and 16-bit MCUs/MPUs.

The true differentiator between processors is the list of extras—the on-board memory and other peripherals. Nicholas Cravotta, *Embedded Systems Programming*, 7/97, p. 85, 6 pp.

Cache design with path-balancing table, skewing, and indirect tags.

Compared with a baseline cache, a cache with path-balancing table, skewing, and indirect tags can simultaneously reduce cycle time, use less area, and reduce miss rate. Tommi Jokinen and Chia-Jiu Wang, Univ. of Colorado at Colorado Springs; *Computer Architecture News*, 6/97, p. 6, 7 pp.

SYSTEM DESIGN**Understanding thermal management of electronic enclosures.**

There are many methods available to remove heat, and this article examines some of the more commonly used techniques. George Ross, Vero Electronics; *RTC*, 7/97, p. 33, 3 pp.

Powering up PCs.

Hardware accelerators and new software are unleashing workstation performance on PCs. Raymond E. Chalmers, *Integrated Design & Manufacturing*, 5-6/97, p. 14, 4 pp.

Embedded PCs: presents from above.

The gifts of the desktop continue to rain upon the embedded plain. Rick Grehan, *Computer Design*, 7/97, p. 73, 8 pp.

Fan-control methods for computers.

Precise control of fan speed and operation can increase efficiency, lower noise, and improve overall system performance. Jerry Steele, National Semiconductor; *Electronic Design*, 7/21/97, p. 38, 4 pp.