

At a Glance

Intel Extends 486, Pentium Families	1
Using 0.6-micron BiCMOS, Intel has increased the speed of both its 486 and Pentium chips to 100 MHz. The new DX4 includes a larger on-chip cache and more clocking options. The faster Pentium chips include power-saving and multiprocessor enhancements.	
Editorial: Number Two Doesn't Always Try Harder	3
Although Intel's aggressiveness has kept it in the x86 lead, it also benefits from poor planning and lack of cooperation among its chief competitors: AMD, Cyrix, and Texas Instruments.	
Most Significant Bits	4
Hobbit bows out of PDA market; AMD revs up with 486SX2; IBM cuts PowerPC prices; AMD introduces embedded 386 chips; Sharp samples first ARM chip; Faster i960 is still affordable; V810 jumps to 50 MHz; New AT&T DSP for cellular telephony; SPEC takes down flags; Digital, Brooktree enter graphics market.	
PA-7200 Enables Inexpensive MP Systems	12
Hewlett-Packard unveiled its next high-end PA-RISC design, which includes a unique "assist" cache and a low-cost MP bus but may not match the performance of other vendors' next-generation CPUs.	
PA-RISC Connects to 486 Bus	16
Winbond has created a fast, low-cost PA-RISC chip for the embedded market that uses a 486 bus to connect to existing system logic.	
FireWire Brings Fast Serial Bus to Desktop	18
A proposed IEEE standard, 1394, combines high bandwidth and ease of use in an inexpensive serial bus that could replace SCSI and other peripheral interconnects, according to Apple, TI, and IBM.	
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The path of technological change seldom follows the course one expects. Witness these tales from 35,000 feet.	
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