

At a Glance

NEC Unveils New MIPS Chip for Nintendo	1
The R4300 extends the R4200 with a new integer multiplier, simpler bus interface, and 100-MHz clock speed. These changes improve performance, particularly for graphics, while keeping the cost low, making the new chip perfect for Nintendo and similar designs.	
Editorial: Intel and Microsoft Vie for PC Leadership	3
Intel and Microsoft have replaced IBM as the driving force behind PC innovation, but these two giants have different agendas.	
Most Significant Bits	4
Pentium prices fall, 486 prices disappear; Ross pushes HyperSparc to 125 MHz; Hitachi, VLSI announce 0.4-micron process; HP discovers flaw in processors; C-Cube cuts MPEG encoding cost.	
AMD K5 Volume Slips into 1996	9
Facing reality, AMD admits that its Pentium competitor will not ship in volume until 1Q96, giving it time to shrink the large die using a 0.35-micron process.	
NSP Shows Promise on Pentium, PowerPC	11
Intel's native signal processing (NSP) initiative can reduce system cost compared with DSP-based signal processing. Current CPUs can handle simple signal-processing tasks without overloading, but faster chips are needed for more advanced multimedia applications.	
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Some analysts believe that the partitioning of the P6 design onto two separate die may be its biggest liability, but this technique may actually turn out to give the product its biggest strategic edge.	
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