

# At a Glance

<b>P6 Underperforms on 16-bit Software</b> .....	1
Initial P6 systems will execute 16-bit software, including Windows 3.1 and most current programs, more slowly than a high-end Pentium. Intel is positioning the P6 for 32-bit software, such as the new Windows 95 and enhanced applications, but a pure 32-bit OS like Windows NT is needed to obtain the full performance of the P6.	
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Shortcomings in Windows 95, as well as the P6's performance advantage on Windows NT, will boost NT sales during the next few years, setting the stage for competition between P6 and PowerPC.	
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Intel slams competitors with \$184 Pentium; AMD claims most top PC vendors; IBM to ship Mac OS in 1996; BAPCo ships first NT benchmark suite; Intel's NSP plans snagged; Rambus gains design wins.	
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Microsoft's inclusion of a software MPEG decoder in Windows 95 establishes MPEG-1 as the video standard for PCs but still leaves room for the improved performance of hardware MPEG decoders, which are now being offered by a number of vendors.	
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In another attempt to penetrate the embedded market, SGS has produced a RISC/CISC hybrid with impressive code density.	
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Expanding PowerPC into its minicomputer line, IBM has designed two new 64-bit processors with instruction-set extensions for AS/400 applications.	
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