

Resources

Comdex Strikes Again

The mother of all conventions (or maybe it's more like a loud uncle who visits twice a year) returns to Las Vegas November 15–19 for **Comdex Fall '93**. Join an expected 150,000 attendees to gawk at exhibits from more than 2,000 companies in the information technology (also known as the PC) business.

The conference is keynoted by John Sculley and includes presentations by Bill Gates and Scott McNealy. Five seminar tracks cover developers, new media, distribution/sourcing, corporate computing, and network connectivity.

Admission for any single track costs \$425; a combination ticket good for all tracks is \$525. Exhibit-only registration is \$75. Unless you live in Las Vegas, act quickly, as hotels and airlines fill up well in advance. Contact Comdex/Fall at 300 First Avenue, Needham, MA, 02194; 617.449.6600, fax 617.449.2674.

Learn About ICs from ICE

If you have enjoyed our series of articles on IC manufacturing but would like more information, check out the **Basic IC Technology Reference Manual** from Integrated Circuit Engineering (ICE). This 150-page book gives a detailed description of integrated circuits, including a brief history, a description of common products, a complete explanation of the manufacturing process, and a discussion of all popular packaging techniques.

The book costs \$195; additional copies are available for \$95. Contact ICE at 15022 North 75th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85260; 602.998.9780, fax 602.948.1925.

Esther Dyson Goes to Slovenia

On October 10–13, Esther Dyson presents the fourth annual **East-West High Tech Forum** in Bled, Slovenia

(“the peaceful northern part of the former Yugoslavia”). This picturesque town will host about 200 executives who are interested in the emerging markets of central and eastern Europe. Many of the attendees are expected to be from the local area; others will come from western Europe, the US, and the former Soviet Union. The speakers include representatives of the governments and major companies doing business in the area.

The conference fee is \$2,500, including hotel accommodations and meals. To obtain more information, contact Daphne Kis at 212.924.8800, fax 212.924.0240, e-mail 0005113705@mcimail.com.

Catalog of SPARC Building Blocks

SPARC International (SI) announced a catalog of “building-block technologies” for SPARC-based system designers. The **SPARCBuilders Catalog** contains products and services, including design kits, operating systems, tools, chips, boards, peripherals, and consultants. Listings in the catalog are paid for by the vendor.

The catalog is priced at \$12 for members of SI, or \$16 for non-members. Contact SI at 535 Middlefield Road, Suite 210, Menlo Park, CA, 94025; or call Lynette Wong at 415.321.8699 x249.

How Reliable is Your PC?

Reliability Ratings, an independent market research firm, released its **1993 Study on PC Reliability**. The 76-page report provides failure data and customer-satisfaction ratings for systems from IBM, Dell, AST, Gateway, Compaq, Digital, NEC, and HP. It is based on data from 250 end-user sites with more than 28,000 installed PCs.

The report sells for \$295. Contact Reliability Ratings at 11300 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, 20852; 800.929.4824 x310 or 617.444.5755, fax 617.444.8958.