
Subject: Re: AltiVec Support

Posted by [lvhare](#) on Wed, 14 Oct 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <702dnp\$mu5@gazette.bcm.tmc.edu>, pford@bcm.tmc.edu (Patrick V. Ford) wrote:

> I was wondering if RSI was planning support for AltiVec for the Motorola
> G4 series of PPC. If you know, please post it here.
>
> 'AltiVec technology adds a vector execution unit to address
> high-bandwidth data processing and algorithmic-intensive computations
> for both desktop and embedded applications.'
>
> Thanks

I suspect the answer is no. RSI has to gear things for the least common denominator to keep their code base reasonable. If they were to provide development towards AltiVec, they would also be obligated to develop for MMX, MMX2 and a few dozen UNIX accelerators both native to the OS and as 3rd party additions.

I would prefer they put more effort into things like 64-bit processors, multi-threading and multiple processors. Perhaps if we have a bake sale we could send the proceeds to them and have our preferences accomodated. Maybe it would be better to just send them the baked goods.

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