
Subject: IDL demo during Seybold SF keynote
Posted by [gurman](#) on Tue, 31 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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During Steve Jobs's keynote at the Seybold publishing conference in San Francisco today (August 31), they ran side-by-side IDL rendering demos on a Pentium III (600 MHz) and a 500 MHz G4 PowerMac, which supposedly does floating point ops at > 1 Gflops. (Guess which machine won, by a factor of ~ 4?)

Joe Gurman

Subject: Re: IDL demo during Seybold SF keynote
Posted by [gurman](#) on Fri, 03 Sep 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <gurman-3108991850570001@barkochba.nascom.nasa.gov>, gurman@gsfc.nasa.gov (Joseph B. Gurman) wrote:

> In article <[7qhb3j\\$ql\\$1@agate-ether.berkeley.edu](mailto:7qhb3jql1@agate-ether.berkeley.edu)>,
> korpela@highland.ssl.berkeley.edu (Eric J. Korpela) wrote:
>
>> In article <gurman-3108991331360001@eddy.nascom.nasa.gov>,
>> Joseph B. Gurman <gurman@gsfc.nasa.gov> wrote:
>>> During Steve Jobs's keynote at the Seybold publishing conference in
>>> San Francisco today (August 31), they ran side-by-side IDL rendering demos
>>> on a Pentium III (600 MHz) and a 500 MHz G4 PowerMac, which supposedly
>>> does floating point ops at > 1 Gflops. (Guess which machine won, by a
>>> factor of ~ 4?)
>>
>> Let me guess, the PIII was running Windows.
>>
>> Eric
>
> Well, of course. (I don't think there's a LinuxPPC for the G4 yet, so
> a real test wouldn't be possible --- even if RSI sold IDL for LinuxPPC.)
>
> Still, the prototype ads they showed for the G4 were cute: "The DOD
> says we can;t export these to some countries because they're
> supercomputers" (i.e., the ancient 1 GFLOPS barrier).
>
> The G4 also runs a setiathome iteration in 6 hours, which isn't too
shabby.
>
> See RSI's hype at:
>
> http://www.rsinc.com/pressrelease/pr_083199.cfm .

>
> Joe G.
>

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| Joseph B. Gurman, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Solar Physics
| Branch, Greenbelt MD 20771 USA / Federal employees are still
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| opinions expressed herein are somebody else's.
