Intel Unveils Developer Kits, Labs Program To Accelerate Future Memory

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Focus is on FB-DIMM Memory, Intel's *T Silicon Innovations

Intel Corporation today introduced a product development kit (PDK) to accelerate the adoption of a new computer memory technology, called Fully-Buffered Dual In-Line Memory Module (FB-DIMM), and other emerging technologies for Intel's first multi-core server platform, codenamed "Bensley." Intel also unveiled a labs testing program aimed at providing a centralized resource for hardware vendors developing enterprise products based new technologies, including this memory standard and Intel's *T silicon technologies.

"There's incredible industry momentum around FB-DIMM and multi-core processor technologies that enable Intel architecture platforms to achieve even higher performance," said Jim Pappas, director of initiatives, Intel Digital Enterprise Group. "The Bensley PDK and labs program provide tools that enable the industry to perfect their next-generation products. Ultimately, these programs will help accelerate the use of new technology while increasing IT managers' confidence in deploying state-of-the-art enterprise products."

FB-DIMM is a new memory architecture that enables memory to keep pace with processor and I/O improvements in enterprise platforms. Additionally, FB-DIMM helps deliver the speed and reliability necessary to obtain the maximum performance from multi-core processors. FB-DIMM also uses existing, off-the-shelf DDR2 DRAM technology for its reliability and cost advantages.

The Bensley Enterprise Platform PDK enables memory suppliers, OEMs and IHVs to develop compatible time-to-market products based on the "Blackford" chipset used on the Bensley platform, both of which are scheduled for introduction in the first quarter of 2006.

The PDK consists of a motherboard based on Bensley platform components and is compatible with several operating systems, providing a flexible development environment. More information is available at www.intel.com/design/servers/b … ngblocks/bensleyPDK/

IHV Driver Optimization Labs

The Independent Hardware Vendors Driver Optimization (IHV) Labs provides a hands-on environment for developing, testing and optimizing enterprise products with the latest Intel platform advancements, including FB-DIMM technology, multi-core processing and Intel *Ts technologies.

Intel plans to conduct open and private lab programs quarterly and offer lab resources online. Debuting at IDF, the first labs program is focused on FB-DIMM interoperability and driver readiness for Intel® EM64T technology for systems using Windows* or Linux* operating systems.