Finnish over-clockers break 1 GHz graphics processor speed barrier

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An independent team of Finnish over-clockers has made world history by over-clocking a graphics processor to engine clock levels above 1 GHz. The record was set on the recently-announced Radeon X1800 XT graphics processor from ATI Technologies Inc.

Noted Finnish over-clockers Sampsa Kurri and Ville Suvanto achieved graphics engine clocks of 1.003 GHz and a memory speed of 1.881 GHz (940.50 MHz DDR (dual data-rate) memory clocks) with maximum system stability and no visual artifacts.

The team, optimistic that higher speeds could ultimately be achieved with the Radeon X1800 XT, attained the record speeds using a custom-built liquid nitrogen cooling system that cooled the graphics processor to minus-80 degrees Celsius. "We're just warming up," joked Kurri. "But we believe that the Radeon X1800 XT has even more over-clocking headroom, and in the coming weeks we expect to achieve higher clock speeds and even greater performance levels."

A screen shot can be found at: www.muropaketti.com/r520_ghz.png .

Radeon X1800 XT's extreme clock-scaling capabilities are made possible by a series of key innovations that include use of the state-of-the-art 90-nanometer semiconductor process technology, an efficient new Ultra-threaded Shader Model 3.0 architecture, and a revolutionary new 512-bit ring-bus memory controller.