

Cyrus Plus Motherboard To Use PowerPC Processors

A-EON Technology & Ultra Varisys sign \$1.2M agreement for new PowerPC hardware

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A-EON Technology is pleased to announce that it has signed two major purchase contracts with Ultra Varisys for the ongoing design, development and manufacture of PowerPC hardware for its AmigaONE line of desktop computers.

Varisys Ltd, who were recently acquired by Ultra Electronics, is already the proven developer and manufacturer of the groundbreaking Nemo motherboard which is at the heart of A-EON Technology's AmigaONE X1000 system. Powered by the unique PA Semi PA6T-1682M 64-bit dualcore 1.8Ghz PowerPC processor, the AmigaONE X1000 is the most

powerful next-generation computer custom designed to run the latest version of the AmigaOS. Building on the success of the Nemo design, A-EON Technology commissioned Ultra Varisys to create a new generation motherboard, codenamed Cyrus Plus, built around Freescale's P3 and P5 QorIQ series of PowerPC processors. The QorIQ series (pronounced Core IQ) includes several variations of 32-bit and 64-bit single and multi-core PowerPC processors. As with Nemo, the Cyrus Plus motherboard has been custom designed to run the latest version of AmigaOS 4 and will support multiple PowerPC Linus distributions. The board is pin compatible with several 563-bit Freescale QorIQ CPUs including the P3 P3041, an e500mc quad-core CPU running up to 1.5 Ghz

and the P5 series P5020, an e5500 dual-core running up to 2.0 Ghz. The P5040 quad-core CPU which operates up to 2.4 Ghz should also be compatible.

For more information please check the A-EON Technology and Ultra Varisys websites:
<http://www.a-eon.com>
<http://www.varisys.co.uk>

...<http://www.a-eon.com/18-10-2013-3.pdf>

Prisma Megamix Sound Card

Prisma Megamix Multi format DSP sound card for your classic Amiga

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In its prime, the sound quality delivered by the Amiga's on-board Paula chip was pretty special. Its 4 channel stereo 8-bit audio output with frequencies up to 28 kHz when using 15 kHz screen modes, or up to 56 kHz with higher horizontal frequency screen modes was so far in advance of the IBM PC's monotone beep,



Cyrus Plus Motherboard

which was virtually mute by comparison. The Amiga's audio was further augmented by a whole host of digital sound cards and samplers supplied by numerous hardware manufacturers. Sadly those days are long gone. However, that is all about to change. A-EON Technology is proud to announce Prisma Megamix, a modern next-generation sound card for Classic Amiga computers. The Prisma Megamix is a dual-use card which can be connected to either the Zorro II or a Clockport and incorporates a VS1063 DSP chip which can play and encode MP2, MP3, WMA, OGG, LC-AAC, HE-AAC, FLAC, IMA, WAV PCM and many other sound formats making it ideal for hi-fi audio playback and streaming applications. It achieves this with very little CPU overhead enabling full 200 Kbps stereo playback on a standard 68K Zorro II Amiga while still allowing good multitasking.

With Prisma Megamix, an Amiga 2000, 3000, 4000 or A1200 can mix MP3 streams and encode/decode them in real time without burdening the CPU. The MP3 sound processor is fully handled by CPLD and is transparent to the software. Audio data transfers are streamed at 16-bit (Zorro II) or 8-bit (Clockport), and bit banging is not required for SPI accesses to

the MP3 sound processor. Mixing inputs for Paula, genuine sound and line in are provided, as well as earphone outputs and line outs. In Zorro II equipped Amigas, the Prisma's Clockport can be used for add-ons and multiple cards can also be installed allowing audio enthusiasts to mix their tracks at full quality. Special drivers are being written for AmigaOS 3.x and 4.x systems and a Xorro PCI-E version is also planned for A-EON Technology's Next-Generation AmigaONE systems.

...<http://www.a-eon.com/18-10-2013-2.pdf>

Cyrus Plus Beta Test Program

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Following an extensive hardware development programme we are ready to begin accepting applications to join the Cyrus Plus Beta test programme. Up to a maximum of 50 Beta Test places are being made available and preference will be given to developers, existing active AmigaONE X1000 and AmigaOS4 Beta testers along with AmigaONE X1000 "First Contact" customers.

If you wish to register your interest in joining the Cyrus Plus beta test team please send an email to contact@a-eon.com with "Cyrus Plus Beta Test Programme" in the subject line. The Cyrus Plus board is built around a Freescale QorIQ (pronounced Core IQ) P5 64-bit e5500 dual-core PowerPC processor running at 2.0 GHz. The CPU, which is used in the defence and aerospace industry and is part of Freescale's Product Longevity Program which provides for a 10+ year lifetime availability for the CPU. The Cyrus Plus board will support up to 15GB or DDR3 RAM and include boot firmware on a MicroSD card. The other major on-board components include: SATA 2.0 (2); PCI-e X16, X4, C1 (2), X1/Xorro; PCI (2); USB 2.0 external (x6, internal headers (x2); Ethernet; ; Serial 1/f; Xena chip/Xorro combination (enhanced; etc. All successful applicants will be required to place a deposit on joining the beta test team. Detail will be provided in the beta test information pack. Cyrus Plus boards are due to start shipping towards the end of this year. Join the Cyrus Plus beta test team and help create AmigaONE Next-Generation history.

For more information please email contact@a-eon.com.

December Calendar

December 2 — Amiga-By-The-Loop Chapter
7:30 PM — Main Grand Prairie Library
901 Conover Drive, Grand Prairie

December 2 — Board of Director's Meeting
Approximately 9:15 PM — Location TBD

December 27 — Newsletter Deadline — 8:00 AM

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