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AMD has released two new models of its Ryzen Threadripper high-end desktop processors, the 1950X and the 1920X.
The two models support the new SocketTR4 platform, sporting sixty-four PCIe lanes, quad channel DDR4 memory and AMD simultaneous multithreading (SMT).

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When Apple next month rolls out its new iPhones, whose NFC (near field communication) chip will be inside? If it's an STMicroelectronics chip, instead of the longstanding iPhone incumbent, NXP, this could be one of the biggest upsets since Trent Dilfer won the Super Bowl — with major implications for the industry.

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TALK TO US

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IBM Deep Learning Breaks Through

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AMD Adds 3 CPUs To Ryzen Threadripper Line-Up

AMD has released two new models of its Ryzen Threadripper high-end desktop processors, the 1950X and the 1920X.

The two models support the new SocketTR4 platform, sporting sixty-four PCIe lanes, quad channel DDR4 memory and AMD simultaneous multithreading (SMT). The Ryzen Threadripper 1950X delivers multi-processing power with support for 16 cores and 32 processing threads, while the Ryzen Threadripper 1920X provides 12 cores and 24 processing threads.

A third variant, the 8-core 16-thread Ryzen Threadripper 1900X, is expected to be available August 31.

Can ST Unseat NXP In iPhone NFC?

ROUSSET, France — When Apple next month rolls out its new iPhones, whose NFC (near field communication) chip will be inside?

If it's an STMicroelectronics chip, instead of the longstanding iPhone incumbent, NXP, this could be one of the biggest upsets since Trent Dilfer won the Super Bowl — with major implications for the industry.

Right now, ST is keeping mum, not commenting on any specific design wins. Most analysts remain skeptical of the possibility, although some said it's "conceivable."

Look closely though. There are both external and internal factors playing into ST's hand. In our recent interview with ST executives here, they made no secret of going after NXP in NFC, a market the Dutch chip supplier has ruled unchallenged for many years.

JV Eyes Centimetre-Level GNSS Precision

Japanese giant Mitsubishi Electric has formed a joint venture with Bosch, Geo++ and u-blox to bring high precision GNSS positioning services to mass market applications.

The Sapcorda Services joint venture will offer globally available GNSS positioning services via internet and satellite broadcast and will enable accurate GNSS positioning at centimetre level. According to the company, the services are designed to serve high volume automotive, industrial and consumer markets, with real-time correction data service delivered in a public, open format not bound to receiver hardware or systems.

Existing solutions for GNSS positioning do not meet the needs of emerging high precision GNSS mass markets, according to the companies.

AI Sees New Apps, Chips, Says Q'comm

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Lab work is extending machine learning to serve new applications and define new hardware architectures, said a Qualcomm researcher. He spoke on the occasion of the company acquiring Scyfer B.V., a small AI research team affiliated with University of Amsterdam that it had been working with previously.

Scyfer acted as a consulting firm, applying machine learning to industrial, IoT, banking, and mobile sectors. The group is now part of Qualcomm Research, seeking to expand machine learning in areas such as computer vision and natural language processing and exploring how emerging algorithms will impact the design of hardware accelerators.

IBM Deep Learning Breaks Through

LAKE WALES, Fla. — IBM Research has reported an algorithmic breakthrough for deep learning that comes close to achieving the holy grail of ideal scaling efficiency: Its new distributed deep-learning (DDL) software enables a nearly linear speedup with each added processor. The development is intended to achieve similar speedups for each server added to IBM's DDL algorithm.

The aim "is to reduce the wait time associated with deep-learning training from days or hours to minutes or seconds," according to IBM fellow and Think Blogger Hillery Hunter, director of the Accelerated Cognitive Infrastructure group at IBM Research.

Hunter notes in a blog post on the development that "most popular deep-learning frameworks scale to multiple GPUs in a server, but not to multiple servers with GPUs." The IBM team "wrote software and algorithms that automate and optimize the parallelization of this very large and complex computing task across hundreds of GPU accelerators attached to dozens of servers," Hunter adds.