

AMD Unveils Threadripper CPU

Written by Marco Attard
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AMD reveals its near-future compute product roadmap at its Financial Analyst Day, with upcoming offerings including the high-end Ryzen Threadripper CPU and Ryzen 3 desktop CPUs.



Aimed at the high-end desktop segment, the Threadripper is a Zen-based CPU carrying up to 16 cores and 32 threads. It is to feature a new platform with expanded memory and I/O bandwidth, and promises to "fulfill the insatiable desire for more cores and threads that permeates the extreme desktop market" once it launches on Summer 2017. More details should be available soon at Computex 2017.

Also announced is the Q3 2017 availability of Ryzen 3 CPUs, while more PCs from "top 5" OEMs running on Ryzen 7 and 5 CPUs should hit the market on Q2 2017.

For the notebook segment AMD has "Raven Ridge"-- a Ryzen mobile APU integrating a 4-core, 8-thread Zen-based CPU and Vega graphics for a 50% increase in CPU performance and 40% better graphics performance at half the power of the previous generation. Set for launch on H2 2017, these should find home in hybrids, ultraportables and gaming notebooks.

On the graphics side the company mentions a first graphics card based on Radeon Vega architecture. Dubbed the Radeon Vega Frontier Edition, it is aimed at HPC applications such as machine learning and advanced visualisation, with 64 compute units (4096 stream processing) delivering up to 25 TFLOPS of FP16 and around 13 TFLOPS of FP32 peak performance.

"Our engineering focus remains on delivering a steady drumbeat of new high-performance CPU

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and GPU architectures that build on the strong foundations we have set with 'Zen' and 'Polaris' to drive broader adoption of our products," AMD says. "Infinity Fabric is the secret sauce within each of our products that allows us to bring together our leadership x86 CPUs and graphics in an efficient way to deliver breakthrough products to meet the needs of the most demanding workloads."

Looking towards the future, AMD expects to follow up the current-gen Zen architecture with the 7nm Zen 2 and Zen 3 CPU architectures, while Vega will be followed by Navi, also built using 7nm process technology.

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