

# The fastest AMD chip does not 'threaten' Intel

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PC World magazine's test center said it tested all systems with a configuration of DDR2-800 2GB memory, 2 Seagate ST3320620 AS hard drives, 320 MB nVidia GeForce 8800GTS graphics card. Phenom chips (based on 2.6-nm, 2.6-GHz and 2.3-GHz technologies) come with Asus M3A32-MVP Deluxe motherboards, AMD 790FX chipsets. Penryn chips (45 nm technology) are placed on the Asus Maximus Formula motherboard, Intel X38 chipset.

When the Phenom 9900 clocked at 2.6 GHz, the score that WorldBench 6 Beta 2 software measured was 107, only slightly above the 96 score of the Intel Core 2 Duo E6600 2-core chip released a year ago and lost. The 127 point that Penryn 4-core chip (Intel Core 2 Extreme) achieved.

Overall, 2007 was not a good year for AMD when Intel launched four-core chips based on 45 nm technology. They lag behind Intel in terms of technology for up to a year, while products with similar capabilities are higher than rivals because Intel has already reached a stage of lowering costs for second-hand products.

TESTED SYSTEM	CPU	World-Bench 6 Beta 2	Time in seconds			
			Adobe Photoshop CS2 test	Autodesk 3DS Max 8 SP3	Multitasking test	Ahead Nero 7 Ultra
<b>AMD CPU</b>						
AMD Phenom 9900 (reference system)	2.6-GHz Phenom 9900	107	457	378	258	312
AMD Phenom 9600 (reference system)	2.3-GHz Phenom 9600	99	508	423	287	<b>309</b>
CyberPower Gamer Ultra CF 3870	2.3-GHz Phenom 9600	95	535	427	291	420
<b>INTEL "PENRYN" CPU</b>						
Intel Core 2 Extreme "Penryn" (reference system)	3-GHz-Core 2 Extreme QX9650	<b>127</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>213</b>	336
<b>OLDER CPU</b>						
Average of four Core 2 Duo E6600 systems	2.6-GHz Core 2 Duo E6600	96	427	597	314	538
Polywell Poly 590CF-2900	3-GHz Athlon 64 X2 6000+	93	588	623	306	476

Technical index table that AMD and Intel chips achieve. *Photo: PC World*

For example, the upcoming 2.6 GHz Phenom 9900 4-core chip will be priced at approximately US \$ 350, Phenom 9600 2.3 GHz is US \$ 283, the Phenom 9500 2.2 GHz is US \$ 251, while the processor 2 core Intel Core 2 Duo E6600 costs 230 USD. And when AMD caught up with Intel in terms of technology, perhaps the \$ 1,000 Penryn model has slashed prices a lot.

In addition, the fact that AMD spent \$ 5.4 billion to own ATI graphics card maker did not make a turning point in the race with Intel because ATI still ranked second after nVidia. Maybe AMD will have more experience in the area of ??graphics processing and chipsets but the burden on the rankings weighs more on them.

## **Viet Toan**

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