
Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [Blazer](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 16:01:33 GMT

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<http://arstechnica.com/news/posts/1084398037.html>

website

Alienware announces dual PCI-Express graphics subsystem

Posted 05/12/2004 @ 4:40 PM, by Ken "Caesar" Fisher

Alienware is known for building top-of-the-line, enthusiast friendly computers aimed at gamers with really good jobs or really large trust funds. In recent years, the company has gone from being a kind of novel specialty builder to being a potential force even against the big OEMs (indeed, Dell's Inspiron XPS is aimed squarely at the Alienware crowd). Now Alienware is looking to up the ante with some of their own technology designs, and wouldn't you know their opening salvo has gaming performance written all over it. Meet "Video Array."

Video Array is an accelerated graphics processing subsystem that will allow users to add multiple, off-the-shelf video cards to their Alienware computer systems and have both cards process graphic commands in parallel. Understanding the wide-ranging wants and needs of its customers, Alienware designed its solution so that it is not tied to any one specific video card. This design will allow users to take full advantage of the fastest video card on the market for a significant performance increase.

Wrap your head around that: a graphics subsystem that can make video adapters work in parallel, even when they're not from the same manufacturer. SLI has apparently met steroids. "Ah," you say, "who cares about adding a bunch of PCI backup support to my AGP card." That's where part 2 of the knockout punch comes: X2. Might we interest you in a motherboard with two PCI-Express graphics slots?

Alienware's exclusive Video Array combined with X2, an Alienware-designed motherboard which is currently based on Intel Corporation's next-generation chipset and will include dual PCI-Express high performance graphics card slots, will deliver significant performance gains over current graphic solutions.

I think that's the sound of a pin dropping. If the technology proves itself, it could start a whole new level of bragging contests among gamers. It could, more importantly, lead other companies to develop similar technologies. Of course, there are plenty of questions to consider: do games have to be written in order to take advantage of this technology? What tasks can and can't be split up for parallel processing? The answers may have to wait until Q3/Q4, when ALX systems with Video Array and X2 will be available. Would it be nice if you could plop in a GeForce 6800 Ultra and a Radeon X800 XT and get the best of both worlds? Wouldn't it be nice if you were rich enough to be able to do that? For some info-light flash promotions of ALX and Video Array, hit Alienware's info page.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [Deactivated](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 16:08:08 GMT

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Are we going back to Voodoo2?

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Blazer](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 16:13:58 GMT

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Heh I still have two SLI Voodoo 2's in a box

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Mad Ivan](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 16:22:02 GMT

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Hehe, multiple vid.cards.2 GeForce4 MX/MX 460 should run better then one GeForce FX 5600 (if not even 5900) Vid Card...and imagine that the GF4 costs only 49\$ here in Bulgaria

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [KIRBY098](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 16:32:29 GMT

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Quality gaming is worth every penny.

Now I need another promotion....

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Xtrm2Matt](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 17:21:14 GMT

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Hmm i have a spare G4 MX440.. would go nice with my FX5600

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [YSLMuffins](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 21:19:52 GMT

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This makes me wonder why I don't hear about more computers with dual processors...

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [.fr0zen](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 23:53:48 GMT

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because a motherboard for dual processors cost too much... lool..

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [SuperFlyingEngi](#) on Thu, 13 May 2004 23:56:18 GMT

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Hey Xtrm, I'm looking into buying a new video card, and does the FX5600 serve you well for games? Some places I've looked at say they're kind of poor for gaming, but I was just wondering.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 00:46:29 GMT

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Damm....

That is/would Own....

Blazer where on their website did you find this article?

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 02:40:14 GMT

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HEHEHE!!! :twisted:

Oh, soon to be the envy of gamers.

gunt

Ok, not really, I can't afford that either, but hey, it does sound pretty kick ass.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 04:31:10 GMT

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fuck that you don't need that much power NOTHING FUCKING USES IT. why do people insist on wasting their money when a ATI 9600 XT runs everthing. For god sake, even a 64 mb card is just fine for most stuff. the 800X won't be affordable for the next 2 years, and that Mobo with the duel slots probably cost way too much... I still play a game that could run on a 800 mhz (CS) the game

is five years old proving a game doesn't have to look good to be very playable. Plus CS 2 will be out soon and the people at valve actually support buying a 9600 XT for HL2 to save you money and they say it will run at the highest level just fine as long as you have a good processor and 512 of Ram.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Mad Ivan](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 07:32:53 GMT

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a NVIDIA GeForce 6800 can run all games for the next 15 years without upgrading .The same is for the 64 Bit AMD Processors.People buy them for the best experience, at high cost so they can play best without going thru the trouble of upgrading.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Majin Vegeta](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 12:14:34 GMT

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i just brought me a 9800XT :/

maybe i can add my GF4Ti to that ^_^

this whole graphics bussiness is getting out of hand :/

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Infinint](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 12:25:39 GMT

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Soon computers will be the size of a wriste watch, have 5 vid cards, 27.5 processors, and 8 CD rom drives! Dont forget the 200 USB ports

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Titan1x77](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 12:59:12 GMT

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DarkDeminfuck that you don't need that much power NOTHING FUCKING USES IT. why do people insist on wasting their money when a ATI 9600 XT runs everthing. For god sake, even a 64 mb card is just fine for most stuff. the 800X won't be affordable for the next 2 years, and that Mobo with the duel slots probably cost way too much... I still play a game that could run on a 800 mhz (CS) the game is five years old proving a game doesn't have to look good to be very playable. Plus CS 2 will be out soon and the people at valve actually support buying a 9600 XT for HL2 to save you money and they say it will run at the highest level just fine as long as you have a good processor and 512 of Ram.

Yes you will...If they design games in order to meet those Standards...The games designed for a system running 2 top of the line cards maybe even more,(we have yet to see what they could do with this type of technology)will be outstanding

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [KIRBY098](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 13:06:00 GMT

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It's not like one card gets used up and then the other kicks in. It appears the system balances the graphics load between the two, thus reducing heat buildup, and card overload when 4 flame tanks come over the hill.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 13:06:53 GMT

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http://www.alienware.com/alx_pages/main_content.aspx

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Sanada78](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 14:52:01 GMT

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Everyone is forgetting that this is for PCI Express, not for AGP. That means you won't be able to use your old cards.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 14:53:55 GMT

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Could you give us the intro page to that and NOT THE E-MAIL REQUEST! You didn't even post a sort description. I hate it when people do that! It is like a trick, and I have seen links presented like this that lead to Download pages of porn sites that DL spyware or attempts to use a script vulnerability to plant a virus, SO DON'T DO THAT! Link to an intro page and provide a small description.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 18:35:00 GMT

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JadenStrikerCould you give us the intro page to that and NOT THE E-MAIL REQUEST! You didn't even post a sort description. I hate it when people do that! It is like a trick, and I have seen links presented like this that lead to DownLoad pages of porn sites that DL spyware or attempts to use a script valunarbility to plant a virus, SO DON'T DO THAT! Linkl to an intro page and provide a small description.

Dude you a moron. Why don't you jsut type in your email WOW all the info is there. The email is there so when this goes active you will be emailed about it. Not a bigg issue.

You are an overreacting moron... :rolleyes:

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 18:41:29 GMT
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And your a dumb ass. Even though it is a legit link, you didn't provide any discription and the page your linking to doesn't provide a description. Thats a good way to con people into a malishis act, leaving out information and going directly to a request for any thing, and anyone who is smart checks why they ask for stuff like that first. Your link connects directly to the e-mail request without insite to what it is about.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 18:49:27 GMT
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I actually agree with you, Jaden. I just don't see why it is THAT big of a deal, I can understand your concern, but most of everybody here isn't here to send you to a site so you can receive viruses and that sort of thing. Also, it's "you're" not "your" when you're using it as "you are."

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 19:05:28 GMT
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I know, but I have been on the butt end of a lot of con attemepts and other form of deception, I know many of the tactics used as they where direct against me early in life. One of the things that fell under the attacks was lack of information. People who where malishis against me also trying to keep me ignorant of things so they could also blame me for being stupid. So any thing that goes to a request for information that hasn't had enough insight provided about it's contents is something that I see as needing to be dissected to conform that it is not a threat. I don't like being left in the dark and asked for things.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 20:26:07 GMT

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OMG there are real idiots in here. Why would I point you to a link that brings you to some malicious site. Yes the whole FUCKING world is trying to give you links to viruses, take a break you nervous mouse clicker.

Yet again you are the moron. If I saw that link I would go to it because I know what the thread as and I would READ THE URL....Man some people are fucking stupid....You think Alienware has virus coming of their website NO! You think I didn't post a description yet the URL is a description, you can't figure out that it is an Alienware page belonging to them about the topic we are discussing in here. Really you need to broden your mind somewhat and center in on the common sense.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 21:26:27 GMT

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You are a bigger dumb ass then I though, and I was accully considering appoligising to you for my rash behavior.

Quote:OMG there are real idiots in here. Why would I point you to a link that brings you to some malicious site. Yes the whole FUCKING world is trying to give you links to viruses, take a break you nervous mouse clicker.

Yet again you are the moron. If I saw that link I would go to it because I know what the thread as and I would READ THE URL....Man some people are fucking stupid....You think Alienware has virus coming of their website NO! You think I didn't post a description yet the URL is a description, you can't figure out that it is an Alienware page belonging to them about the topic we are discussing in here. Really you need to broden your mind somewhat and center in on the common sense.

By making this ignorant statement you have followed up on actions that I have much experance fighting against. I am not so paronoid as to blindly think that "OH THE WORLD IS OUT TO GET ME" crap like you wish others to beleive. You should have thought about your responce before being an ass, I was ready to appoligies, but now I have no regrets for flaming you. Get a life dumbass.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [SuperFlyingEngi](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 21:47:31 GMT

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Take your bickering to the retarded morons topic.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 22:29:23 GMT
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PCI Express is using the same pin to pin concept of connecting the slots directly to the processor in the same manner RAMBUS Memory was desinged in. Do you think they may also try to reinstate RDRAM or make a high bread of it that is better instead?

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [mrpirate](#) on Fri, 14 May 2004 23:10:12 GMT
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XDR

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 00:03:40 GMT
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Well I guess we should give them credit for not roling over and giving up. Hope they do a better job then last time.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 02:45:38 GMT
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Jadean I only replied like that because that was the same manner you were replying to me. I very often lash out at people on these forums because it brings no good to anyone.

Now back to the topic, DDRII is gonna be phenominal once that goes public.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet
Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 02:58:08 GMT
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Quote:because it brings no good to anyone.

I'm very sorry to hear that. It is a shame that someone seeks to undermin trust for other people.

DDR 2 is already out, been out for a while, the DDR 2 shortage is what short changed the Radeon 9800 and pro because they could not install the DDR 2 on them. Radeon 9800 XT is the orginal version that Normal and Pro should have been with the DDR 2. From the last link provided DDR 3 will have compotion when it is released because RAMBUS is making a new XDR chip using

the point to point technology that originated from the RAMBUS memory and is now being used in the PCI Express setup.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [mrpirate](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 06:02:43 GMT

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You're confusing GDDR2 for graphics cards and the regular DDR II. My understanding of it is this: GDDR2 is capable of reaching higher clock speeds than the old DDR, but it still can receive only two signals per clock cycle. DDR II actually sends and receives twice as many signals per clock cycle. It is out, but it's incredibly expensive, shows little improvement compared to conventional DDR of the same speed, and has no motherboards currently supporting it. JEDEC names DDR II with a "PC2" instead of "PC." i.e. PC-3200 is conventional 400 MHz memory, while PC2-3200 is DDR II of 400 MHz.

The Radeon X800 XT uses 1.6 ns GDDR3 at 1.150 GHz, while the Radeon 9800 XT uses regular DDR at 730 MHz. The 256 MB version of the Radeon 9800 Pro used GDDR2, but it generated too much heat and was scrapped in time for the XT.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [Creed3020](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 18:38:50 GMT

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Ty pirate. You knew more about what I was referring too. I was talking about system ram not video ram. I know about DDR2 and DDR3 for video cards and ya that's been around for some time now I'd like to get a card with some of that...

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 22:30:08 GMT

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The only thing that makes GDDR and System DDR different is that GDDR is cold soldered to a graphics board and System DDR is cold soldered to a DIMM card, and go through different chipsets to perform their function of passing high frequency DC square voltage through transistors, in between silicon chips over aluminum, copper, or gold print board wire buses. They are still DDR chips at PC what every to transmit 16, 32, 64, 128 256, or 512 bit data at very high speeds. The DDR chip design is really not what is effect much, but the other chips on the boards instead. The only other difference between GDDR and System DDR is the data, and that comes from other sources, so at best GDDR is just saying that those DDR chips are dedicated to holding the graphic data from the video card, and that is controlled by the other chips on the video card such as the GPU and other chips holding the videocard's firmware. The chips are still made that same way.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [mrpirate](#) on Sun, 16 May 2004 00:10:44 GMT

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Yes, however, DDR II is different. And, to the best of my knowledge, there is no 512-bit DDR in existence yet, although it's definitely feasible.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Sun, 16 May 2004 00:37:48 GMT

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DDR 2 is different because 1, it either has more transistors, and/or 2, faster switching ones, and/or 3 sending more bits each time for example upgrading processors from 32bit to 64bit. There will be clear design differences for the DDR chips themselves, but it is still going to be the same DDR-2 chips being used as GDDR-2 or system ram DDR-2.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [mrpirate](#) on Sun, 16 May 2004 00:47:16 GMT

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DDR 2 does not use the same memory chips as DDR.

Subject: Great, now you will need TWO \$500 video cards to be leet

Posted by [JadenStriker](#) on Sun, 16 May 2004 04:27:16 GMT

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Ofcourse they don't, DDR 2 has a much faster more advanced and denser design. The transistors are faster, they may or may not be more of them. They are still using the same methods, and you don't need to make a whole new DDR 2 chip to be a RAM DualInLineMemoryModule card or on a Video card, just the chip controlling what goes into the DoubleDataRate SynchronousDynamicRandomAccessMemory chips.
