i960[®] Microprocessor CTOOLS Application Development Tools

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Intel's CTOOLS provides a complete set of application development tools for developing embedded designs, including an advanced optimizing compiler, an assembler, a linker, utilities, and a variety of libraries, including floating-point emulation.

Besides operating with the most popular operating systems, CTOOLS also incorporates industry standards in all areas. CTOOLS conforms to ANSI Standard X3.159-1989 and passes the Plum Hall conformance and Perennial test suites. CTOOLS also conforms to the 80960 Application Binary Interface (ABI), enabling object code interoperability with third-party tools and debuggers. Compatibility with known standards makes new users productive immediately, and ensures access to existing application code.

CTOOLS can be used across all members of the i960° microprocessor family. Command line switches allow the compiler to take advantage of specific architectural features. For instance, in the case of the i960 Cx and Hx processors, the compiler uses advanced code scheduling algorithms to modify instruction sequences, taking advantage of the processor's parallel execution capability. The generated code is highly efficient, assuring maximum performance for your embedded applications.

PROVEN OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUES

Advanced optimization techniques are incorporated into Intel's CTOOLS compiler to offer customers superior performance while maintaining robust code. The compiler incorporates local, global, program-wide and profile-driven optimizations:

Processor-Independent Optimizations Including:

- Constant expression evaluation
- Constant propagation
- Collapsing of arithmetic and bitwise boolean identities
- Common subexpression elimination
- Register subsumption or register coalescing
- Local variable promotions
- Tail-call elimination
- Procedure inlining
- Branch optimizations
- Dead code elimination
- Loop invariant code motion
- Variable shadowing
- Superblock formation
- Basic block rearrangement



Processor-Dependent Optimizations Including:

- Specialized instruction selection
- An intelligent register manager
- Code scheduling
- Use of on-chip data RAM for spill registers
- Efficient use of complex addressing modes
- Branch prediction
- Generation of leaf procedures
- Memory access coalescing

WHOLE-PROGRAM AND PROFILE-DRIVEN OPTIMIZATIONS

CTOOLS also provides program-level optimizations, which allow optimizations such as function inlining to occur across source files. Changing the optimization level is as simple as changing an argument on the compiler's command line. Restructuring your build environment is no longer needed!

A runtime profile can be used to guide the whole-program optimization decisions. Such profile-driven optimizations combine a global view of the entire program with its typical runtime behavior, to produce highly optimized code.

Collecting a runtime profile is often an expensive procedure. With CTOOLS R5.0, once a runtime profile is collected, it can be used to guide optimizations after days, weeks or even months of changes to your source code. The profile is automatically interpolated to match the structure of your program.

COMPRESSION ASSISTED VIRTUAL EXECUTION (CAVE)

By storing non-critical functions in compressed form, CTOOLS can save valuable memory in your ROM-based application. When invoked, such functions are decompressed onto the runtime stack and executed. Upon function return, the stack space is automatically freed.

DEBUGGING OPTIMIZED CODE

The DWARF 2.0 symbolic debug information format supports expression of the complex relationships between your source program and its highly optimized object code. Debugging features such as breakpoints and displaying a variable's value behave more reliably with DWARF than with existing object file formats such as COFF and b.out, when your code is optimized. Optimized code debugging can often eliminate the expensive step of building an unoptimized version of your application for debugging purposes.

KEY FEATURES

- Improved Code Generation for the i960® RP, Jx and Hx Processor Families
- Easy-to-Use Whole-Program and Profile-Driven Optimizations
- Efficient Memory Use with Runtime Decompression of Compressed Object Code
- Debug of Optimized Code Using the ELF Object File Format with DW ARF 2.0 Symbolic Debug Records
- Conformance to the 80960 Tools Consortium's Application Binary Interface (ABI) Enhances Interoperability
- PCI Download and PCI Comm on DOS and Windows 95
- On-Line HTML Hypertext Documentation

- Compatible with GNU/960 R4.6 and CTOOLS960 R4.6
- Conforms to ANSI Standard X3.159-1989 and Passes Plum Hall Conformance and Perennial Tests
- Supports In-Line Assembly Code in C Source
- Includes IEEE-754 Compatible, High-Speed, Accelerated Floating-Point library for Components without On-Chip Floating-Point Instructions
- Supports Windows 95, DOS and Selected UNIX Hosts
- Source Code Supplied
- Annual Support Contracts Available

ASSEMBLER AND LINKER

The assembler processes assembly code produced by the compiler. The CTOOLS toolset offers other valuable utilities such as:

- Debugging aids: object file dumper and mapper
- An archiver to build libraries
- An object file stripper to eliminate debug records from the object module
- A COFF to IEEE-695 object file converter
- A big-endian to little-endian object file converter
- A ROM builder to produce ROMable code

The linker links together separately compiled modules, performing additional optimizations such as replacing calls by branch-and-link sequences. It reads the contents of a configuration file in order to map the application's code and data sections in memory and then link correct run-time libraries for the application. Linkage may be performed in interactive steps until the final link step, at which time all unresolved externals are satisfied.

DEBUGGER AND MONITOR

The gdb960 symbolic debugger and MON960 monitor are included in CTOOLS. The debugger is a full symbolic debugger, and operates with the MON960 monitor to allow setting of breakpoints, single-stepping, variable tracing, and many other capabilities.

LIBRARY SUPPORT

CTOOLS supports three library types:

- i960 architecture-specific high-level libraries
- IEEE-754 compatible accelerated floating-point libraries
- Low-level libraries supporting i960 processor evaluation boards

The CTOOLS linker configuration files hide the complexity of linking the correct libraries. All C libraries have been optimized and generated using the CTOOLS compiler. They are offered in normal code form, in position-independent form for use in applications relocatable at load time, and in big-endian form for applications that use i960 big-endian memory regions.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Annual software maintenance contracts are available from Intel. Contracts include free production upgrades, 1-800 technical support, FaxBack, BBS and guaranteed bug turnaround (once they have been identified). Intel also offers a 30-day, money-back guarantee to customers who are not satisfied after purchasing any Intel development tool.

HOST SYSTEMS SUPPORTED:

PC Compatible/DOS, Windows 95, HP9000/HP-UX, IBM RS6000/AIX, Sun-4

PROCESSORS SUPPORTED:

i960[®] Sx, Kx, Cx, Jx, RP, and Hx Processors

AVAILABILITY:

Now

CONTACT:

Local Distributor, Intel Sales Office or Intel Support at (800) 628-8686.

World Wide: call + 1 (503) 264-7354, 7-5:00, Mon-Wed & Fri; 7-3:00, Thur, All U.S. Pacific time.

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ORDERING INFORMATION:

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CTOOLSDOSKT PC Compatible/DOS — 3 1/2" diskettes & CD-ROM

CTOOLSUNXKT HP9000/HP-UX — 4mm

Sun-4/UNIX & IBM RS/6000/AIX — 8mm & QIC-24

i960® Microprocessor Literature

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i960 [®] Processor Product Line Card 2033 AP-704 A Simple DRAM	
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i960 [®] Processor Literature List 2115 Controller for the i960 [®] Cx Processor	
FaxBack Document List 2068 Using Flexlogic 272628	
i960 CA/CF 32-Bit Superscalar Microprosessor InfoCuido AP-706 DRAM Controller for the 40-MHz i960 CA/CF Microprocessor 272655	
Microprocessor information for the	
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DATA SHEETS EP80960CX Evaluation Platform 272505	
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Performance Superscalar Processor 272187 EV80960SX Evaluation Board User's Manual 270853	
80960KA Embedded 32-Bit Microprocessor 270775 EP80960CX Evaluation Platform User's Guide 272456	
80960KB Embedded 32-Bit 82596CA High-Performance 32-Bit Local Area	
Microprocessor with Integrated Network Coprocessor 290218	
Floating-Point Unit 270565	
80960SA Embedded 32-Bit MANUALS/DATABOOKS	
Microprocessor with 16-Bit Burst Data Bus 272206 i960® Jx Microprocessor User's Manual 272483	
80960SB Embedded 32-Bit i960° Cx Microprocessor User's Manual 270710	
Microprocessor with 16-Bit Burst Data Bus 272207 i960® KB Microprocessor Programmer's	
82961KD Printer Coprocessor 272221 Reference Manual 270567	
80960 Intelligent I/O Microprocessor 272737 i960* SA/SB Microprocessor Reference Manual 270929	
APPLICATION NOTES/APPLICATION BRIEFS 82961KD Printer Coprocessor	
i960 [®] Microprocessor Competitive Reference Manual 272280	
Benchmark Report 272392 2515 i960° Extended Architecture Programmer's	
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Microprocessor 272601 2359 i960® Processors and Related Products	
Imaging and the Intel i960 [®] Microprocessor 272602 2360 Databook 272084	
AB-42 80960Kx Self-Test 270703 i960® RP Microprocessor User's Manual 272736	
AP-506 Designing for 80960Cx and	
80960Hx Compatibility 272556	
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Intel Reference Numbers	
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