Collection and Organization of Facts Surrounding the History of Graphics Hardware



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Background:

- The CG hardware field is maturing
- Pioneers are retiring
- Records are becoming hard to find
- No comprehensive historical record
- Wikipedia
- Deep-but-narrow enthusiast sites
- Scattering of academic articles, textbook sections and course notes
- Uncollected specification sheets, press releases, buyer guides, industry talks such as Hot3D, news articles and contemporaneous reviews/analysis

Short Term Project Goals:

- Create a reliable and open repository
- Publicly available
- Searchable
- Every fact attributed to a citation
- Shallow but comprehensive coverage of
- All companies/research labs
 - Year founded, merger and acquisitions, bankruptcies, etc.
- All products/projects
- Release date, price, specifications such as memory bandwidth, etc.

Short Term Deliverables:

- The public searchable database
- Frequently required data products
- Charts and tables
- Ex: Memory bandwidth vs. Year
- Reliable and continually updated
- Family tree of companies and labs

Goal: A reliable and open access database of basic facts, with citations, surrounding the history of computer graphics hardware.

Long Term Goals:

- Extend the database
- Hold technical information about architectures and implementations
- Identify specific trends and issues and gather in-depth information on exemplar machines
- Concurrency
- Parallelism
- Bandwidth
- Use the database and in-depth research as a basis for rigorous academic historical publications

The Current Team:

- Two undergraduate CS majors
- First year and sophomore
- Faculty Advisor
- Library Liaison



How You Can Help?

- Volunteer to answer questions about companies/labs you have worked for
- Provide hard to acquire sources



