

H Y D R I X

Delivering excellence from practical innovation

Project Qonos

HYDRIX PRODUCTS & SERVICES



Qonos could be described as any one of the following:

- scientific PDA
- next generation graphical calculator
- pocket computer
- data capture and entry terminal

Which description you apply depends on how you weight the value of the pletheror of functionality that is within the scope of the Qonos project.

Project Qonos

Background

In the past few years a number of major technology companies have re-focused their operations on core businesses such as PCs and printers. As a result these organizations have significantly cut or even eliminated research and development spending on software and hardware for a number of handheld devices such as sophisticated calculators.

The market for calculators is enormous as it covers a number of sectors including science, finance, engineering and education. These sectors still purchase devices that were first designed and manufactured up to ten years ago. The unit cost of these products is very low but the retail value is high making it one of the most lucrative segments of the technology market. Educational market has been estimated to over \$8 billions per year

Scientific PDA

In a world where business focused devices are the focus of the dominant handheld device manufacturers Qonos is a refocus of the PDA format to be a better fit with scientific professionals. It is envisioned that the inclusion of both PDA and calculator keypads, touch sensitive screen and ability to morph from HP to TI to Linux will make it the first choice for scientific professionals the world over.

Next Generation Graphical Calculator

The current crop of graphical calculators are essentially very similar to what they were 14 years ago. Qonos promises a significant leap in power and flexibility to the graphical calculator power user. In contrast Qonos will provide emulation of two powerful graphical calculator series, the TI89 and the HP48/49G as well as standard PDA functions (Address book, agenda, calendar, note-taking etc).

With an Xscale processor and one month battery life Qonos will clearly represent a significant leap in hardware architecture for graphic calculators. Hydrix expects it will appeal to scientific professionals who will prefer the

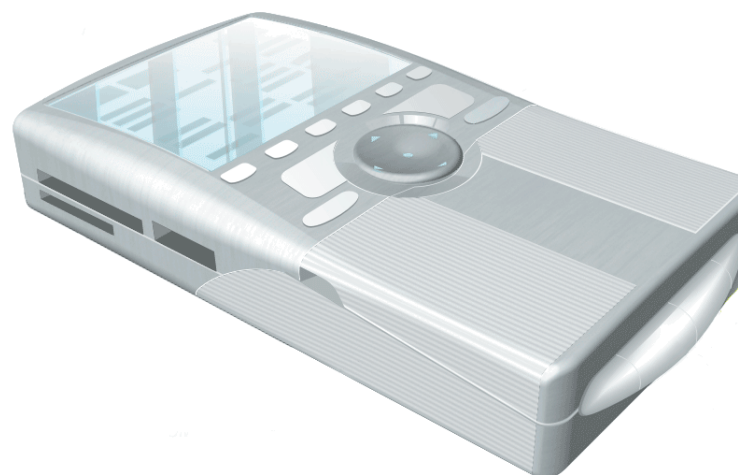
convenience of a single device for both calculator and PDA functionality.

Pocket Computer

The advent of Megaflop low power consumption processors has dawned the age of a handheld device with the power of a low-end laptop. Qonos includes a power management component which enables switching from calculator to computer modes - effectively switching to processor speed and DRAM access through software. The system will provide two main power consumption modes:

- Linux mode
- Calculator mode (low power consumption mode)

In Linux mode users can run Linux applications just as they would on a standard desktop computer. It is likely that pocket computers will herald a number of new uses for hand held devices. What those uses are at this point is open to conjecture.



Data Capture & Entry Terminal

There are many situations where a device is required to be both highly portable and enable accurate high-speed data entry. Qonos includes a positive click keypad action to increase the usability of the device to users who need to be looking somewhere else as they enter data. Also we have included in the specification pips (small bumps) on specific keys to enable touch alignment of fingers on the keypad.

The keypad can be altered at a pre-manufacture stage to aid in the quick development of devices for specific uses. Such a specific device could include a wireless payment gateway or a biometric verification terminal.

Qonos also provides links to the real world with the ability to capture data through it's Vernia probe interface. When attached to the Qonos Sled is capable of capturing and processing 4 analog input (8 I/O) and 4 digital or sonic input (16 I/O) with resolution equal to or greater than both CBL and LabPro.

This feature makes Qonos an excellent choice for higher education markets where vernier probes are used extensively to measure experiments. It is likely to further enhance this capability the Qonos Sled will ship with an experiment kit which will include both probes and software.

Melbourne

Jean-Yves Avenard
+61 (0)3 9509 3724



Hydrix Pty Ltd

<http://www.hydrix.com>

© 2004 Hydrix Pty Ltd. All Rights Reserved.
Hydrix is a registered trademark.

This communication provides general information current as at the time of production.

It is not intended that the information provide advice and should not be relied on as such. Professional advice should be sought prior to actions on any of the information contained herein.