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Radius Multimedia Products: Support for Apple QuickTime

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TOPIC -----

Radius, Inc. is upgrading RadiusTV and ImpressIt to take advantage of the new features in QuickTime. QuickTime provides a standard architecture and interface for multimedia hardware and software applications on the Macintosh. QuickTime compatibility allows integration of Radius multimedia products with QuickTime-compatible hardware and software products from other vendors, increasing the range of multimedia options available.

DISCUSSION -----

Radius has rewritten the software for RadiusTV and ImpressIt to take advantage of QuickTime features, including:

- A time-management control system for synchronizing data
- Interface guidelines for hardware products
- Drivers for multimedia peripherals such as CD-ROM drives
- Built-in video editing

By supporting QuickTime, RadiusTV will be compatible with all other QuickTime compatible multimedia software applications. Previously, software applications required a special driver for compatibility with RadiusTV. Now, an application software developer can write a single QuickTime-compatible driver for a program to obtain compatibility with all QuickTime compatible multimedia hardware products like RadiusTV.

ImpressIt, Radius' still-image compression software, has been designed to integrate seamlessly with QuickTime. Users may elect to have ImpressIt automatically compress images when saved to a hard disk, rendering the entire compression process transparent.

RadiusTV

RadiusTV is a multimedia hardware and software platform that blends an array of audio and visual sources on the computer. RadiusTV features a video processing engine and an external audio-video input processor and television tuner -- to bring television functionality into the Macintosh environment.

RadiusTV is capable of displaying and digitizing live 16-bit video images in real-time (30 frames/sec) in a resizable window of up to 640 x 480 pixels. RadiusTV also digitizes sound in real time and provides access to information included in the television signal's vertical retrace interval (such as closed captions and calibration settings), making complete Macintosh control and processing possible. RadiusTV also includes Theatrics, a software package that allows image processing on captured images.

ImpressIt

ImpressIt is a Macintosh software compression product for color and grayscale still images. The fastest software solution available today, ImpressIt can compress images by up to 100 times. ImpressIt is based on the JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) standard. A 24-bit 750K color image can be compressed to 25K in under 3 seconds when run on a Macintosh IIIfx.

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