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Hynix Unveils Ultra-Fast Memory for Mobile Computing

The chips can reach 800 Mbps at just 1.2 volts

Memory manufacturer Hynix Semiconductor has just revealed another memory chip targeted at mobile applications, with lower power requirements and faster data transfer rates. The company is currently placed second on the memory market, right after Samsung Electronics, and the new chips could bring Hynix increased market share on a crumbling sector. "We will increase production of the energy efficient chips in the fourth quarter of this year to meet growing demand for flat-panel television sets and high-end handheld devices," Hynix spokesperson Park Seong-ae said. The new memory offering comes as 1-Gigabit LPDDR2 (low-power double-data-rate 2) chips, manufactured using the 66-nanometer processing node at Hynix's semiconductor facilities. According to the company, the LPDDR2 chips can deliver maximum operating speeds of 800 megabits per second, at an extremely low voltage (1.2 volts). Low-power consumption is a key factor in mobile computing, that relies on the battery lifespan. At the moment, there is little progress in increasing the battery life, and the only viable alternative is to lower the hardware parts' power requirements. The new memory modules are alleged to replace the conventional notebook memory, currently working at 1.5 volts. "It is designed to meet the needs of a wide range of mobile applications which demand high memory density and fast operating speed features," Park said. Hynix was severely affected by the oversupply in DRAM chips on the memory market. The addition of the new memory chip to the company's portfolio is alleged to triple the company's share of DRAM chips for mobile applications, from the current 7 percent to about 21 percent.