

Contact: Wm E (Bill) Davis
Xi Graphics, Inc.
1-800-946-7433
bill.davis@xig.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 17, 2002

Gnome2 Certified With Accelerated-X™ Summit v2.2 Linux Graphics Drivers
Xi Graphics' certification included anti-aliased font performance comparisons

DENVER ---- Xi Graphics, Inc. announced today that it had certified its commercial Accelerated-X™ OpenGL Summit v2.2 Linux graphics drivers and X servers with the Gnome2 desktop, including the use by Gnome2 of the RENDER extension in X Window System to produce anti-aliased fonts and icons. Gnome2 is an open source freeware Graphical User Interface ("GUI") for Linux that has enjoyed significant backing by a number of computer companies such as IBM, Sun Microsystems, HP and others.

The font drawing performance of Xi Graphics' commercial X Window System products which are licensed under the Accelerated-X brand of graphics support software, was compared to that of the XFree86™ v4.2.0 implementation of the X Window System, both running Gnome2 and using the X server RENDER extension for font and icon anti-aliasing. Although Accelerated-X has always had superior performance compared to the XFree86 implementation X Window System, the performance differences were so startling in this case that Xi Graphics' developers contacted the author of the XFree86 RENDER extension to confirm the data for XFree86.

In a comparison using the industry standard x11perf test 'aaftext', RedHat 8.0, 1.8 GHz P4 platform, Accelerated-X was up to 60 times faster (that's 5,900% faster) than XFree86.

Accelerated-X can take advantage of anti-aliasing features on RADEON, Matrox® and Intel® hardware, while the only open source graphics platform for which XFree86 has hardware acceleration for RENDER is Matrox.

(in characters per second)

RADEON 8500

XFree86 v4.2.0	36,100
Accelerated-X Summit v2.2	2,170,000

RADEON VE

XFree86 v4.2.0	36,000
Accelerated-X Summit v2.2	1,430,000

Matrox G450

XFree86 v4.2.0	442,000
Accelerated-X Summit v2.2	1,230,000

XFree86 implemented its RENDER extension about two years ago and has also supported the Matrox graphics hardware for several years. Xi Graphics began development of the its implementation of the RENDER extension six weeks ago, again "from the ground up." With all the hundreds of contributors to the XFree86 open source effort over the last few years, and with results such as that outlined here, might one question the benefits of the "Open Source Model" when it is applied to complex and fast moving graphics system software?

About Xi Graphics, Inc.

Xi Graphics, Inc. has developed commercial accelerated graphics drivers and X servers for the X Window System on Linux and UNIX[®] systems since 1994. For information on the Company, and its products, visit their Web site www.xig.com.

Linux is a trademark of Linus Torvalds. All other trademarks are property of their respective owners.