

# the wonderful world of sgi

Dated, you say? Well, the CPU specs don't look too spectacular at first sight, but keep in mind: we're talking 64 bit here! And while the Intel/Apple world is just now closing in on this technology, SGI has been doing this sort of thing for nearly a decade now. Ok, they're a tad pricey, but...sexy!

The first machine is called **Fuel** and represents the low end of the SGI desktop range.

**CPU:** Single MIPS® 64-Bit R14000A Processor, 500 MHz with 2MB L2 cache or 600 MHz with 4MB L2 cache; 200 MHz frontside bus.

**RAM:** 512MB-4GB DDR SDRAM.

Price: starts at **\$11.495**.



Next comes the **Octane2**. This is the machine that is used to run Discreet's **Flame**...

**CPU:** Single or dual MIPS 64-Bit R12000A™ 400MHz, R14000A™ 550MHz or 600MHz 2MB L2 cache.

**RAM:** 256MB-8GB DDR SDRAM

Takes off at **\$17.495** (incl. 21" Monitor - dig that!)



The third machine is still brandnew and goes by the name of **Tezro**. Next-generation graphics-power for your desktop...

**CPU:** 1, 2 or 4 MIPS RISC 64-Bit R16000™ 700 MHz (Tower and Rackmount), 1 or 2 MIPS RISC 64-bit R16000 600 MHz (tower), 4MB L2 cache.

**RAM:** 512MB-8GB DDR SDRAM (Tower), or 16GB DDR SDRAM (Rackmount).

This will set you back at least **\$20.495**.



Ok. This was the desktop range...  
Now comes the fancy stuff.

The **Onyx 3000** series!

Hard to find word for this beast...hmm...er...well...

Ok. First things first: you don't need a desk for this one!

It's really not so easy to go on, as this system is extremely scalable:

**CPU:** 4-128 MIPS 64-Bit R16000 Processors

**RAM:** 512MB-32GB DDR SDRAM

**Graphics pipes:** 1-16 InfiniteReality or 1-8 InfinitePerformance

This friggin' monster is able to pump up to **198GB per second** through it's memory!

And there is no question that you'll only use high-speed fibre channel drives with it. Lots of them.

This is the machine that comes with Discreet's **Inferno** system (Onyx 3200). The pricetag for Inferno 8 starts somewhere around \$570.000. Ouch!



At least your workplace will always be comfy and warm, and you get a funky design, too.

All this goes to show that the era of the supercomputers has only just begun - and that I need to win the bloody lottery...

**Amen!**

Mario

