Low Profile Heat Sink Cooling Technologies

for Next Generation CPU Thermal Designs

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Overview

- Introduction
- Performance of Optimized All-Metallic Heat Sink Design
- Embedded Heat Pipe Heat Sink
- Vapor Chamber Heat Sink
- Oscillating Heat Pipe Heat Sink
- Thermal Performance Results
- Summary

Introduction

• Critical Design Criteria

Power : 150 watts

Sink-Air Thermal Resistance: 0.18 C/W

Pressure Loss & Flowrate : 0.17" H2O, 35 cfm

Heat Input Area: 16 mm x 16 mm

Frontal Area : 50 mm tall x 114 mm wide (vertical board)

Allowable Mass: 680 grams

• All-Metallic Heat Sink Design?

All-Mettalic Heat Sink Performance

• Optimized Metal Heat Sink Design

Copper Base with Idealized attached Aluminum Fins Base Dimensions: 4 mm thick x 100 mm flow length Fin design: Plane, Continuos 0.28 mm thick x 46 mm tall x 70 fins

- Sink-Air Resistance Requirement: 0.18 C/W
- Thermal Resistance for Metal H/S: 0.26 C/W =>
- Coolable Power would be reduced by 23 watts
 =>
- CPU Speed would be Reduced by 15%



Embedded Heat Pipe Prototype -Aavid Thermalloy



3-Dimensional Heat Pipe Base -Vapor Chamber



Exploded View of Vapor Chamber



Comparison of Vapor Chamber Base and Aluminum Base Thermal Profiles



Vapor Chamber Base Prototype -Thermacore



Oscillating Heat Pipe Heat Sink



3-Dimensional Heat Spreading -Oscillating Heat Pipe



Oscillating Heat Pipe Prototype -TS Heatronics



Wind Tunnel



Predicted & Measured Sink-Air Thermal Resistances



Summary

- Heat Sink with Internal Fluid Phase change required to meet thermal specification (0.18 C/W)
- 15% reduction in CPU electrical performance if an optimized all-metal design was utilized
- Only 4 Suppliers were are able to meet the spec requirements (remaining suppliers also utilized "similar" fluid phase change approaches)
- CPU power levels are increasing, requiring increased fin area to meet coolable power requirements

Use of Fluid is Here to Stay!!