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Thread: Monarch Information

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02-05-2014, 11:37 AM	#11
 <p>BFL_Josh Employee Blog Entries: 13</p>	<p><u>05 February 2014 Monarch Update</u></p> <p>Most subsystems (State, IO, frequency control, counters, etc) on the chip have been tested and passed. The engine tests are still ongoing. The test software was returning unexpected results which turned out to be a bug in the testing software and has been (and is being) rewritten from scratch, so testing of the engines is taking a little longer than expected. The current estimation is that we should be done testing the chip in the next few days. In the</p>

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meantime, the packaged chips should be on their way to the testing facility, though I don't yet have tracking numbers or confirmation of this. I will be working on getting that today or tomorrow hopefully.

Once the packaged chips arrive at the testing facility, they will wire it up to the test harness and start conducting the full power tests to see just how far we might be able to push the chips and what their real world power consumption is.

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02-18-2014, 02:11 AM

#12

BFL_Josh

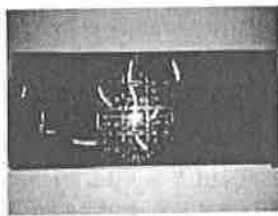


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18 February 2014 Monarch Update



Chip testing is still in process. There is currently no reports of problems with the chip bring up, but it's been hampered by the wire bonding being a severely limiting factor in being able to adequately test the chip.

To that end, the finished/packaged chips have been delivered to the testing facility this evening. Testing of the fully packaged chips is projected to begin on Wednesday the 19th. This should make testing both easier, faster and more accurate. It will ultimately give us the initial maximum hashrate and power draw of the chips. This process could take anywhere from 1 day to a week or more - until testing is started, its hard to say what is required to finish the testing. If everything works first time around, then it doesn't take long. If there are things that need to be examined closer, it can cause the testing to take longer.

I will update again when there is a change in status.

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03-05-2014, 02:46 AM

#13


BFL_Josh

Employee



Blog Entries: 13
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04 March 2014 - Monarch Update

Power & Performance better than expected

The initial power consumption numbers for Monarch are in and they're about 20% better than anticipated, meaning we expect the Monarch to consume 0.45W/GH at the chip level. This translates to about 300W per 600GH at the wall. Chip performance of all systems is as good as or better than predicted. To put this in perspective, this makes the Monarch chip nearly twice as power efficient as compared to our 28nm competition whose products operate between 0.9 and 1.0w per GH at the wall.

Chip Delay

The initial batch that we currently have in hand is not suitable to ship to customers. This is due to a problem in a top metal layer of the chip that prevents some engines from initializing when the chip is first powered on. (With ASIC design, there are a number of layers to a chip; most of those layers are in silicon, but the last few layers are in a special type of metal. Subsequent batches were held in wait just prior to the metal layers so that we could affect any necessary changes and proceed with chip production from that point, drastically reducing the time it takes to bring a new batch of chips to life.) The problem was positively identified and the fix is already in progress; however it will take approximately 5 weeks before we get packaged chips in hand, meaning the deployment of the Monarch will be delayed about 5 weeks from now. The specific date is still being determined, but I wanted to get an update out as soon as possible.

Refunds & Delay Compensation

Because of the delay, we're offering several different forms of compensation that vary based on order pricing and order date:

\$4680 600GH Monarchs

Free performance upgrades

All customers who ordered 600GH Monarchs prior to the price decrease on November 28, 2013 will be upgraded to the Imperial Monarch product, which is a new, high performance version of the card. The Imperial Monarch will operate at 1 TH/s (+ / - 20%).

Six Month Refund or Double Shipment Guarantee

If you've been waiting in queue for six months or more, you qualify for either a full refund in USD, **OR** double the hardware you ordered. This latter option will come in the form of (a) first shipping you the new Imperial Monarch, giving you an expected 160-175% of your ordered hashrate, and then (b) an additional Standard 600 GH Monarch at the end of the queue, giving you another 100% hashrate boost, totaling an expected 250+% of your ordered hashrate once all products have shipped. (Note: Electing the refund

cancels the Imperial Monarch upgrade offer in the first section above.)

50% off Voucher

If your paid order is less than 6 months old but you paid \$4680 for your Monarch, you will instead receive an Imperial Monarch as described above, as well as a 50% off discount on an additional Standard Monarch at the end of the queue.

Full Price 300GH Monarchs

For 300GH Monarch orders, similar but slightly different offers will be extended. Customers will be contacted with specifics via email soon.

Mining By the GigaHash

If your Mining By the GH paid order is more than 6 months old, you will receive 2x the hashrate purchased.

Reduced Price Orders

Individual orders that are less than 6 months old and that paid for the reduced price 600GH or 300GH Monarch will likely not be delayed past the expected delivery date.

. Details specific to each of the above order categories will be communicated to eligible customers via email in the next few days. We hope everyone will remain in the order queue and take delivery of these extremely power-efficient, super-fast miners. But, cognizant of the feedback of our earlier 65nm customers, for those qualified buyers who desire a refund we will gladly issue you one.

Refunds will be issued in 30 to 45 days from the date of request of refund. Refunds will be in USD.

Last edited by BFL_Josh; 03-05-2014 at 02:11 PM.

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04-19-2014, 07:39 PM

#14

 BFL_Josh 

Employee



Blog Entries: 13

19 April 2014 - Monarch Update

The revision 2 (or revision B) chips have arrived at our testing facility in California. They are being tested today and tomorrow and will arrive in Chicago on Monday, where they will be mounted on the new boards and sent to our office for final review. We expect a few days of initial testing and bring up/firmware tweaking, since we have not been able to actually do live firmware tests yet on a board, after that,

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assuming no issues, we will begin the initial shipping. While it is possible we will begin shipping limited quantities by the end of the week of the 21st, it's more likely we will begin shipping the following week, assuming no blocking issues arise.

I will post another update as soon as I hear back from the testing facility with regards to the chips and how they are functioning.

04-30-2014, 03:28 PM

#15

BFL_Josh

Employee



Blog Entries: 13

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The current update and future updates for all product lines will be found here: https://forums.butterflylabs.com/blogs/bfl_josh/

This applies to all products going forward.

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