CATALYST™ Version 02.2 Web Posting Release Notes

What is CATALYST™ Version 02.2?

CATALYST 02.2 is the second posting of ATI's CATALYST software suite. The unified driver has been further enhanced for improved stability, features and performance. Furthermore a new update to Multimedia Center is included.

Operating Systems Supported:

The CATALYST™ Version 02.2 display driver is designed to support the following Microsoft Windows platforms:

- Windows XP
- Windows 2000
- Windows Millennium Edition (ME)
- Windows 98 and Windows 98SE (through the Windows ME driver)

Features of ATI CATALYST™ Version 02.2

OpenGL Performance Boosts:

CATALYST 02.2 provides significant performance improvements in OpenGL games across the entire RADEON product line, especially at high resolutions.

Up to 25% improvement in Quake III (1600x1200, Max Quality)
Up to 35% improvement in Return to Castle Wolfenstein (1600x1200, High Quality)
Up to 50% improvement in Serious Sam: The Second Encounter (1600x1200, Extreme Quality)

Microsoft XP Service Pack 1 Ready:

These drivers as part of the CATALYST software suite are the first to market, which have been designed for Microsoft XP Service Pack 1 (to be released by Microsoft at a future date). CATALYST 02.2 has been optimized for maximum stability and compatibility with Service Pack 1. ATI recommends all users of Windows XP and Service Pack 1 to download and install CATALYST Version 02.2

Newest member of the RADEON family:

These drivers now fully support the newest members of the ATI RADEON family:

RADEON 9000 Pro
RADEON 9000

CATALYST CREW Feedback Program

This is the first driver release to have incorporated suggestions through the CATALYST CREW feedback program. Please refer to http://apps.ati.com/driverfeedback/ and provide us further feedback.

Issues Resolved in CATALYST™ Version 02.2

This section provides a brief description of the issues that are resolved with CATALYST™ version 02.2.

- Installing multiple adapters in one system, results in only one set of ATI Direct3D/Open GL tabs being displayed in Windows Display Properties.
- ATI Open GL Control Panel – resolved a condition in which some settings were not properly saved.
- ATI Direct 3D Control Panel – resolved a condition in which some settings were not properly saved.
- Flight Simulator 2002 – Resolved an issue with task switching (ALT+ TAB to desktop and ALT+ TAB back to game) that was previously causing corruption in the game.
- Grand Theft Auto III – fog is now displayed correctly.
- ATI OpenGL "Performance" and "Quality" settings – As promised in the FAQ on ATI's website in regards to the previous Catalyst (02.1), the OpenGL "High Performance" and "Optimal Performance" options are now implemented in Catalyst 02.2. These settings are accessible through the ATI OpenGL Control Panel. The "Texture Preference" slider (in the "Custom Setting" area) is also enabled. Further enhancements are planned for the next CATALYST release.

Feature Improvements

The latest ATI display driver provides users with a stable, user-friendly, and flexible software experience. From supporting the latest 3D architecture and features, to full multimedia acceleration and DVD playback: The latest ATI display driver will provide users with the ultimate in graphics acceleration.

Direct 3D API graphics acceleration support

Direct 3D acceleration includes support of all the latest features found in the Direct 3D specification. This allows CATALYST to accelerate the latest amazing 3D graphics effects found in the most popular games.

OpenGL API graphics acceleration support

OpenGL acceleration includes support of all the latest features found in the OpenGL specification. This allows CATALYST to accelerate the latest amazing 3D graphics effects found in the most popular games.

Amazing Performance

The latest ATI control panel for both D3D and OpenGL provide users with the ability to select a high performance user experience by enabling "High Performance" textures, and "High Performance" mipmap detail levels.

TRUFORM™

ATI presents TRUFORM™, the revolution of graphic technology. TRUFORM™, a new technology developed by ATI, overcomes traditional memory and bandwidth problems to deliver the smoothest and most realistic images ever seen on a PC. Pre-processes 3D artwork being fed into the graphics accelerator by converting it from flat triangle data into curved surface data, allowing much more highly detailed and realistically lit images with virtually no performance loss.

SMARTSHADER™

SMARTSHADER™, a new technology developed by ATI, represents a new generation of visual effects for your personal computer. With SMARTSHADER™, game developers will be able to create impressive, life-like worlds by modeling the surface and material qualities of 3D objects with an unparalleled level of realism.

This technology revolutionizes the graphics pipeline by making both the geometry processing and pixel processing stages more programmable than ever before, and allowing developers to easily create amazing new graphics effects while maintaining a high level of performance.

SMOOTHVISION™

SMOOTHVISION supports a High-Performance anti-aliasing mode and a High-Quality anti-aliasing mode. Both of these modes give users the ability to choose between 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, and 6x sampling, allowing for a total of 10 different anti-aliasing settings.
This allows users to quite easily select both the desired level of visual quality and the corresponding performance level.

Anisotropic Filtering

Improves image quality by blending multiple texture samples together, resulting in 3D scenes that are crisp and detailed. The number of samples used can be: 2, 4, 8, or 16. 16X Anisotropic Filtering provides the ultimate in texture fidelity and detail, while maintaining an incredible level of performance.

SMARTGART™

ATI's proprietary diagnostic tool to determine the most stable AGP setting, making the most stable drivers in the industry even more stable.
SMARTGART™ automatically tests the AGP compatibility upon the initialization of the display driver, and dynamically determines the proper AGP bus speed based on the results of the test. If a new AGP setting is required and the system must reboot, the driver will automatically set the new bus speed on the next reboot. The diagnostic tests will only be run on the system when the driver is installed for the first time, or when the system configuration is changed.