lower cost Durons are also down: The 1.1GHz chip now costs $89, down from $103.

The price war, weak demand and dismal PC sales have devastated Intel and AMD results this year. Intel reported a 77 percent reduction in third-quarter profits and AMD posted its first quarterly loss in three years.

Feds OK Baltimore's SA

SYDNEY — The federal government has included SelectAccess from **Baltimore Technologies** on its evaluated products list. Baltimore says SelectAccess is the only authorisation management product on the EPL.

Product manager **Martin Creighan** says the listing is the first step in obtaining accreditation to common criteria evaluated assurance level 2, or EAL2, which is recognised in New Zealand, UK, US and Canada.

McAfee 'hoes a tough road'

SYDNEY — **McAfee** says its latest anti-virus distribution and management tool, ePolicy Orchestrator 2.5, can manage both McAfee and **Symantec** desktop and server anti-virus.

The management tool is scalable to 250,000 desktops from a single server. It includes cross-vendor anti-virus management, detailed cross-vendor graphical reporting and rapid software deployment.

Getting his metaphors a bit mixed, **Allan Bell**, senior marketing manager, describes the task as "a tough road to hoe".

McAfee ePolicy Orchestrator 2.5 is available as a stand-alone and as the central console for the McAfee active virus defence suite. It costs $78 (for 1001 + nodes on a two-year licence).

Jobbing will come good, says IDC

SYDNEY — As **Solectron** closes down Wangaratta, **IDC** sees brightness on the horizon for the contract manufacturing industry – down the track. IDC reckons global contract manufacturing services (CMS) revenue reached $22 billion in the second quarter of 2001, showing flat growth year-over-year.

The CMS industry will continue to slow this quarter to $20 billion revenue; however, the long-term forecast remains optimistic — at more than $230 billion by 2005.

Solectron remained the dominant player in the last quarter with 21 percent of industry revenue. **Flextronics** and **Celestica** followed with 12 percent and 10 percent market share, respectively.

The merger of **SCI** and **Sanmina** will change competitive forces among the top five as the new, single entity will capture significant market share.

IDC's **Kevin Kane**, who tracks CMS, moves to vertical and virtual integration will allow the CM vendor to further penetrate the product development cycle and, ultimately, strengthen the relationship between the CM vendors and the branded system suppliers.

Stallion is hot to trot over networks

BRISBANE — Australian data networking vendor **Stallion Technologies** has announced Multilink IP, to bundle

multiple connections into a single virtual connection to increase bandwidth, regardless of the connection type or the intervening network service, carrying broadband and wideband access to the last mile. ML-IP, it says, does not rely on any carrier protocols, but is complementary.

ML-IP has been under development for three years and was first deployed in Stallion's ePipe range of Internet and VPN gateways and concentrators in 1999.

ML-IP differs from other multilink technologies such as Multilink Frame Relay, Multilink PPP and Inverse Multiplexing over ATM (IMA) because it will operate across any service with IP access points. Because it is independent of and transparent to any intervening network infrastructure, it offers full interoperability with service providers.

ML-IP works across PSTN, ISDN, ADSL, Frame Relay, SHDSL, T3/T1, ATM and satellite. It also allows bandwidth to be scaled incrementally.

Cisco chases IP telephony

SYDNEY — Picking itself up from a devastating sales plunge, **Cisco Systems** announced 12 IP telephone products that open up the use of cost-cutting communications for small businesses and branch offices.

The products new products combine hardware and software, Cisco said. The software includes CallManager 3.2, Emergency Responder, Media Gateway Control Protocol and the IP Contact Center bundle.

New hardware products include the VG 248 voice analog gateway, which continues to use traditional analog phones, faxes and PBX equipment until all IP digital equipment is installed.

Cisco also announced the Catalyst 4200 switch for branch offices that uses converged IP voice, video and data routing and switching functions through a single two-rack unit box.

EMC girds to steal rivals' business

NEW YORK — **EMC** says its new software will run on rival machines as part of its fight in a hardware pricing