Power Up!

HIS Radeon HD 4830 512MB GDDR3











Just when you thought the HD 4300, HD 4500 HD 4600 series were sufficiently spaced out to cover the whole graphics spectrum; AMD ATI decides to throw a curveball at increasingly confused consumers with the newest member to the very established 4800 series - the Radeon HD 4830.

Positioned at the entry point to the HD 4800 series, the HD 4830 offers a slightly cut-down specification than its bigger brother with a core clock speed of 575MHz and memory clock speed of 1800MHz. Stream processors are further reduced to 640 while its GDDR3 memory is available in 256- and 512MB configurations.

Our HIS Radeon HD 4830 review unit follows the ATI reference card specification running with 512MB of memory. While the card does indeed feature a single slot design, the humongous fansink (even bigger than the HD 4670 design reviewed this issue) occupies enough space to qualify as a double slot card. As is the norm, the rear panel uses the standard two dual DVI-I ports and a single S-Video port. The card is built on a nice blue PCB and is suitably long, with CrossFire X support. The card would've been really light were it not for the oversized fansink.

The HIS Radeon HD 4830 delivers pretty close performance to the HD 4850 with its 3DMark06 score of 11197 and 3DMark Vantage score of P5743. This places it nicely in the region of the NVIDIA 9600 GT series for non-DirectX 10 titles and closer to the 9800 GTs for DX10 games. With Quake 4, the HD 4830 garnered a respectable 70.1 FPS. In Company of Heroes, the card delivered a positively high score of 50.1 FPS. We then moved over to Crysis, and started our test with settings on High at SXGA resolution with 8x AA and it delivered a surprising performance with an average 35.45 FPS.

Next, we took the game to Very High at 2x AA and it ran pretty well too, with a score of 23.54 FPS. We then tried to push for more AA but the game would start to lag considerably to be deemed playable. Other than that, we find the card truly runs well, giving us exceptional Crysis performance for its price!

The card ran slightly warm throughout our tests but at a generally quiet noise level. However, the HIS Radeon HD 4830 does skimp on the bundled goods, as is common practice with entry level cards. All you'll get is an installation guide, driver CD and DVI-to-VGA adaptor. Those wishing to use the HD 4830 in a CrossFire X

Performance Test Results: Average Frame Rate: 50.1 fps Maximum Frame Rate: 62.5 fps Minimum Frame Rate: 28.1 fps setup will have to source the cable elsewhere.

After spending some time with the card, we found the HIS Radeon HD 4830 a true performer packaged in a slim, single-slot graphic card. While the fansink may take up additional space in your casing, the gaming performance you'll be able to squeeze out of this card should make this a nonissue on top of its attractive price point.

SPECIFICATIONS



Model: HIS Radeon HD 4830

Core: 575MHz

Memory: 1800MHz (2x 900MHz)

DirectX Support: 8 and below, 9.0a (Shader Model 1), 9.0b (Shader Model 2), 9.0c (Shader Model 3 / HDR), 10 (Unified Shader Model 4 / Vista), 10.1 (Unified Shader Model 3 / HDR), 10 (Unified Shader Model 4 / Vista), 10.1 (Unified Shader Model 3 / HDR), 10 (Unified Shader Model 4 / Vista), 10.1 (Unified Shader Model 3 / HDR), 10 (Unified Shader Model 4 / Vista), 10.1 (Unified Shader Model 3 / HDR), 10 (Unified Shader Model 4 / Vista), 10.1 (Unified Shader Model 3 / HDR), 10 (Unified Shader Model 4 / Vista), 10.1 (Unified Shader Model 3 / HDR), 10 (Unified Shader Model 4 / Vista), 10.1 (Unified S

Model 4 1 / Vista SP1) I/Os: 2x DVI-I, 1x S-Video Cooling System: Fan / Single-Layer PSU Required : 450W, 6-pin Single Warranty: Two-years Contact: Ban Leong Technologies Sdn Bhd Telephone: (03) 7956 6300 URL: www.hisdigital.com

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HWM'S VERDICT

Features: 8.5 Performance: 8.5 Value: 8.5



Out of 10

HIS brings forth a powerful single slot performer for ATI gamers

