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Subpixel trick covers up dead pixels

Posted Aug 12, 2005, 1:30 PM ET by Ryan Block

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Using the same kind of visual trickery that makes ClearType text look a little better to some (and blurrier, if you ask us), Belgian firm Barco has discovered a way to get dead pixels on displays (such as LCD, plasma, OLED, etc.) to look alive by blending them in with nearby subpixels. Whereas this probably wouldn't work at all from up close, this could feasibly work decently well in the living room when you're not jammed up close to your display. Let's just hope the manufacturers don't find out about this and start lowering QC and sending back out all those reject panels with a few too many deadies. [Warning, PDF link]



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1. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 1:57 PM ET by me

And who was the smart one of not adding a story link? :D

2. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 2:00 PM ET by yotaku

If cleartype makes your text blurry, then you should tune it for your monitor and eyes. Different monitors have different size pixels, (and sometimes even color order) and everyone has different sensitivities to different wavelengths of light. So you should always tune cleartype for you own use.

<http://www.microsoft.com/typography/ClearTypePowerToy.msp>

3. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 2:06 PM ET by Martin

So if it is something you should "always do," why the hell is it a download? Shouldn't it be a wizard when you select "cleartype"?

4. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 2:34 PM ET by sean

Martin: Everything you do involved with Windows is built-in and doesn't require downloading? Awesome.

5. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 2:56 PM ET by Martin

If you turn something on, you expect it to work. What is the point of having an option that doesn't do what it is supposed to until it is configured properly, and only being able to configure it through a downloadable tool, and not being informed of said tool? I could understand "cleartype" being an addon, that you then configure it. But just having it as an option to turn on, but no way to make it work without downloading something else is just



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plain stupid.

6. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 3:34 PM ET by Cullen

fucking a martin. cleartype is garbage, the download is stupid, too. i honestly dont tihnk it helps at all, seeing as i ahve multiple monitor, and as was said, theyre different. but i cant tune it per monitor, so fuck it. looks like shit anyways.

7. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 4:07 PM ET by Ty

Hmm, wonder if this will work on my PSP...Anyone konw?

8. Posted Aug 12, 2005, 4:08 PM ET by Ty

Hmm, wonder if this will work on my PSP...Anyone konw?

9. Posted Aug 13, 2005, 8:55 AM ET by Maximus Idious

I call BS on this one, I thought cleartype only do subpixel rendering on TEXT not on everything else.

10. Posted Aug 15, 2005, 6:31 AM ET by [Damien Guard](#)

This is a fantastic idea, especially for big panels which often suffer a number of dead pixels simply because there are so many more of them to be afflicted.

If this means the manufacturer's can use many more panels instead of throwing them away then that means much cheaper prices and less factory waste...

Damien

11. Posted Aug 15, 2005, 2:13 PM ET by Mblogger

This is nothing new or special.

Tvia has been succesfully doing ths for manufacturers for a year now.

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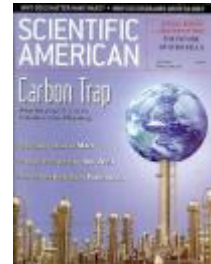
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