LAVANews

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The LAVA Low-profile PCI family: smarter than they look!

Low-profile PCI cards

(416) 674-5942   www.lavalink.com   (416) 674-5942   www.lavalink.com   (416) 674-5942

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About Low-Profile PCI Cards

WHAT IS LOW-PROFILE PCI?

It is a new card size standard for small-footprint systems. Designed as a collaborative effort by the PCI Special Interest Group and companies including IBM and Intel, the low-profile PCI standard limits card height to a maximum of 2.5 inches/60 mm–about 60% of the height of standard PCI cards.

Low-profile PCI cards have the same signaling, electrical, and configuration characteristics as standard PCI 2.2 cards.

WHERE DO LOW-PROFILE PCI CARDS FIT?

Low-profile cards fit into the new cases sized for Flex-ATX and micro-ATX motherboards. Point-of-Sale systems and 2U rack-mount servers are also candidates for low-profile cards.
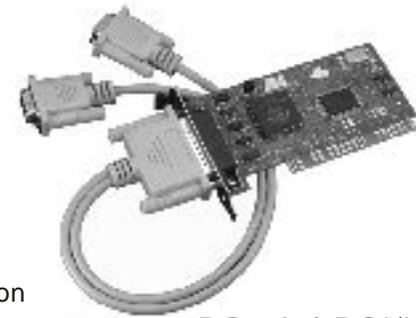
AOpen, Compaq, HP, IBM, Intel, and Gateway are among those building low-profile systems.

WHAT DOES LAVA OFFER IN LOW-PROFILE PCI?

Lava makes low-profile versions of its parallel EPP card, its single serial card, and its dual serial card.

The Parallel-PCI/LP is the classic Lava Parallel-PCI card – our high speed, ultra-reliable, enhanced parallel port – redesigned for low-profile.

The SSerial-PCI/LP adds a single 16550 UART serial port on the PCI slot of any low-profile system, and the DSerial-PCI/LP adds two 16550 serial ports and comes complete with its own "Y" splitter cable.

DSerial-PCI/LP

SSerial-PCI/LP

Parallel-PCI/LP

Low-Profile PCI Marketplace:

- POS (point-of-sale) system builders use the low-profile dual serial card!
- Low-profile PCI cards – parallel and serial – are great for all-in-one systems like the IBM NetVista X40.
- Low-profile cards fit in 2U industrial rack-mount servers.

LAVA
LIFETIME
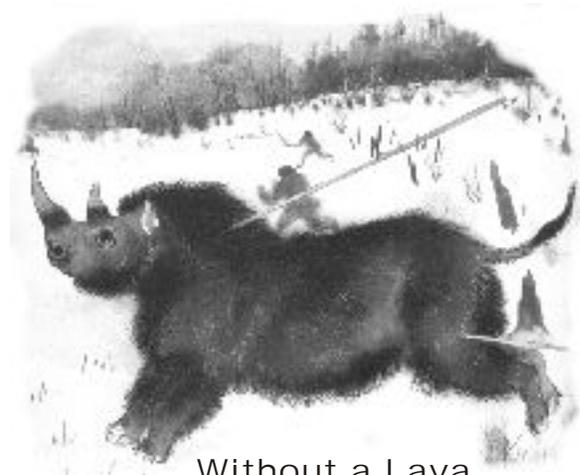WARRANTY

Low-profile PCI: A Problem Solved

When Carlos Madiera saw the new IBM NetVista X40 all-in one desktop system, he fell in love with it. "I thought, wow!, what a cool integrated system." He brought it home and it fit beautifully on his desk, the whole system taking less space than his old monitor had taken by itself.

"I'd bought desktop systems before, and sort of assumed the rules hadn't changed," he recalls. "When I went to hook up my printer, I realized I was wrong."

Carlos found out that the system he had bought – while bristling with five USB ports – had no serial or parallel ports. And, while it had two PCI slots, he quickly saw that the chassis wouldn't fit a parallel port card he already had in an old system.

"I called my dealer and he said he had a great solution: a Lava Parallel-PCI/LP low-profile card. I dropped it in and it solved the problem. I really didn't want to take that sweet little computer back."

Without a Lava
low-profile PCI card,
it's gonna hurt.

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Trimex is a specialized distributor and manufacturer of computer accessories, peripherals, and supplies. A Canadian company incorporated since 1982, Trimex serves computer product resellers of all sizes across Canada. Trimex has a reputation for excellent product mixes, broad product selections, competitive overall prices, and efficient fill-rates and support.

Trimex offers its own PerfectMicro and PerfectLink brands of quality accessories, cable connections, and computer parts. Apart from Lava products, Trimex also stocks and supports many other nationally recognized quality accessories and peripherals.

Lavalites (People who work here)

Markian Wrzesniewski — "Mark W." to the Ukrainian-challenged among us — is the friendly voice at the end of the line, selling products into the northeastern US.

Markian has been with Lava for just over half a year, and has developed a strong rapport with his customers. When he is far enough away from his desk not to be sent back to it, he can be found tuning his son's go kart to perfection, or telling his daughter homework never did anything for him when he was a boy, so she shouldn't worry about it either.

Lava in its New Building: Part 2

Lava's boards pass through a number of "big machines" on their way through the plant. Lava's MyData "pick and place" or surface-mounting machines automatically position most of the components you find on a Lava I/O board. These components sit on a solder paste that is turned to liquid solder in the large Heller oven you see in the foreground to the right. A couple of steps further down the road, after additional components have been placed

Heller 1800EXL oven

and the boards have been wave soldered, they are cleaned of residual flux in the large Crest ultrasonic cleaner on the left. They are then baked (gently), tested (every darned one of them), packaged, and sent out the door.

One of Lava's ultrasonic board-cleaning machines.

The Source for Ports