



## Mini White Paper

HP Workstations

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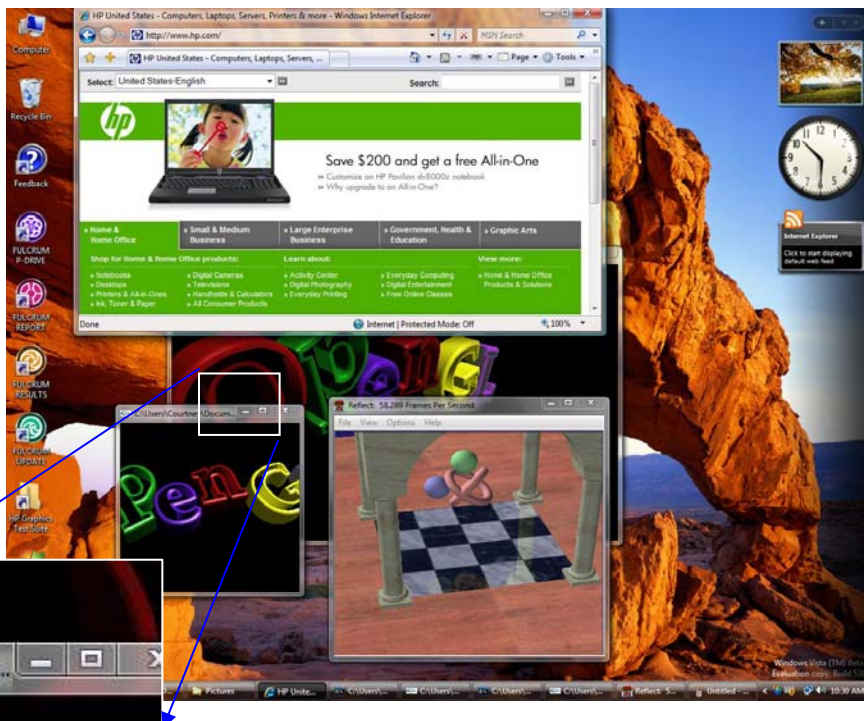


## Vista and OpenGL

There have been a lot of confusing rumors and messages about OpenGL and Vista. It's time now to set the matter straight! When Microsoft releases the Windows Vista operating system it will fully support Vendor OpenGL ICDs. What does that mean? It means that professional OpenGL applications will have fully accelerated OpenGL capability via an optimized vendor provided OpenGL library just like with Windows XP today. It also means that these OpenGL applications are fully integrated with all the editions of the Windows Vista experience – most notably Windows Aero™

Both NVIDIA and ATI are working on providing Vista drivers for their Workstation-class graphics cards that have the necessary hardware capabilities (DX9 or better). If you have a PCI-Express NVIDIA or ATI card you are most likely covered, the exact list of supported cards will be available closer to Vista launch.

The Windows Aero™ environment uses glass-like window borders that you can see through among other features. The concern was that this capability would not be available when running an OpenGL application. As you can see via the refraction of the underlying OpenGL window on the Internet Explorer and Reflect window borders, it's clear that OpenGL and Windows Aero™ can work together.



All the Aero™ capabilities are available. Glass-like window borders, live taskbar thumbnails and when doing ALT-Tab and also the new “Flip 3D” - 3D Window tabbing capability.

These features are available with the Windows Vista Beta 2 evaluation – build 5384 and later.

You can try it with NVIDIA's latest Vista driver which can be found on their Vista page at: [http://www.nvidia.com/object/winvista\\_x86\\_88.61.html](http://www.nvidia.com/object/winvista_x86_88.61.html)

**Note:** Not all Windows Vista features are available for use on all Windows Vista Capable PCs. All Windows Vista Capable PCs will run the core

features available in premium editions of Windows Vista -- like the new Windows Aero™ user interface -- require advanced or additional hardware. Check <http://www.windowsvista.com/getready> for details.

### More Links:

Microsoft Vista home page: <http://www.microsoft.com/vista>

Microsoft Vista features overview: <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/features/default.msp>

IDC - The Role of Graphics in the Future of Mainstream Computing: [http://www.ati.com/products/wp/IDC3-D\\_Graphics\\_White\\_Paper.pdf](http://www.ati.com/products/wp/IDC3-D_Graphics_White_Paper.pdf)