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# Advanced Micro to launch dual chips early

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Advanced Micro Devices Inc. is expected to launch its new dual-core processing chips later this month, well ahead of schedule, a person briefed on the matter said on Friday.

The chips, with two cores that can operate independently, could be the biggest change in personal computer technology in a decade, industry watchers say.

Shares of AMD rose 90 cents, or 5.6 percent, to $17.09 on the New York Stock Exchange.

AMD's early unveiling of the new chips appears to put it ahead of rival Intel Corp., which is working on a similar chip. AMD will introduce the chips at an event in New York on April 21, the person said. Intel has said will launch its first dual-core products in May.

AMD spokesman Phil Hughes declined to confirm the introduction date. "I'm not going to comment on anything that's unannounced to this point," he said.

Having approached the limits of speed gains with traditional chips, both semiconductor firms have moved to combine two chips onto a single piece of silicon. One chip, for instance, could process a television show while the other scans for viruses.

The Sunnyvale, Calif.-based chipmaker also is expected to announce its dual-core chips for personal computers will go on sale in June, it said.

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Hardware

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