

# X8i-C2D

**PRICE** £1,249 **MANUFACTURER** XWorks Interactive **WEBSITE** www.xworksinteractive.com

**X**WORKS SHIPPED THIS particular X8i-C2D with Vista Ultimate, giving you security features you'll never use and extras you don't need. You're basically paying to have Windows irritate you.

My experience of the new Windows means I'd forgo the senseless dick-waving of the big-ticket version and instead order either Home Basic or Home Premium. In no way is Ultimate worth the extra, unless you're a fan of animated desktop wallpapers.

The X8i-C2D itself is a typical XWorks desktop, meaning low-key looks and little noise, together with a pervading sense of no-nonsense. Hardly a surprise when the company normally sells to games developers and F1 teams.

In addition, the X8i-C2D uses both the D975XB2 motherboard and GeForce 8800 GTX from our Buyer's Guide, and as a result we're proud to announce it as winner of the coveted 'Machine We Would Build Ourselves If We Could Be Bothered' award.

## HOW DOES IT GO?

Second fastest thing here. But it's not a rig that's tweaked at the factory, meaning that

you're free to dip into Intel's tickle-happy BIOS and knock up the clocks for even more get-up-and-go.

I would say, however, that an XWorks desktop isn't about being 'right up there' with spine-tingling bus frequencies: it's more to do with stability, reliability, unobtrusiveness and old-fashioned grunt – and in this respect, it succeeds. My one complaint is that the warranty's too short.

### VISTA BENCHMARKS (XP scores)

Supreme Commander	16,577 (16,624)
Counter-Strike: Source	250.20 fps (266.26fps)
3DMark06	10,375 (10,415)
PCMark05	7,604 (7,901)
Vista Experience Index	5.4



## SPECIFICATION

**Operating System** Windows Vista Ultimate  
**Processor** Core 2 Duo E6700 **Memory** 2GB  
**HDD** 320GB **Video** 1 x GeForce 8800 GTX 768MB  
**Warranty** 1 year