

MAXIMUM POWER COMPUTING
atomic



CONGRATULATIONS TO

Billion

FOR WINNING THE ATOMIC HOT AWARD FOR THE **BILLION BIPAC 7404VGP**



BILLION BIPAC 7404VGP

Price **\$299** Supplier **PC Range** Website **www.pcrange.com.au** Wireless **802.11g** LAN ports **4** VoIP ports **4**

The Billion 7404VGP was a surprise. It was the only modem to allow us to properly tweak the ADSL line settings and squeeze more performance out of it. Stock, the modem performed in the middle of the benchmark results but, when setting the 'coding gain' feature to maximum, achieved a score 10 percent faster than the rest. Oddly the 7300G doesn't feature this option, despite having a similar layout and feature set (sans VoIP support). Still it's also more competitively priced at \$169. Note VoIP on the 7404VGP wasn't tested as the focus here is for ADSL2+ performance. The 7404VGP gets top marks for a clean interface and the most configurable options. Its QoS settings use simple classifiers like 'Bronze Class' or 'Gold Class', and allow bandwidth throttling, while its firewall can be configured to do URL filtering based on domains or keywords, intrusion detection and, with the latest firmware, instant messaging and P2P blocking. On the downside, it takes forever to flash and reboot, and lacks detailed reporting statistics.