



# OpenGL ARB Superbuffers

**Rob Mace**  
**mace@ati.com**



# ARB Superbuffers Workgroup

- **Active workgroup**
- **None of this is final**
- **Über Buffers proposal**
- **Image Buffers proposal**
- **Proposals are converging**



# What Changes?

- **Dynamic Framebuffers**
- **Plug and Play**
- **Mix and Match**



# Derived Functionality

- **Render to Texture**
- **Render to Vertex Array**
- **Temporary Buffers**
- **Many new algorithms made possible**



# Memory Objects

- **Structured Memory**
- **Bindable as the memory of**
  - **Textures**
  - **Framebuffers**
  - **Buffer Objects (vertex arrays)**



# Creating Memory Objects

```
GLmem glAllocMem1D(GLenum format, GLsizei width,  
                  GLsizei n, const GLenum *properties,  
                  const GLint *values)
```

```
GLmem glAllocMem2D(GLenum format, GLsizei width,  
                  GLsizei height,  
                  GLsizei n, const GLenum *properties,  
                  const GLint *values)
```

```
GLmem glAllocMem3D(GLenum format, GLsizei width,  
                  GLsizei height, GLsizei depth,  
                  GLsizei n, const GLenum *properties,  
                  const GLint *values)
```



# Memory Object Capability Properties

- **GL\_COLOR\_BUFFER**
- **GL\_DEPTH\_BUFFER**
- **GL\_STENCIL\_BUFFER**
- **GL\_TEXTURE\_1D**
- **GL\_TEXTURE\_2D**
- **GL\_TEXTURE\_3D**
- **GL\_TEXTURE\_CUBE\_MAP**
- **GL\_BUFFER\_OBJECT**



# Memory Object More Properties

- **GL\_MIPMAP**
- **GL\_SAMPLES**
- **GL\_USAGE**





# Binding Memory Objects

```
GLboolean glBindMem(GLenum target,  
                    GLmem mem,  
                    GLenum preserve)
```



# Render to Texture

```
GLenum properties[2] = {GL_TEXTURE_2D, GL_COLOR_BUFFER};  
GLint values[2] = {GL_TRUE, GL_TRUE};  
GLmem mem;
```

```
mem = glAllocMem2D(GL_RGBA8, 256, 256, 2, properties,  
                  values);
```

```
glBindMem(GL_AUX0, mem, GL_FALSE);  
glDrawBuffer(GL_AUX0);
```

*draw stuff*

```
glBindMem(GL_AUX0, 0, GL_FALSE);
```

```
glBindTexture(GL_TEXTURE_2D, tex);  
glBindMem(GL_TEXTURE_2D, mem, GL_TRUE);
```



# Render to Vertex Array

```
GLenum properties[2] = {GL_COLOR_BUFFER, GL_BUFFER_OBJECT};
GLint values[2] = {GL_TRUE, GL_TRUE};
GLmem mem;

mem = glAllocMem2D(GL_RGBA_FLOAT32, 64, 64, 2, properties, values);

glBindMem(GL_AUX0, vertex_mem, GL_FALSE);

load special shaders and draw stuff

glBindMem(GL_AUX0, 0, GL_FALSE);

glBindBufferARB(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER_ARB, 1);
glBindMem(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER_ARB, vertex_mem, GL_TRUE);
glVertexPointer(4, GL_FLOAT, 0, 0);

draw using the array
```



# Questions?

- **None of this is final**
- **But we are getting close**
  
- **mace@ati.com**