Highly Integrated, Application-Focused Microcontroller Pushes the Multimedia Performance Envelope

Exhibiting 2.93DMIPS/MHz processing power, plus the extensive connectivity resources now becoming critical in video/audio applications

25th February 2014 - FTDI Chip continues to explore new areas where its innovative silicon solutions can add significant value, with the release of the FT900. This 32-bit microcontroller unit (MCU) is one of two initial devices in the company’s new application oriented controller (AOC) product lines. The FT900 has been developed for high speed, computational intensive tasks. It can be used in combination with FTDI Chip’s multi-award winning FT800 embedded video engine (EVE) chip, or as a stand-alone MCU. Running at clock speeds of up to 100MHz it delivers the levels of processing needed to make considerable impact in video over IP, surveillance, quality audio, industrial inspection and door entry intercom system deployments.

The FT900 is loaded with an abundance of features and connectivity, including a 256kB byte capacity program memory and 64kB bytes of data memory, USB 2.0 480Mbits/s capability, and a camera interface for carrying VGA (640x480 pixels) resolution video imaging data. Based upon FTDI Chip’s new proprietary FT32, high performance RISC core, the FT900 provides a plethora of connectivity options, making it highly suited to advanced technology bridging solutions. By executing instructions from shadow RAM, rather than Flash memory, it can operate at true zero wait states up to 100MHz and 293DMIPS
performance. The MCU’s unique data streaming domain eliminates the need for complex direct memory access (DMA) interfacing to transfer data internally.

10/100 Ethernet support with built-in physical layer and CAN bus support are also incorporated into the FT900, as well as numerous digital-to-analogue converters (DACs) and analogue-to-digital converters (ADCs), such as a 10-bit, 1MHz DAC and a 7-channel multiplexed 10-bit, 1MSample/s ADC. System interface provision includes I²C slave and master, I²S for external audio, SPI slave and master, SD card interface (2.0) and a variety of PWMs for standard and audio support.

“At FTDI Chip we try to put ourselves into hardware designers’ shoes, so that every device not only delivers industry-leading performance but also has unique merit in terms of ease of implementation and minimising engineering overhead,” Fred Dart, CEO and Founder of FTDI Chip explains. “The FT900 series is flat-out blazing fast. When paired with our EVE product, it can enable the realisation of video, audio and control functions that simply can’t be matched by alternative solutions on the market. Furthermore, the Ethernet and CAN bus interfaces mean that is highly suitable for commercial, residential and automotive design projects.”

Pricing for the FT900 (including CAN controller) is $4.25 per unit for 10K quantities. The FT901 (without a CAN controller) is priced at $3.90 per unit for 10K quantities. The FT900 and FT901 are both supplied in QFN100 packages and support an operational temperature range of -40°C to +85°C.

Further information on the FT900 can be found at:

http://www.ftdichip.com/MCU.htm
About FTDI Chip
FTDI Chip develops innovative silicon solutions that enhance interaction with today’s technology. Through application of its “Design Made Easy” ethos, the company is able to support engineers with highly sophisticated, feature-rich, robust and simple-to-use product platforms. These enable creation of electronic designs with higher performance, fewer peripheral components, lower power budgets and diminished board real estate.

FTDI Chip’s long-established, continuously expanding Universal Serial Bus (USB) product line boasts such universally recognized product brands as the ubiquitous R-Chip, X-Chip, Vinculum, and H-series. As well as host and bridge chips, it includes highly-integrated system solutions with built-in microcontroller functionality. The company’s Embedded Video Engine (EVE) graphic controllers each pack display, audio and touch functionality onto a single chip. The unique, more streamlined approach utilised by these ICs allows dramatic reductions in the development time and bill-of-materials costs involved in next generation Human Machine Interfaces (HMIs) implementation. FTDI Chip also provides families of highly differentiated, speed-optimised microcontrollers with augmented connectivity features. These application oriented controllers (AOCs) are targeted at key areas where they add value via their elevated processing performance and increased operational efficiency.

FTDI Chip is a fab-less semiconductor company, partnered with the world’s leading foundries. The company is headquartered in Glasgow, UK, with research and development facilities located in Glasgow, Singapore and Taipei (Taiwan), plus regional sales and technical support sites in Glasgow, Taipei, Portland (Oregon, USA) and Shanghai (China).

For more information go to http://www.ftdichip.com

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