DB9 USB to Digital Modules Introduced by FTDI

Innovative new connectivity solution offers way of retrofitting USB functionality into existing system designs

USB solutions specialist Future Technology Devices International Limited (FTDI) has added a series of USB to digital level interface modules, in DB9 form factors, to its product portfolio. The new DB9-USB-D3-F (3.3 V output female connector), DB9-USB-D3-M (3.3 V output male connector), DB9-USB-D5-F (5 V output female connector) and DB9-USB-D5-M (5 V output male connector) enable implementation of USB interconnection into legacy equipment without the need for alteration of the enclosure or for any noticeable increase in the overall bill of materials.

These modules all utilise FTDI's FT232R USB to serial UART bridge chip, which is capable of supporting data rates of 12 Mbits/s (USB Full Speed). They allow for the quick and easy upgrading of pieces of hardware to today's most widely used serial interface standard in a highly convenient and cost effective manner. Drivers for the modules are available to download direct from the FTDI website.

"These simple but ingenious active connectors contain all the necessary USB/digital level conversion electronics while fitting directly into the same board space and having an identical profile to a standard DB9 connector," states Fred Dart, Managing Director of FTDI. "This means manufacturers and systems integrators can carry out the adaptation of older designs to USB, thereby realising the major benefits offered by modern interfacing, without needing to allocate a large proportion of their engineering resources or committing to heavy financial outlay."

Supplied in a compact 30.8 mm x 19.8 mm x 11.5 mm package, each of the modules uses a standard USB mini-B connector. They have an operational temperature range of -40 °C to +85 °C, permitting them to be specified for heavy duty industrial applications.

The FTDI DB9 to digital modules are each priced at US$15.50 (for 1-9 pcs).

The FTDI DB9 to digital modules datasheet is available for download:

http://www.ftdichip.com/Support/Documents/DataSheets/Modules/DS_DB9-USB.pdf

About FTDI
Future Technology Devices International (FTDI) specialises in the design and supply of silicon and software solutions for the Universal Serial Bus (USB). FTDI offers a simple route to USB migration by combining easy-to-implement IC devices with proven, ready-to-use, royalty-free USB firmware and driver software. The company's single and multi-channel USB peripheral devices come with an easy-to-use UART or FIFO interface. These popular devices can be used in legacy USB-to-RS232/RS422 converter applications or to quickly interface an MCU, PLD, or FPGA to USB. A wide range of evaluation kits and modules are available to evaluate FTDI's silicon prior to design-in. Vinculum is FTDI's brand name for a range of USB Host/Slave controller ICs that provide easy implementation of USB Host controller functionality within products and use FTDI's tried and tested firmware to significantly reduce development costs and time to market. FTDI is a fab-less semiconductor company headquartered in Glasgow, UK with R&D centres in Glasgow and Singapore and has regional sales offices in Oregon, USA, Shanghai, China and Taipei, Taiwan.

More information is available at http://www.ftdichip.com

Regional sales offices and distributor lists are available
http://www.ftdichip.com/FTSalesNetwork.htm

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Ref: FTDIPR9 DB9