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Microchip Releases MOST150 Data Link Layer Specification

CHANDLER, Ariz.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Microchip Technology Inc. (NASDAQ: MCHP), a leading provider of microcontroller, mixed-signal, analog and Flash-IP solutions, today announced that it has made available for license, on a royalty-bearing basis, its proprietary **MOST150 Data Link Layer Specification**. By making the key technologies available for the lower layers of MOST150, other semiconductor companies now have the opportunity to develop, manufacture and supply chips with a MOST150 interface.

The open MOST® standard for network communication is utilized in the infotainment and driver-assistance domain for automobiles and other applications that have been developed by and within the **MOST Cooperation**, a consortium of key automotive companies and suppliers. As is typical for standards-based technologies, there is complementary technology and intellectual property that is important for implementing standards-based products, though they are not part of the standard itself.

As committed and communicated by the MOST Cooperation on Oct. 1, 2007, the data link layer specifications of the respective MOST standard speed grades will be opened and licensed after reaching certain defined milestones. In the spirit of open technology innovation, Microchip has decided to release and license the MOST150 data link layer specification earlier than stipulated by that 2007 agreement, to encourage other semiconductor companies to participate in MOST150 development. Currently, there are more than 150 car models on the road with MOST technology, and the MOST Cooperation expects that there will be over 60 more car models with MOST150 starting mass production within the next three to five years.

The MOST150 data link layer specification is being published to MOST Cooperation members, who can license its use on a royalty-bearing basis and under RAND licensing terms (Reasonable And Non-Discriminatory), similar to other comparable networking standards, such as the Controller Area Network (CAN) bus.

“Microchip is committed to the MOST technology and products, as well as to the principles established by the MOST Cooperation to promote this technology and enable its adoption,” said Dan Termer, vice president of Microchip’s Automotive Information Systems Division. “We believe that the licensing of the MOST150 Data Link Layer Specification is a major step in that direction.”

About MOST Technology

MOST technology enables the networking of feature-rich, multimedia infotainment and driver-assistance systems in automobiles, by providing the means to distribute functions among the various control devices around the vehicle.

About the MOST Cooperation

The MOST Cooperation was founded in 1998 by BMW, DaimlerChrysler, Harman/Becker and OASIS SiliconSystems (acquired by SMSC in March 2005 which in turn was acquired by Microchip in August 2012) to establish and refine the MOST technology as a common standard to meet the needs of the automotive networks of today and tomorrow. For additional information, see **http://www.microchip.com/get/DER6**.

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About Microchip Technology

Microchip Technology Inc. (NASDAQ: MCHP) is a leading provider of microcontroller, mixed-signal, analog and Flash-IP solutions, providing low-risk product development, lower total system cost and faster time to market for thousands of diverse customer applications worldwide. Headquartered in Chandler, Arizona, Microchip offers outstanding technical support along with dependable delivery and quality. For more information, visit the Microchip website at **http://www.microchip.com/get/PRQN**.

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