June 12, 2007

Microchip Technology Adds Smaller and More Cost-Effective Options to World's Highest-Performance 16-Bit Microcontroller Family

PIC24HJ12 Family Offers 40 MIPS Performance in 18-pin, 6x6 mm Packages With Prices Starting at $1.99 Each in 10,000-unit Quantities

CHANDLER, Ariz.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--

Microchip Technology Inc. (NASDAQ: MCHP), a leading provider of microcontroller and analog semiconductors, today announced the PIC24HJ12 family--the Company's lowest-priced 40 MIPS 16-bit microcontroller, with prices starting at $1.99 each in 10,000-unit quantities. Additionally, the family is offered in 18- and 28-pin packages as small as 6x6 mm for space-constrained applications.

"The PIC24 16-bit microcontroller architecture was designed for engineers that need to migrate from 8-bit architectures," said Sumit Mitra, vice president of Microchip's Digital Signal Controller Division. "With 92 16-bit products in four compatible families, Microchip has created a broad platform to serve customer needs for many years, even as they scale up to DSP-enabled applications. Additionally, development tool investments can be preserved with 8-bit migrations, as our MPLAB(R) Integrated Development Environment is compatible with the smallest 8-bit PIC(R) microcontrollers through our entire 16-bit microcontroller and Digital Signal Controller (DSC) lineup."

Microchip is the only company to offer seamless migration between its 16-bit microcontrollers and DSP-enabled DSCs, by providing pin, peripheral, software and tool compatibility. Being able to easily migrate among the 92 dsPIC(R) DSCs and PIC24 microcontrollers in Microchip's rapidly growing 16-bit portfolio accelerates time to market and provides a path to quickly respond to requirement changes during the design process, while providing the scalability to serve many applications.

"With their dsPIC DSCs and PIC24 MCUs, Microchip is the only company on the planet with truly unified DSP and MCU product lines," said Will Strauss, president of Forward Concepts. "The dsPIC33 family gives MCU people an easy migration path to DSP performance."

The PIC24HJ12 family also features Peripheral Pin Select, which allows designers to remap digital I/O to optimize board layout--enabling smaller boards, less noise and the use of a lower pin count microcontroller. Other key features of the new family include:

-- 40 MIPS performance in 6x6 mm packages

-- 12 Kbytes of Flash and 1 Kbyte of RAM

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--  Analog-to-Digital Converter w/ up to 10 channels, and
    user-selectable 10-bit or 12-bit mode (10-bit mode enables
    simultaneous sampling, eliminating lag time between samples)

--  1 UART, 1 SPI and 1 I(2)C(TM) Port

Development Support and Availability
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The PIC24HJ12 family is supported by the full complement of tools that are common to all of Microchip's controllers, including the free MPLAB Integrated Development Environment with its Visual Device Initializer component, which graphically assists designers in mapping pins and initializing code for the on-chip Peripheral Pin Select pin-mapping function. The MPLAB C30 C compiler provides industry-leading code densities, along with math and peripheral libraries. For emulation and debugging, Microchip offers the full-featured MPLAB REAL ICE(TM) tool and the low-cost MPLAB ICD 2 tool. Finally, the new 16-bit 28-pin starter board (part # DM300027) can be used for development with any of Microchip's 28-pin 16-bit microcontroller and DSCs.

Both members of the PIC24HJ12 family are available today for general sampling and volume production, with prices starting at $1.99 each in 10,000-unit quantities. The PIC24HJ12GP201 is available in 18-pin SOIC and SDIP packages. The PIC24HJ12GP202 is available in 28-pin QFN, SOIC and SDIP packages. For additional information, contact any Microchip sales representative or authorized worldwide distributor, or visit Microchip's Web site at www.microchip.com/16bit.

Microchip Customer Support

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About Microchip Technology

Microchip Technology Inc. (NASDAQ: MCHP) is a leading provider of microcontroller and analog semiconductors, 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 www.microchip.com.

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