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CommAgility announces cost-effective FPGA-based signal processing AdvancedMC module with optical interfaces

Targeted at Xilinx Virtex-5 FPGAs, AMC-V5F provides optical CPRI/OBSAI antenna interfaces and SRIO, for AdvancedTCA and MicroTCA systems

24th September 2008

CommAgility announced today the AMC-V5F, a single width, mid-size Advanced Mezzanine Card which includes a Xilinx® Virtex®-5 FPGA. The new module is ideal for the latest wireless baseband applications, and is also suitable for any high-performance processing application, particularly where optical interfacing or SRIO support is required.

Dual SFP sockets for optical interfaces to the FPGA are provided on the front panel. These are typically used for industry-standard CPRI or OBSAI links to wireless radios, base stations under test or other optical data links such as Ethernet, Serial RapidIO (SRIO) or Aurora.

The AMC-V5F provides advanced clock recovery and synchronisation options including CPRI RE/REC and OBSAI RP3-01, to cover different requirements for wireless base stations and test equipment. For WiMAX base stations, a 1PPS GPS clock sync facility removes the need for a separate card in the system. Ethernet based synchronisation such as IEEE1588 is also possible.

Multiple 10Gbps SRIO and Gigabit Ethernet connections are provided. A Tundra Tsi578 SRIO switch is included as part of a full SRIO infrastructure, providing a dependable low-latency, high bandwidth interconnect.

High processing performance is provided by Virtex-5 FPGAs. In the standard configuration this is the SX95T device, a member of the Virtex-5 SXT FPGA platform optimized for digital signal processing. Other Virtex-5 FPGA options are also available.

Software and firmware support includes a comprehensive ISE/EDK example project and Board Support Library, to enable rapid setup and use of board features and interfaces and fast application code porting.

To reduce risk and time to market, the AMC-V5F is developed for use in OEM products and designed for carrier grade quality and NEBS/ETSI compliance. Build options are available to ensure the best fit for each customer.

“Engineers developing future wireless systems, such as WiMAX and LTE, are increasingly looking for a scalable, standards-based development platform, like those offered by AMC cards in MicroTCA systems,” said Manuel Uhm, Director of Marketing, Wireless Communications at Xilinx. “With the release of the AMC-V5F module, CommAgility, Xilinx Alliance program participant, has delivered a board that meets design engineer requirements, offering a feature set that is ideally suited to the implementation of a wide range of IP from Xilinx and our ecosystem partners – simplifying the process for systems integration.”

Edward Young, managing director at CommAgility, said, “The new AMC-V5F module provides a cost-effective, high-performance solution for use in MicroTCA and AdvancedTCA systems. It complements our existing DSP and FPGA products, giving OEMs the flexibility they need to pick the right module.”

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The AMC-V5F module is sampling to lead customers now. OEM Pricing is below $2600 in 1000+ quantities.

Note to editors:
High resolution photos are available at www.commagility.com/press

About CommAgility:
CommAgility, based in Loughborough, UK, provides standards-based embedded products for high end signal processing applications, focusing on the latest standards such as AdvancedTCA and MicroTCA and partnering with world leading companies including Texas Instruments, Xilinx and Tundra. Prior to starting CommAgility in 2006, the founders had over 50 years' experience in the industry working for Motorola, Blue Wave Systems and Loughborough Sound Images.

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