

TIDBITS

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❖ **CIRRUS LOGIC ADDS SECURITY TO MP3 CHIPS**
Cirrus Logic has announced two single-chip solutions that implement copyright-protection security for portable digital-music players. Both solutions build on the company's existing EP7209 Maverick chip (see [MPR 11/15/99-03](#), "Cirrus Logic Makes Music With ARM"). One solution is a software upgrade for the EP7209; the other is the EP7307, a new variant of the EP7209 that has hard-wired copyright security. The security software is from InterTrust Technologies and complies with Secure Digital Music Initiative (SDMI) specifications for audio files recorded in MP3 and Windows Media Audio formats. For more information: [www.cirrus.com](#). —T.R.H.

❖ **ARC CORES SHIPS NEW CONFIGURABLE CORE**
ARC Cores has announced the availability of its latest configurable embedded-processor core, the ARC 3 (see [MPR 5/31/99-04](#), "ARC Expands DSP Capabilities"). The new 32-bit core has optional DSP extensions, including a block that executes 16- and 24-bit multiply-accumulate (MAC) instructions, saturating add/subtract functions, support for X/Y program/data memories, and new instruction-cache options. A software library written in optimized assembly language allows programmers to call DSP functions from C or C++. For more information: [www.arccores.com](#). —T.R.H.

❖ **NEC LICENSES TENSILICA CORE**
NEC has licensed Tensilica's XTensa, a configurable processor core for embedded applications (see [MPR 3/8/99-02](#), "Tensilica CPU Bends to Designers' Will"). NEC plans to use the core in system-on-a-chip devices targeted at advanced communications applications. For more information: [www.tensilica.com](#). —T.R.H.

❖ **MICROCHIP JOINS EEMBC**
Microchip Technology has become the 37th member of the EDN Embedded Microprocessor Benchmark Consortium

(EEMBC), an independent organization that develops and licenses cross-platform benchmark code for embedded CPUs (see [MPR 6/21/99-01](#), "Embedded Benchmarks Grow Up"). Microchip, which recently celebrated the production of its one billionth processor, plans to use the EEMBC benchmarks to measure the performance of its extensive line of 8- and 16-bit microcontrollers. For more information: [www.microchip.com](#). —T.R.H.

❖ **SCENIX DESIGN WIN: SENNHEISER MIKES**
Sennheiser Electronics has chosen a Scenix SX-series microcontroller for its new Digital 1000 wireless microphones. The microphones are designed for live concerts and theatrical performances that require high-quality audio amplification in large venues. Both the wireless transmitter and receiver in the microphone system will use a Scenix SX28AC chip. The SX28AC is an eight-bit controller that has enough performance (50 MIPS) to emulate common peripherals, such as UARTs, timers, and real-time clocks. For more information: [www.scenix.com](#). —T.R.H.

❖ **VIRATA DESIGN WIN: ERICSSON ADSL**
Ericsson has chosen Virata's Helium processor for some residential ADSL products, such as broadband modems. Helium processors work with standard PHY chips to enable broadband communications in single- and multiple-user devices, including xDSL modems, cable modems, and small routers. Virata supplies software that handles ATM, frame, routing, bridging, signaling, and SNMP (simple network management protocol) functions. For more information: [www.virata.com](#). —T.R.H.

❖ **TINY TCP/IP STACK RUNS ON 8/16-BIT CHIPS**
CMX Systems has released CMX-MicroNet, a new TCP/IP stack that's compact enough to fit into 1.8K-11K of ROM and run natively on 8- and 16-bit processors. CMX claims CMX-MicroNet is an order of magnitude

smaller than any other commercially available TCP/IP stack. It runs alone or on an RTOS and supports TCP, PPP, UDP, SLIP, IP, and HTTP protocols over direct or dial-up connections. Currently it runs natively on 8051 and Atmel AVR-series eight-bit processors, and on Hitachi 300H, Infineon 80C16x, Mitsubishi M16C, and Philips XA-series 16-bit processors. For more information: www.cmx.com. —T.R.H.

◆ NEC'S AUTOMOTIVE MCU SUPPORTS FCAN

NEC has announced the V850/SF1, a 32-bit microcontroller with an integrated FCAN (full control area network) controller on chip. The V850/SF1 is designed for advanced automotive applications, such as cockpit entertainment systems, but it's also suitable for factory automation and other embedded applications. Sampling begins in May. For more information: www.nec-global.com. —T.R.H. ◆

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