

NEC Electronics Introduces World's First USB 3.0 Host Controller

KAWASAKI, Japan, **DUESSELDORF**, Germany, **SANTA CLARA**, Calif. (U.S.A.), May 18,

2009---NEC Electronics today introduced the world's first Universal Serial Bus (USB) host controller (part number μ PD720200) for the new SuperSpeed USB 3.0 standard. NEC Electronics expects rapid adoption of the device and standard as the need to transfer larger and larger amounts of information between PCs to external hard-drives, portable electronic devices, and flash-based thumb drives continues to grow rapidly.

The μ PD720200 device is a host controller for PCs and other digital devices, and is based on the new version of the Super Speed USB standard, supporting the world's fastest USB transfer speeds of up to 5 gigabits per second (Gbps) of data, which is 10 times faster than previous USB 2.0 transfer speeds. The new NEC Electronics device, as well as the standard, is fully backward compatible with versions USB 2.0, 1.1 and 1.0 of the USB standard.

With its high-speed transfer capability, the μ PD720200 host controller makes it possible to expand the boundaries of digital appliances such as PCs, digital televisions and DVD recorders. The new Super-Speed USB 3.0 chip from NEC Electronics requires only 70 seconds to transfer 25 GB (gigabytes) of video content on a Blu-ray Disc™, compared to 14 minutes to transfer the same content when using the high-speed USB 2.0 with 480 Mbps (megabits per second) transfer capability. This enormous increase in transfer speed will enable system designers to transfer large-volume data quickly and without stress and develop a new generation of high-performance consumer electronic products.

USB is the next-generation interface standard used in a wide range of electronic devices including PCs and PC peripherals. Originally designed as an interface for relatively low-speed computer peripherals, USB made it possible to connect keyboards, mice and other devices with the same USB standard cables. Later, version 2.0 of the standard defined a high-speed transfer mode that made USB a practical and popular interface for devices such as digital televisions, digital cameras, and DVD recorders. USB version 3.0 builds on this success by offering a ten-fold increase in speed, for stress-free transfers of large volumes of data. The high data-transfer-rate also offers compatibility with recent high-performance computer interfaces such as PCI Express® and SATA (Serial Advanced Technology Attachment), which are capable of data transfer at speeds in excess of 3 Gbps (gigabits per second).

As a member of the USB Implementers Forum since 1996, NEC Electronics has played a leading role both in defining the USB standards and in developing USB technology. In 2000, the company launched the μ PD720100 device, the world's first USB 2.0-compliant host

controller chip. NEC Electronics also has developed hub controllers and an extensive lineup of other USB devices, all of which are certified to display the USB logo. As a result, the company has won the trust of the marketplace and shipped 161 million USB devices as of March 2009.

NEC Electronics expects the market for USB 3.0 products to begin a rapid expansion in 2010 and intends to market its new μ PD720200 USB 3.0 host controller aggressively, and to offer a range of related products by incorporating USB 3.0 communications as an IP (intellectual property) core function in various application specific ICs.

More information about the new product can be found at <http://www.am.necel.com/usb/upd720200> and http://www.am.necel.com/usb/upd720200_appendix.

Pricing and Availability

Samples of NEC Electronics' μ PD720200 host controller are scheduled to be available in June 2009 at US\$15 each, along with free Windows® device driver software. Monthly production is expected to reach approximately 1,000,000 units in September 2009. Pricing and availability are subject to change without notice.

Exhibition at SuperSpeed USB Developers Conference

NEC Electronics plans to exhibit the μ PD720200 USB 3.0 host controller in its booth at the SuperSpeed USB Developers Conference in Tokyo, Japan, from May 20-21, 2009.

About NEC Electronics Corporation

NEC Electronics Corporation (TSE: 6723) specializes in semiconductor products encompassing advanced technology solutions for the high-end computing and broadband networking markets; system solutions for the mobile handset, PC peripheral, automotive and digital consumer markets; and multi-market solutions for a wide range of customer applications. NEC Electronics Corporation has subsidiaries worldwide including NEC Electronics America, Inc. (www.am.necel.com) and NEC Electronics (Europe) GmbH (www.eu.necel.com). More information about NEC Electronics worldwide can be found at www.necel.com.

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