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ARM expands DesignStart

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8W isolated DC-DC is smaller than a square inch

An 8W isolated DC-DC converter has been designed in to a 16-pin DIP package measuring only 0.94 x 0.54 x 0.31-inch.

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Fujitsu Wireless Module Uses Nordic BLE Soc

Fujitsu has announced a Bluetooth 4.2 module measuring 15.7 x 9.8 x 1.7 mm with integrated antenna based upon Nordic Semiconductor's Bluetooth Smart SoC.

The nRF52832 QFN-package wireless module has been designed around a 32-bit ARM Cortex-M4F CPU with 512kB + 64kB RAM.

The embedded 2.4GHz transceiver supports Bluetooth Smart, ANT and proprietary 2.4 GHz protocol stack.

It is on air compatible with the nRF51 Series/modules. With 512kB Flash memory, 64kB RAM, the module can be considered as very powerful. Thirty GPIO pins are available.

NFC-tag support is included on chip and out-of-Band (OOB) pairing using NFC simplifies the process of authenticated pairing between two Bluetooth devices by exchanging authentication information over an NFC link. The module features two built-in Crystal oscillators 32MHz and 32.768kHz.

AMD Details Next-Gen APUs

SAN FRANCISCO—AMD still believes in PCs and recently announced its seventh generation of A-series processors targeted for that market. Code-named Bristol Ridge and Stony Ridge, the processors are designed to boost productivity, enhance multimedia, and improve energy efficiency.

"There's a lot of angst in the market about what's going on with the PC TAM; we see our competitors on both graphics and the PC side really pulling back from the PC market," said Kevin Lensing, AMD's corporate vice president and general manager of its client business unit. "But we love the PC because it's a huge revenue fan...and a place where we have a history of innovating."

Bristol Ridge and Stony Ridge are designed for the high-end market and mainstream-to-value market, respectively. Both have improved compute performance and energy efficiency, as well as excellent graphics, according to AMD.

Cellular IoT Raises Hopes, Concerns

SAN JOSE, Calif.—For years to come, the market for low power wide area networks (LPWA) will be as fragmented as the Internet of Things it serves. With one of its most significant entrants still more than a year away, players are in a race to cultivate a market of end users that is diverse and still largely unknown.

The great hope, some say, is the rise of LPWA nets will act as a catalyst, changing the nature of the embedded and machine-to-machine markets. What are today custom solutions tailored for each application will become a kind of do-it-yourselfers paradise of modules and services, blurring the lines between vendors, users and partners.

Before it has even gotten market traction, the LPWA sector is already in a race to the bottom. The current leader is the area's pioneer, Sigfox, said to be promising costs approaching \$1 per node per year for users offering enough volume.

ARM Expands Designstart – 45 Sample Socs For \$16k

ARM has expanded its ARM DesignStart initiative to offer simplified and expedited access to EDA tooling and design environments from Cadence and Mentor Graphics.

The new partnership builds on the benefits of free access to ARM Cortex-M0 processor IP offered through the DesignStart portal.

The new ARM Approved Design Partner program also provides DesignStart users with a global list of audited design houses for expert support during development.

The DesignStart portal offers SoC designers free access to ARM Cortex-M0 processor IP for design, simulation and prototyping with the option to buy a simplified and standardized \$40,000 fast track license.

The addition of Cadence and Mentor Graphics tools for DesignStart users accelerates the development of custom SoCs for embedded and IoT applications.

8W Isolated DC-DC Is Smaller Than A Square Inch

An 8W isolated DC-DC converter has been designed in to a 16-pin DIP package measuring only 0.94 x 0.54 x 0.31-inch.

A photoAn 8W isolated DC-DC converter has been designed in to a 16-pin DIP package measuring only 0.94 x 0.54 x 0.31-inch.

The MDW08 family from US-based supplier Minmax offers 9-18 / 18-36 / 36-75Vdc input ranges with single and dual output models ranging 3.3 – 15Vdc delivering 8W of output power in an encapsulated package.