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X2 MSA Group Ratifies Specification for 10 Gigabit Pluggable Optical Transceivers

PALO ALTO, Calif., Feb. 13, 2003 -- The X2 multi-source agreement (MSA) group today announced that it has completed work on Revision 1.0 of its technical specifications for smaller form factor 10 Gigabit-per-second (Gb/s) pluggable fiber optic transceivers. The MSA technical specifications are now available on the group's Web site at www.x2msa.org.

The X2 MSA group membership includes Agilent Technologies Inc., Ignis Optics, JDS Uniphase, Mitsubishi Electric, Molex Incorporated, Multiplex Inc., NEC, NTT, Opnext, Optillion, Pine Photonics, TriQuint Optoelectronics and Tyco Electronics.

Revision 1.0 builds on the initial MSA platform, announced in July 2002, which defines a versatile smaller form factor pluggable package based on XENPAK Technology that saves costs and board space. With this revision, the MSA group has finalized all key characteristics for X2 devices. This gives network equipment manufacturers the confidence they need to design systems around a stable set of specifications for future Ethernet XAUI, Fiber-channel XAUI and SFI4 Phase2 applications.

The X2 MSA group is making the details of the specification available to the industry so that other optical transceiver manufacturers can produce compatible products. X2 transceivers are expected to begin shipping imminently.

About the X2 MSA

Based on the popular XENPAK optical transceiver, X2 is a new multi-source agreement for smaller form factor 10 Gb/s pluggable fiber optic and copper transceivers. The X2 specification supports multiple 10 Gb/s applications, providing network equipment manufacturers with one platform that addresses several markets.

The X2 MSA welcomes application for membership from both transceiver and network equipment manufacturers. For more information, including MSA member company contacts, visit www.x2msa.org.

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