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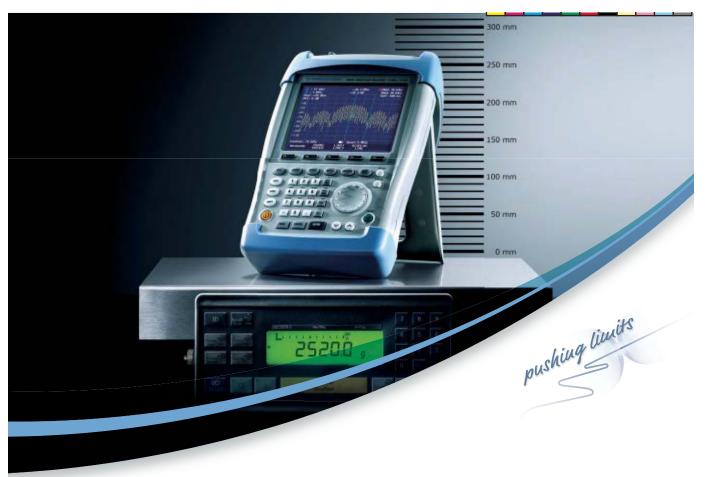
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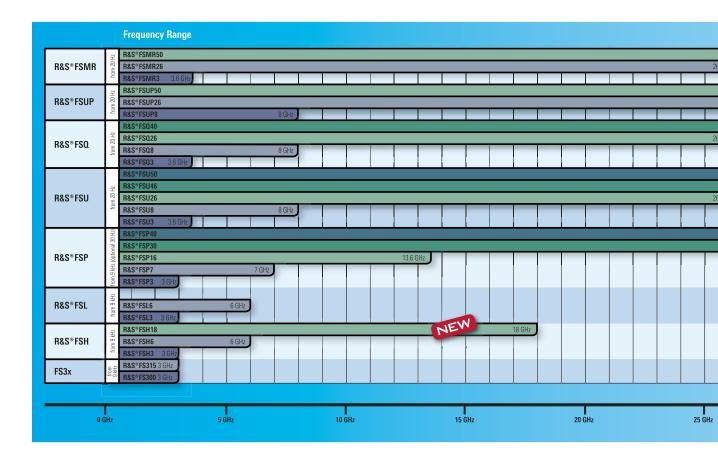
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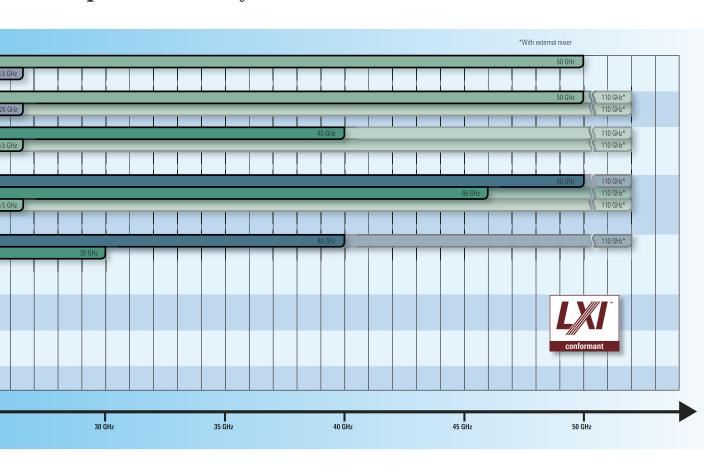


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NSP1200-NVG		LOW-NOISE, VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIERS							
NSP1000-PVG	NSP1200-NVG NSP1800-NVG	0.1–12 0.1–18	32 30	2 2.5	2.5 4	2:1 2.5:1	10 10		
NSP1000-PVG		MED	UM POWER	, VARIABLE G	AIN AMPLIFI	ERS			
NSP1000-NFG 0.1–10 28 2 2.3 2:1 10 NSP1200-NFG 0.1–12 28 2 2.5 2:1 10 NSP1800-NFG 0.1–18 20 2.5 3 2.5:1 10 NSP2650-NFG 0.1–26.5 22 2.75 4.5 2.5:1 10 NSP4000-NFG 0.1–40 22 3 5 2.5:1 8 MEDIUM POWER, FIXED GAIN AMPLIFIERS NSP1000-PFG 0.1–10 25 2 5 2:1 20 NSP1200-PFG 0.1–12 25 2.25 5.5 2:1 20 NSP1800-PFG 0.3–18 18 2.75 8 2.5:1 20 NSP2000-PFG 0.3–20 18 3 8 2.5:1 20	NSP1200-PVG NSP1800-PVG	0.1–10 0.1–12 0.3–18	35 32 30	2 2.5 2.75	5 5.5 6.5	2:1 2:1 2.5:1	20 20		
NSP1200-NFG			LOW-NOISE,	FIXED GAIN A	AMPLIFIERS				
NSP1000-PFG 0.1–10 25 2 5 2:1 20 NSP1200-PFG 0.1–12 25 2.25 5.5 2:1 20 NSP1800-PFG 0.3–18 18 2.75 8 2.5:1 20 NSP2000-PFG 0.3–20 18 3 8 2.5:1 20	NSP1200-NFG NSP1800-NFG NSP2650-NFG	0.1–12 0.1–18 0.1–26.5	28 20 22	2 2.5 2.75	2.5 3 4.5	2:1 2.5:1 2.5:1	10 10 10		
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	NSP1200-PFG	0.1–12	25	2.25	5.5	2:1	20		
				-					

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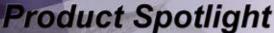
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THIS MONTH ON THE WEB

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3GSM World Congress 2007 February 12–15, 2007 Barcelona, Spain

A wrap-up of select news, information and product announcements at this year's 3GSM World Congress, including a detailed look at the new products on display.



Improving a Classic: The 200 MHz to 2 GHz Dual-ridged Horn Antenna

By Vicente Rodriguez Senior Principal Antenna Design Engineer ETS-Lindgren

Use of a commercially available Computational Electromagnetics (CEM) package to analyze the 200 MHz to 2 GHz version of a dual-ridged horn antenna.

Ultra Low Cost Handsets

The global market for sub-\$20 ultra low cost handsets will be over 330 million units in 2011. A new study from ABI Research finds that over 50% of these handsets will be shipped in the emerging markets of Asia Pacific and the remainder in the markets of Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Eastern Europe.





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IMS 2007: TECHNICAL PROGRAM



MS 2007 is the largest international conference devoted to the research, development and application of RF and microwave theory and techniques. The Technical Program Committee (TPC) consists of 232 dedicated reviewers who received a near-record 1039 submissions from 33 countries and regions. After much hard work, the TPC selected 381 papers for oral presentation and 142 for the Interactive Forum. This year, we arranged the Interactive Forum into four two-hour sessions. This will give the presenters and attendees more flexibility to acquire technical information. We have created five Focused Sessions and three Special Sessions. The Focused Sessions provide information on the latest technical advances in the following areas: (1) millimeter-wave imaging; (2) microwave in societal security; (3) microwave systems in deep space missions; (4) microwave-photonic signal processing; and (5) advances in GaN technology. Two Special Sessions are on microwave activities in the Pacific Rim countries and the submillimeter-wave activities of Mauna Kea. The other Special Session is dedicated to the memory of the late Dr. Leo Young, who is well known among the microwave community, particularly in the area of passive components and filters.

There will be five Panel Sessions during lunchtime on Signal Integrity, GaN, MEMS, Terahertz and GaAs. In addition, there is an Information Session on research funding by the National Science Foundation. We will enhance the operation of the Stu-

dent Paper Competition. The selected finalists will present extremely high level research results carried out as graduate students. These papers are not only presented in the regular sessions but will also compete during the Student Paper Competition session in an interactive format.

In the recent history of the IMS, the Workshops have become more and more popular. This year is no exception. We have organized a total of 47 Workshops distributed on Sunday (20), Monday (14) and Friday (13). Topics cover almost all imaginable subjects related to RF and microwaves, and range from advanced to tutorial in nature. For the first time in the recent history of the IMS, we have implemented a Short Course program. We plan to provide eight Short Courses on Sunday, Monday and Friday. Short Courses differ from Tutorial Workshops. The course is typically taught by one to two instructors and the attendees can obtain IEEE certified CEU (Continuing Education Unit). We have organized Workshops and Short Courses with strong electromagnetic flavor on Friday so that these events may be conveniently attended by the participants of the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Symposium to be held on the subsequent week, also in Honolulu.

On behalf of the TPC, I am confident that all attendees will have a very rewarding experience by participating in the technical activities of IMS 2007.

TATSUO ITOH Technical Program Chair, IMS 2007





How it works: Harlan has selected one question from his "Ask Harlan" column to be featured in the magazine. Please visit www.mwjournal.com/askharlan to provide an answer to this month's featured question (see below). Harlan will be monitoring the responses and will ultimately choose the best answer to the question. Although all of the responses to the featured question will be posted on our web site, we plan to publish the winning answer in the May issue. All responses must be submitted by April 6, 2007, to be eligible for the participation of the March question.

The winning response will win a free book from Artech House, along with an "I Asked Harlan!" t-shirt. In addition, everyone who submits a legitimate response will be sent an "I Asked Harlan!" t-shirt.

January Question and Winning Response

The January question was submitted by John McFarland from SNC:

Dear Harlan

Can you explain why the polarization sense of a circularly polarized plane wave changes when it bounces off a reflecting surface? For instance, Right Hand Circular Polarization (RHCP) turns into Left Hand Circular Polarization (LHCP) when undergoing a single bounce off a reflector. The sense of the polarization is defined by the sense (CW/CCW) of rotation of the composite wave (vector sum of the H and V waves) as viewed in the direction of its propagation. When the incident wave undergoes two bounces—say off a dihedral corner reflector—it changes back to the originally incident sense, e.g., RHCP undergoing two bounces will propagate back to the transmitter as RHCP. I know this is what happens from experience, but I have never been able to explain why.

The winning response to the January question is from Phong Vu of Powerwave Technologies Inc.:

Circularly polarized EM waves can be decomposed into two perpendicular EM plane waves of the same propagating direction, the same frequency, equal amplitude and a 90° difference in phase. The sense of a circular EM polarization is reversed when the two component plane waves exchange their relative phases. That is when the plane wave component that lags the other by 90° becomes the one that leads by 90°. For continuity of variations of electric and magnetic field magnitudes at the boundary, a plane wave has the sum of the phases of its incident and reflected waves equal zero at the reflection boundary. The zero phase sum reflection causes the 90° leading incident plane wave component of a circularly polarized wave to produce the 90° lagging component of the reflected circularly polarized wave. Hence, the polarization sense reverses as a circularly polarized wave bounces off a reflection surface.

Harlan's response:

A circularly polarized wave consists of two equal e-vectors at 90 degrees to each other. When they reflect off a conducting surface they experience a 180 degree phase reversal so the leading vector becomes the lagging vector and a RHCP becomes a LHCP. A double reflecton will restore the original relationship.

This Month's Question of the Month

Madhusudhan from VT University, Belgaum, India has submitted this month's question:

Dear Harlan,

I would like to introduce myself as a PhD student in microwave and MEMS doing research in India. I have just started my research in modeling of MEMS devices and I have encountered a problem. I am very much confused by different things like field solvers and SPICE models. Could you provide any clarity between the two and also suggest field solvers or a low cost field solver that I can work with for my degree?

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2007 IEEE Radio Frequency Integrated Circuits Symposium Honolulu, Hawaii June 3-5, 2007



Aloha,

When you think of the word Hawaii, what first comes to mind? Sunshine, beautiful beaches, snorkeling, and a great place to visit are immediate thoughts many of us would have. In addition to all of this, add one more thought: three days of some of the most remarkable RFIC technology to be found anywhere in the world. Mark your calendar and make reservations for the **2007 IEEE RFIC Symposium** (www.RFIC2007.org) to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii from June 3rd through June 5th.

Once again, this year's RFIC Symposium continues its tradition as the premier conference showcasing the latest advancements and innovations occurring in RF integrated circuits, wireless sub-systems, broadband communications, and circuit technology for emerging wireless applications. The symposium continues to provide a forum for some of the most innovative advancements from both industry and academia.

Hawaii: Sun, beaches, and remarkable RFIC technology!



The vitality of the RFIC community appears stronger than ever, as an all-time record number of manuscripts were submitted to this year's conference. The Technical Program Committee has worked diligently to provide a superior venue for this vast array of RFIC technology. The symposium will feature 15 workshops and tutorials on Sunday, June 3rd. In addition, 30 oral sessions, an Interactive Forum, and two panel sessions will be given on Monday and Tuesday, covering nearly all facets of RFIC technology.

A Plenary Session will be held on Sunday evening, with keynote addresses given by two renowned industry leaders. The first speaker, Charles Persico, Senior Vice President of Engineering at Qualcomm Inc. will present a talk entitled "Wireless Convergence – Your Phone is Not Just a Phone Anymore." The second speaker, Dwight C. Streit, Ph.D., Vice President, Electronics Technology, Northrop Grumman Space Technology, will discuss "Technology Directions for Future RF Applications." The three best student paper awards will also be presented in the Plenary Session. The highly anticipated RFIC Reception will follow immediately after the Plenary Session, providing a relaxing time for all to mingle with old friends and catch up on the latest news.

On behalf of the RFIC Technical Program Committee, we look forward to seeing you at the 2007 RFIC Symposium. Mahalo.

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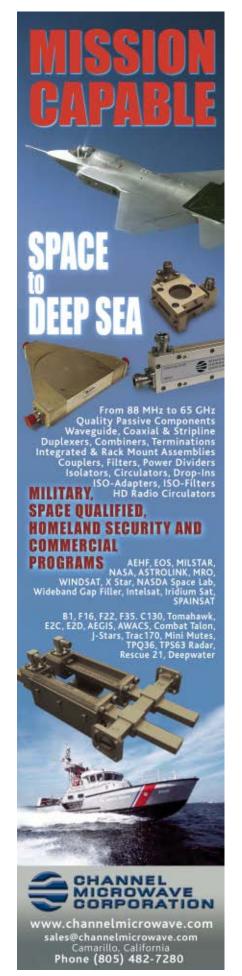
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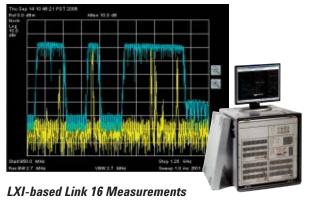
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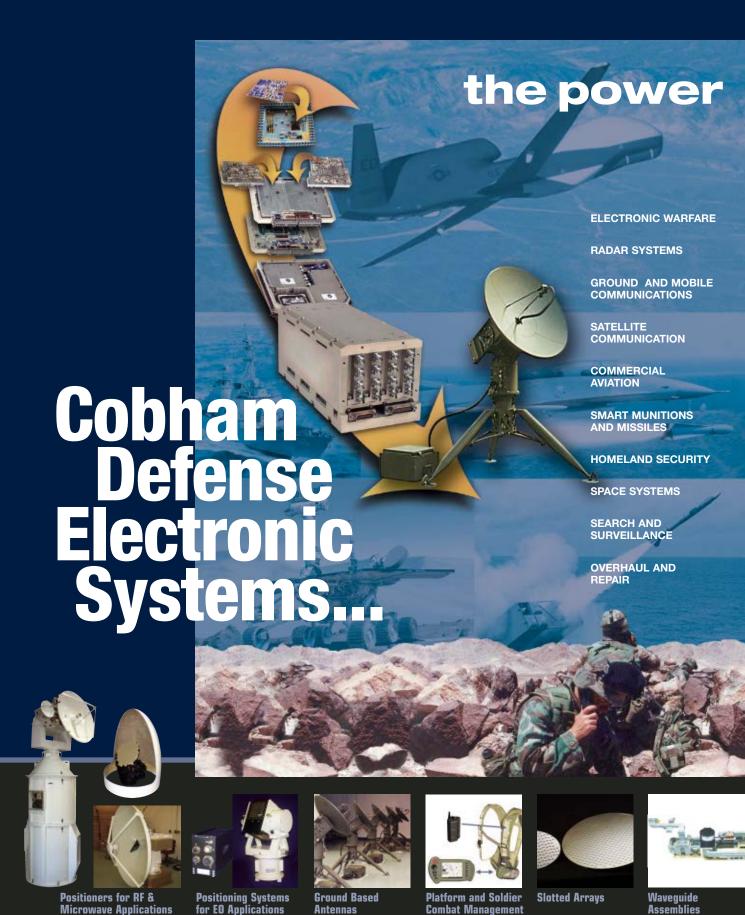
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RF, ANALOG AND DIGITAL SYSTEMS CONVERGE FOR NEXT GENERATION ELECTRONICS

he market demand for increased functionality, higher reliability and performance within ever shrinking form factors has placed new demands on designers of high performance designs. The convergence of RF, analog and digital systems within the same design and package now requires engineers to consider coupling effects that were heretofore negligible. This article will highlight the new challenges today's designers encounter and present new solutions using case studies from collaborations with the world's leading technology companies.

One trend that has become absolute is the convergence of RF, analog and digital systems in the same design and package. An example of such a device is the SCH-B570 phone introduced by Samsung Electronics. The Samsung phone has an 8 GB hard drive capable of recording 16 movies, picture-in-picture functionality, a 2 Mp camera, GPS functionality and an MP3 player capable of storing 1600 files.

To achieve the goal of high performance in small size at low power consumption, system-on-chip (SoC), system-in-package (SiP) and package-on-package (PoP) designs have be-

come prevalent design configurations. These platforms combine RF, analog and digital components to enable efficient integration of computing, multimedia and communications functions. Cost/performance targets drive the integration of ICs, SoCs and SiPs onto low cost printed circuit boards. Process migration to 65 nm and below, multiple stacking packages, high performance CPUs and multi-band antenna topologies are at the heart of mobile products and technology strategies worldwide.

The challenges posed by RF/analog/digital integration require the integration of electronic design automation (EDA) software as well. In years past, it was sufficient to use one EDA vendor's tool to perform harmonic balance circuit simulation on an oscillator, power amplifier or mixer, another vendor's time domain circuit simulation tool to compute the transient response of a data converter or PLL, and still a third vendor's electromagnetic simulation tool to compute the effect of interactions in

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the interconnects. With tightly integrated systems, chip/package/board co-design is required. The days when RF, analog and digital designs were performed in isolation are nearing an end.

NEW CHALLENGES IN HIGH PERFORMANCE, INTEGRATED DESIGN

The first challenge faced in high performance design is that of simulating in both the time and frequency domains and integrating RF metrics (such as gain, phase noise and insertion loss) with analog metrics (such as eye diagrams and skew rates). For consistency and accuracy, it is important to use the same simulator to perform both frequency domain harmonic balance analysis and time domain Spice simulation. The circuit models deployed should not vary across the frequency domain and

time domain, ensuring results across analysis domains are the same. Ansoft's circuit simulator Nexxim® provides designers with the ability to accurately simulate in both domains and successfully integrates the disparate harmonic balance and Spice simulation technologies.

Consider the design of a voltagecontrolled oscillator for an ultrawideband radio. It is important to perform a harmonic balance simulation of this circuit to determine its oscillation frequencies and to compute the phase noise. In addition, it is important to determine the transient response of the circuit at start-up. If two different simulators are used to perform these two types of analysis, a discrepancy between the results may occur. However, Nexxim uses a single set of models and fundamental numerical constructs in both types of analysis. As shown in **Figure 1**, the result obtained from the harmonic balance simulation is the same as that obtained using a long (long enough to achieve steady state) transient simulation

The second challenge faced in next generation design is substrate coupling due to the higher levels of device integration. Substrate coupling effects and other parasitics are often described in the frequency domain while the operating frequencies within a radio circuit are defined by the carrier frequency, the local oscillator and all tones (harmonics and intermodulation) generated by circuit nonlinearities. For high frequency designs, simulation in the frequency domain is more efficient and faster than in the time domain. This efficiency and speed provide a distinct advantage for harmonic balance over other techniques in the analysis of broadband radio blocks.

In the past two decades, harmonic balance algorithms have worked well for RF board and MMIC applications containing device counts ranging up to a few hundred transistors. However, next generation RFICs incorporate thousands of active device and tens of thousands of post-layout parasitics and operate with many independent and harmonically related tones. Traditional harmonic balance solvers are incapable of handling the large number of devices and circuit harmonics. Nexxim incorporates pro-

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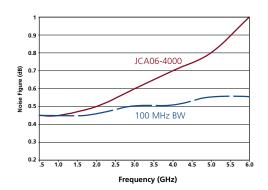
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JCA01-3043	0.70 to 0.80	40	0.5	1.00	15	2.0:1	250
JCA01-3044	0.80 to 0.90	40	0.5	1.00	15	2.0:1	250
JCA01-2034	0.80 to 0.90	30	0.5	1.00	10	2.0:1	200
JCA01-2035	0.90 to 1.00	30	0.5	1.00	10	2.0:1	200
JCA01-3045	0.90 to 1.00	40	0.5	1.00	15	2.0:1	250
JCA01-2001	0.50 to 1.00	30	0.9	2.00	10	2.0:1	200
JCA12-2000	1.00 to 2.00	30	0.9	1.50	10	2.0:1	200
JCA12-3000	1.00 to 2.00	40	0.9	1.50	15	2.0:1	250
JCA12-4000	1.00 to 2.00	50	0.9	1.50	15	2.0:1	300
JCA14-3001	1.00 to 4.00	40	0.9	2.00	15	2.5:1	250
JCA14-2001	1.00 to 4.00	30	0.9	2.00	10	2.5:1	200
JCA14-4001	1.00 to 4.00	50	0.9	2.00	15	2.5:1	300
JCA24-2000	2.00 to 4.00	30	0.9	1.50	10	2.0:1	200
JCA24-3000	2.00 to 4.00	40	0.9	1.50	15	2.0:1	250
JCA24-4000	2.00 to 4.00	50	0.9	1.50	15	2.0:1	300
JCA06-4000	0.50 to 6.00	30	1.2	2.00	10	2.5:1	300
JCA26-2001	2.00 to 6.00	30	1.2	2.00	10	2.0:1	200
JCA26-3001	2.00 to 6.00	40	1.2	2.00	15	2.0:1	250
JCA26-4001	2.00 to 6.00	50	1.2	2.00	15	2.0:1	300
New High Frequency Models							
JCA2640-4000	26.0 to 40.0	37	3.0	3.50	10	2.5:1	275
JCA2640-3000	26.0 to 40.0	27	3.0	3.00	10	2.5:1	200

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prietary preconditioning schemes and iterative solution techniques that reduce the computational complexity and memory requirements for harmonic balance analysis, enabling the analysis of even larger circuits.

To examine the capabilities of this new iterative solver for large circuits, the RFIC differential IQ mixer, shown in *Figure 2*, was simulated with post-layout parasitics included in the simulation. The total component

count was 95,127 of which approximately 1500 were MOSFETs and 90,000 elements were extracted RC parasitic elements. The mixer was driven by two independent RF signals which included two harmonics each and the local oscillator tone including one harmonic. This problem size proved too large for conventional harmonic balance simulation, which fails to converge. Nexxim's algorithmic innovations allowed the same

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problem to be solved in just 42 minutes.

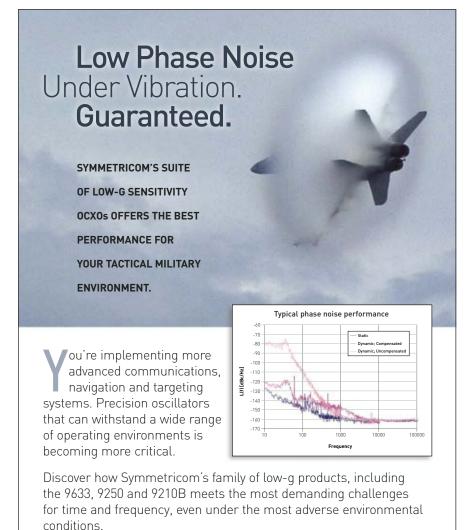
FULL-WAVE ACCURATE PCB SIMULATIONS

Next generation electronics often contain PCBs and packages of immense complexity. To determine the electromagnetic interactions of these structures, a new technology was developed that exploits their predominantly planar composition. The software tool is called SIwave and it provides fast package and PCB analysis for large complex structures by taking advantage of the orthogonality of planar modes and transmission line modes. These orthogonal modes allow the software to significantly reduce the problem size from what it would be if the same structure were analyzed using a full 3D solver. SIwave solves a wave equation based upon the finite element method between the planes, providing a fullwave solution that is accurate until non-TEM parallel plate modes begin to propagate (that occurs when the plane-to-plane spacing approaches half a wavelength; about 300 GHz for FR4 with 10-mil spacing).

SIwave extracts parasitic parameters (S, Y and Z), displays 3D electromagnetic fields and generates broadband SPICE and/or S-parameter models from layout data that is directly imported from industry standard PCB and package layout tools. The resulting data allows engineers to characterize resonances, reflections and coupling between traces and power/ground planes for boards such as the 30 by 40 cm, 26 layer PCB with 6500 nets shown in Figure 3. This particular board resulted in a problem size of 1.75 million unknowns yet was solved in less than 20 minutes. The simulation closely matches measured results from 1 MHz to 10 GHz.

FREQUENCY-BASED MODELS IN THE TIME DOMAIN

In addition to handling larger problems, today's circuit simulation requires the flexibility to handle models from multiple vendors at varying levels of abstraction. This involves the ability to natively parse a variety of descriptive languages (SPICE, Verilog, VHDL, IBIS, Touchstone...), the ability to integrate and simulate cir-



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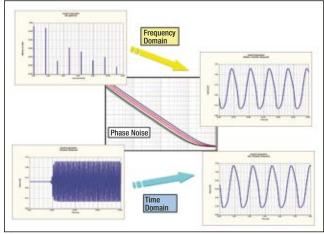
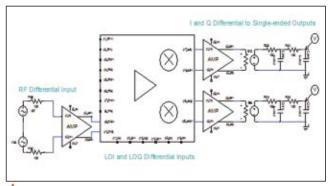
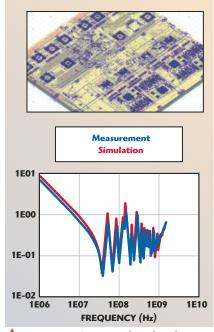


Fig. 1 Consistency of oscillator results across time and frequency domains.



▲ Fig. 2 Differential IQ mixer simulated with the post-layout parasitics included, approximately 95,000 components in total.



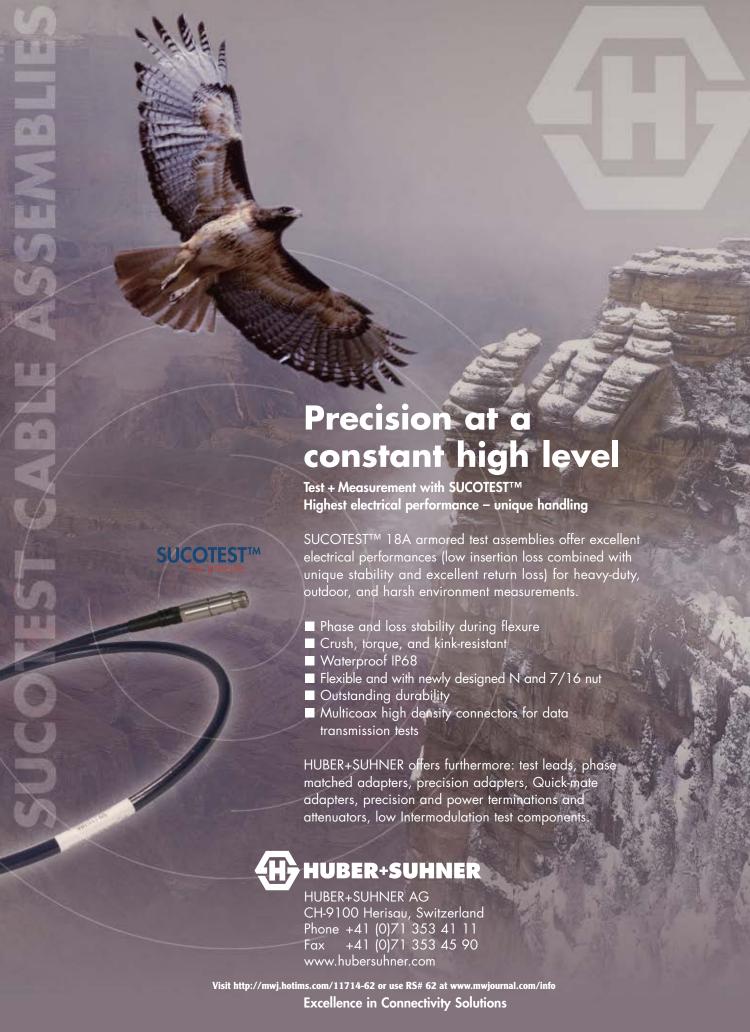
▲ Fig. 3 PCB (30x40 cm board, 26 layers, 6500 nets) solved with SIwave in less than 20 minutes.

parasitics associated with passive interconnects and components operating at high frequencies. These para-

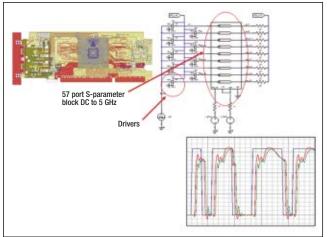
> sitics are typically represented as stat-S-parameters from electromagnetic (EM) simulation or from measurement or as dynamic S-parameters parametric EM/circuit co-simulation. One growing concern with S-parameters is that they are frequency domain models that must often be used in transient time domain simulations. The simple solution would seem to be to apply an inverse FFT, impulse response or convolution technique to the S-parameters to make them suitable for transient analysis. However, these approaches often raise problems with causality, non-passivity, lengthy simulation run times and some cases

wrong results or a failed simulation altogether.

Nexxim utilizes a state space approach based on a pole-residue fit to the frequency domain data. By applying this formulation to only stable poles, causality is preserved. The model-order reduction also includes a passivity enforcement algorithm that may be set by the designer. This proprietary pole-residue fitting algorithm leads to extremely efficient transient simulations by reducing the problem to a simple first-order differential equation enabling fast and accurate simulation results. The advantage of the state space approach is evident in the investigation of simultaneous switching noise on the high speed PCB shown in *Figure 4*. The board, modeled as a 57 port S-parameter block from DC to 5 GHz, was terminated with 18 IBIS drivers and 50 Ω loads. The transient simulation from t = 0 to t = 50 ns took just over







 \blacktriangle Fig. 4 A complex PCB modeled as a 57 port S-parameter block from DC to 5 GHz using SIwave; the transient response of the PCB excited by 18 IBIS drivers and 50 Ω loads simulated by Nexxim.

five minutes to complete. Automatic caching of the pole-residue fitting data re-applies the results of the fitting operation for an unchanged passive network to further speed subsequent time domain analyses.

Today's technology leaders often demand greater simulation accuracy than what IBIS models provide. However, the complexity and size of such a problem using silicon or transistor-level drivers is beyond the limits of traditional circuit simulation methods. Nexxim was designed to satisfy this unique requirement. In Figure 5, the complete design is solved with transistor level accuracy and frequency dependant layout effects. The design includes an extracted, 44 port S-parameter package model, and the complete circuit with 148,000 MOSFETs, 1.7 million ca-

pacitors 500,000 resistors. Designers may now fully verify much larger designs with full-wave and transistor level accuracy to minimize surprises after tape-out. Further system simulation accuracy may be achieved when silicon or transistor-level drivers are incorporated instead of IBIS behavioral models. In the past, the complexity and size of such a problem

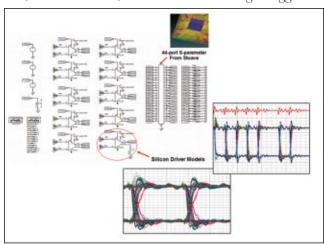
was beyond the limits of existing circuit simulation. Today, Nexxim has the capacity to address the complete driver/receiver/channel chain as is demonstrated in the example. This level of design verification will be critical to eliminating repeated board, package and/or IC design cycles.

CHIP/PACKAGE/BOARD CO-DESIGN

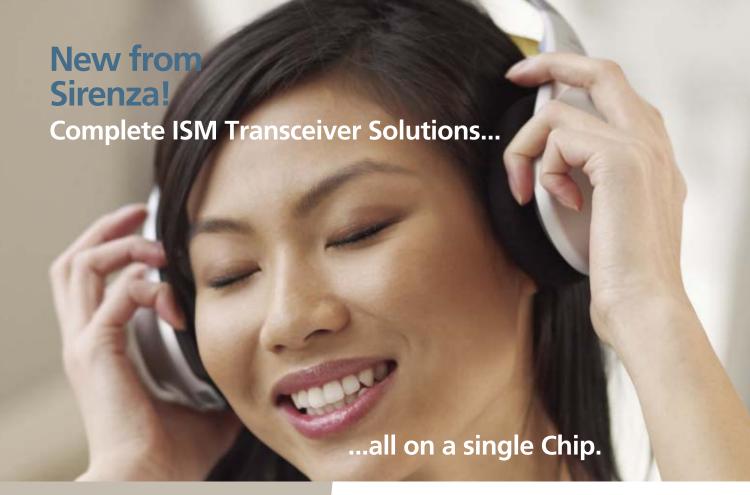
To illustrate the next generation of integrated design environment, consider the example of an advanced DDR2 test bench. This system consists of a driver circuit and package, a main printed circuit board, an interface board, several connectors, a coaxial cable and the test board itself. The system operates using a double data rate (DDR) channel in which logic triggers under both the rise and

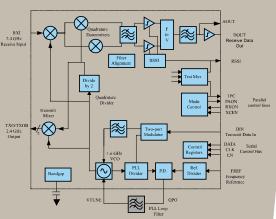
fall of each signal. The DDR standard calls for operational clock rates from 133 to 200 MHz, DDR2 from 266 to 400 MHz and DDR3 from 533 to 800 MHz. To maintain data integrity as clock speeds increase, full channel analysis is required from the main board through the connectors to the test board and back again.

The high level schematic of the



▲ Fig. 5 Transient analysis and resulting eye diagrams for a system containing a 44 port full-wave channel model and silicon driver models consisting of 148,000 MOSFETs, 1.7 million capacitors and 500,000 resistors.





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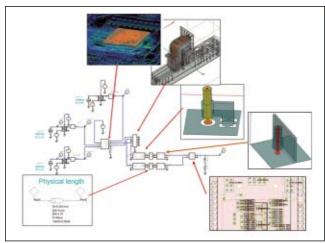
These fully integrated, 2FSK ISM-band transceivers include complete receiver, transmitter and synthesizer on a single chip. They are designed for simple ease-of-use with a minimum of external components and no tuning/alignment. To help customers get started quickly, Sirenza also offers a starter kit that demonstrates a working wireless link using a low-cost microcontroller and simple packet protocol.

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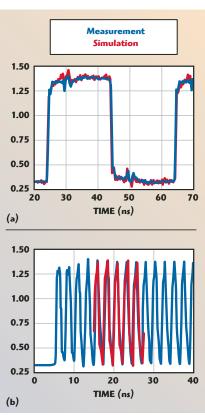
RoHS and WEEE compliant parts are also available.





▲ Fig. 6 DDR2 test system consisting of a driver circuit and package, a main printed circuit board, an interface board, several connectors, a coaxial cable and the test board.

memory test system is shown in *Figure 6*. In this schematic, the various elements represent the main components of the system. The main board and the test board are simulated in SIwave to compute the input impedance of the boards as a function of frequency. The frequency dependent S-parameter block is then used in Nexxim circuit simulation. The connector and interface board is simulat-



▲ Fig. 7 Simulated versus measured results of the DDR2 test system for (a) 50 Mbps and (b) 830 Mbps.

ed in the 3D electromagnetic field simulator HFSS.TM The parasitics of the interface board to coaxial cable connection as well as the coax to test board are computed by using the 3D parameter extraction tool Q3D Extractor.® The coaxial cable itself is modeled using analytical models in Ansoft Designer.® Finally, a test probe model from the data sheet is included to en-

sure a one-to-one correspondence between the measurement parameters and the simulation parameters.

Simulated versus measured results for both 50 and 830 Mbps are presented in *Figure 7*. Excellent agreement is observed. The full-channel simulation methodology is then employed to perform a number of design studies. A pseudo-random bit steam is introduced on the aggressor line and an eye diagram of the response is computed, as shown in *Figure 8*. By examining the eye diagram crossovers, the maximum skew rate of the channel is determined.

SIMULATING ELECTRONICS IN THE NEXT GENERATION WORLD

The ability to integrate EM-based S-parameter models, behavioral and transistor-level circuit models as well as digital models and effectively incorporate them into an existing design flow is illustrated by the design methodology adopted at Intel. To maintain their leading position in the PC market, Intel has adopted a Design for Manufacturing (DFM) approach in which Design of Experiments (DOE) is used together with scripts, circuit and electromagnetic simulation tools to simulate and optimize over a wide range of computer operating conditions. Previously, this approach incorporated simple models of electromagnetic effects and worked well in the design of earlier, slower speed computers. However, it proved inadequate at accurately predicting system behavior as slow parallel buses were being replaced by high

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DC Current @ +12/+15VDC		190	150	150	09	100	170	200		480	1500	2000	450	1850		150	130	150	nt offset	100KHz	-170	-168	-164.5	-178	-175						200
VSWR (In/Out)		2.0:1	1.8:1	1.8:1	2.5:1	2.2:1	2.2:1	2.5:1		2.0:1	1.8:1	2.0:1	2.0:1	2.0:1		1.8:1	1.5:1	1.8:1	Bc/Hz) a	10KHz	-167	-165.5	-158.5	-165	-160			W.	mA	DmA	-
P1dB (dBm) min		+7	+10	+10	+5	8+	8+	8+	S	+23*	+33	+33	+25	+33		+10	+10	+10	Phase noise (dBc/Hz) at offset	1KHz	-159	-157.5	-153.5	-165	-160		DC	+28V @ 470mA	+28V @ 700mA	+15V @ 1100mA	
NF (dB) P max	Amplifiers	1.3*	1.2	1.5	2.2	2.7	3.5*	2.8	r Amplifie	3.2*	9	5.5	4	4	Amplifiers	7.0	1.5	1.6	— Phas	100Hz	-154	-152.5	-145.5	-150	-155	Amplifiers	OIP3 (dBm)	52	53	43	
Flatness (dB) max	Broadband Low Noise Amplifiers	±1.25	±1.0	+1.5	±1.0	±1.0	±2.25	±2.0	Broadband Medium Power Amplifiers	±1.25	±2.5	+2.0	+2.5	+2.5	Narrow Band Low Noise Amplifiers	±0.75	±0.75	±0.75		Output Power (dBm)	17	18	28	20	15	High Dynamic Range Amplifiers	P1dB (dBm)	32	28	30	
Gain (dB)	Iband L	28	30	30	6	16	22	33	and Med	21	28	30	32	32	/ Band	28	24	24	fiers —	Gain (dB)	6	18	15	6	7	Dynam	Gain	(dD)	23	32	
Frequency (GHz)	Broad	0.1 – 6.0	4.0 - 8.0	4.0 - 12.0	2.0 – 18.0	0.5 - 18.0	0.1 - 26.5	12.0 – 26.5	Broadb	0.01 – 6.0	2.0 - 6.0	2.0 - 8.0	2.0 - 18.0	6.0 - 18.0	Narrov	2.8 – 3.1	14.0 – 14.5	17.0 – 18.0	Low Phase Noise Amplifiers	Frequency (GHz)	8.5 - 11.0	8.5 – 11.0	8.5 – 11.0	2.0 - 6.0	2.0 - 6.0	High	Frequency (MHz)	2 – 32	50 - 500	20 - 2000	
Model		AML016L2802	AML48L3001	AML412L3002	AML218L0901	AML0518L1601-LN	AML0126L2202	AML1226L3301		AML0016P2001	AML26P3001-2W	AML28P3002-2W	AML218P3203	AML618P3502-2W		AML23L2801	AML1414L2401	AML1718L2401	Low Phas	Part Number	AML811PN0908	AML811PN1808	AML811PN1508	AML26PN0904	AML26PN1201		Part Number	AR01003251X	AFL30040125	BP60070024X	*Above 500MHz.

	Frequency (GHz)	Psat (dBm)	Psat (W)	P1dB (dBm)	Gain (dB)	DC Current(A) @ +12V or +15V
		Broadband	Місгомаче	Broadband Microwave Power Amplifiers	ifiers —	
	1 - 4	42.5	17.8	41.5	45	14
	2 - 4	44	25	42.5	45	14
	2 - 6	40	10	38.5	40	8.5
	2 - 8	41	12	40	40	17
	2 - 18	32	1.4	31	35	5
	4 - 8	43	20	41.5	45	17
	6 - 18	43	20	41.5	45	22
	8 - 12	46	40	45	45	28
		- Millimete	er-Wave Po	Millimeter-Wave Power Amplifiers	Ş	
	18 - 26	34	2.5	33	35	4
	18 - 40	27	0.5	26	30	2
	22 - 40	28.5	0.7	27	30	က
	26 - 30	39	8.0	38	40	15
	26 - 32	37	5.0	36	38	10
	26 - 40	31	1.2	30	30	5
	30 - 40	33	2.0	32	33	6
	33 - 37	36	4.0	35	40	12
	36 - 40	36	4.0	35	40	10
		- High-Pow	ver Rack M	High-Power Rack Mount Amplifiers	ırs —	
	Frequency (GHz)	Psat (dBm)	Psat (W)	P1dB (dBm)	Pac (kW)	Height (in)
C071077-52	7.1 - 7.7	52.5	170	51.5	1.8	10.25
C090105-50	9 - 10.5	20	100	49	_	8.75
C140145-50	14 - 14.5	50.5	110	49.5	2	10.25
	14 - 16	46	40	45	0.35	5.25
	18 - 20	43	20	41.5	0.25	5.25
	23 - 26	40	10	39	0.25	5.25
	26 - 30	45	30	44	0.45	5.25
	32 - 36	40	10	39	0.25	5.25
	36 - 40	39	8	38	0.24	5.25



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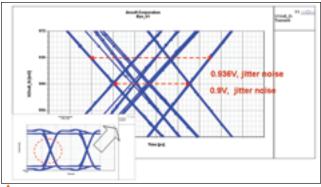


Fig. 8 DDR2 channel jitter noise analysis based on transient simulation of full-wave extracted channel model.

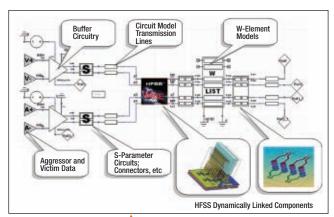


Fig. 9 EM-based Design for

Manufacturing simulation environment supporting high speed serial designs.

speed serial buses including PCI Express and ATA. The block diagram of the new simulation requirements is presented in *Figure* 9. In this figure, W-elements are used to characterize transmission lines, S-parameter models are adopted to characterize threedimensional interconnects and planar electromagnetics solutions are used to characterize transitions.

A key feature of this methodology is the ability to perform rapid analysis and optimization on multiple levels of model accuracy. Initial design is performed at a high level using only behavioral and circuit level components. As the design is refined, circuit level models may be replaced by more detailed electromagnetic models using the unique Solver-on-DemandTM technology. With this method, a one button click is all that is required to switch from a circuit level simulation to an electromagnetic level simulation. If the selected component has been previously solved using an EM solver, the model is cached and the pre-computed values are used; otherwise, the electromagnetic simulator is called and the precise electromagnetic solution computed. Since all parameters in geometry, materials and frequencies

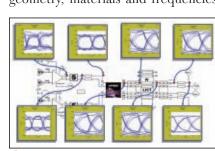
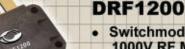


Fig. 10 Examining the eye closure at various points in the high speed channel.

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are common between the electromagnetic, circuit and system level simulators, it is easy to perform whatif analyses to optimize performance and ensure successful designs.

In addition, Intel requested a "bypass" capability in the design management system that allows any component to be short circuited in the design. This allows designers to study the effect of each component individually as well as together on degrading signal propagation through the channel. *Figure 10* shows the eye diagram evaluated at a number of locations along the channel. By selectively by-passing each of these components, the amount of closure caused by each component can be evaluated and any signal degradation beyond specifications can be flagged. In the example shown, the connector had the largest effect on closing the eye.



ELECTROMAGNETICS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Along with understanding the interactions that occur between the chip, package and board levels, engineering teams often need to investigate the wider environment within which their devices operate. The proliferation of wireless devices has resulted in a setting where numerous devices are working in close proximity leading to potential signal interference. Mobile phones, GPS and RFID are just a few of the application areas where antennas are placed in close proximity to electronic circuitry; the actual and precise location of the antenna affects the system performance. As a result, antenna designers are increasingly performing simulations to characterize the interactions between the antenna and the electronics.

Figure 11 shows the electromagnetic fields that result from a GPS an-

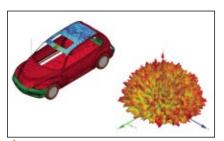
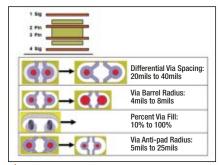
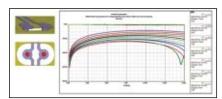


Fig. 11 The electromagnetic field and radiation far field pattern resulting from a GPS antenna placed on the roof of a Chrysler PT Cruiser.



▲ Fig. 12 Model of a differential via structure for a high frequency multi-layer printed circuit board in HFSS.



▲ Fig. 13 Parametric simulation with the Distributed Solve Option accelerates the simulation run time of this return loss and insertion loss versus oval anti-pad radius studu.

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DAT-15575-P ▲ DAT-15575-S ▲	Parallel Serial	75 75	DC-2000 DC-2000	15.5 15.5	0.5 0.5	5 5	3.55 3.55
DAT-31-P ▲ DAT-31-S ▲	Parallel Serial	50 50	DC-2400 DC-2400	31.0 31.0	1.0	5	3.55 3.55
DAT-3175-P ▲ DAT-3175-S ▲	Parallel Serial	75 75	DC-2000 DC-2000	31.0 31.0	1.0 1.0	5 5	3.55 3.55
DAT-31R5-P ▲ DAT-31R5-S ▲	Parallel Serial	50 50	DC-2400 DC-2400	31.5 31.5	0.5 0.5	6 6	3.80 3.80
DAT-31575-P ▲ DAT-31575-S ▲	Parallel Serial	75 75	DC-2000 DC-2000	31.5 31.5	0.5 0.5	6 6	3.80 3.80

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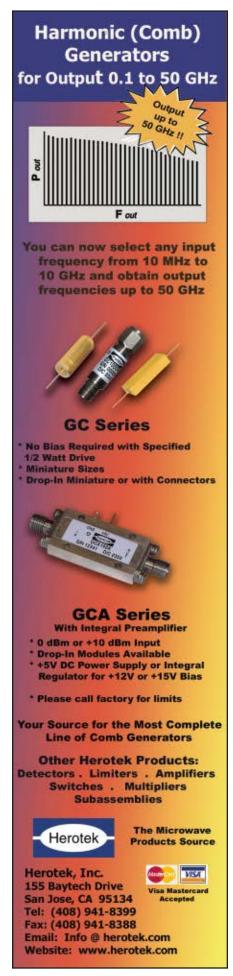




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tenna placed on the roof of a Chrysler PT Cruiser. To model these fields, the air space around the car was over 2500 cubic wavelengths. From these fields the radiation pattern of the antenna and car can be determined. Since the car body involves many large conducting surfaces, the resulting images produce a "sea urchin" radiation pattern.

LEVERAGING TODAY'S COMPUTE POWER

New compute architectures pack more processors into less space with large memory allowing massive simulations. While Intel and AMD are delivering multi-core processors with 64-bit architectures, system vendors like HP, Sun and others are working with multinationals to install ever more powerful compute farms. Early on, Ansoft recognized this trend and developed 64-bit solvers, multithreaded architectures and new options like DSO (Distributed Solve Option). These new technologies allow designers to more rapidly explore device or system performance over a range of dimensions, orientations, material parameters and frequency. Sensitivity analysis, design of experiments, genetic algorithm optimizers, manufacturing tolerances and material variances are being combined to provide engineers with design insights that have never before been possible.

The power of these new methods can be seen using a simple example to study vias in a PCB. *Figure 12* illustrates a differential via structure with geometric parameters including spacing, barrel radius, percent fill and anti-pad radius. The goal is to minimize the return loss by adjusting these parameters. Figure 13 shows a plot of the return loss and insertion loss performance as a function of anti-pad radius and the dramatic effect on return loss especially at the higher frequencies. Twenty-five CPUs, all managed from a single engineer's desktop, were used for the simulations. The distributed network took only seven minutes to complete the simulations vs. 110 minutes using a single computer. In addition, data management software caches these solutions and makes them available to the circuit designer, so that upstream and/or downstream design changes can be made in concert with a variety of layout options for the vias.

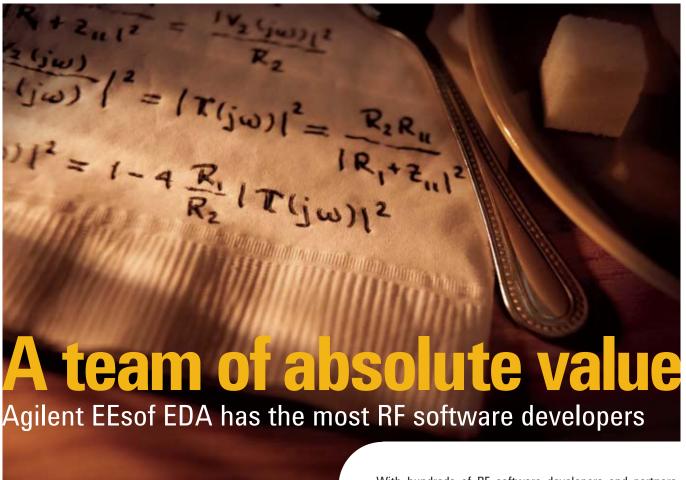
CONCLUSION

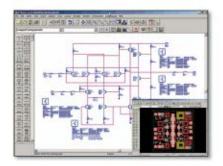
Next generation electronics involves the convergence of RF, analog and digital devices into tightly coupled high performance systems. Design of these systems requires the integration of RF, analog and digital circuits with careful consideration of the new physics that occur with more closely spaced high performance designs. New solutions have been developed to combine 3D EM physics together with new algorithms for time and frequency domain circuit simulation. Special attention to integrate these new solutions into the existing design flows has been made and case studies that highlight the ability to include frequency dependant layout effects and simulate the larger, more complex circuits that result have been shown. In addition, new algorithms have been developed to leverage the power of new compute systems, providing designers with unprecedented insight prior to building prototypes. \blacksquare



Zoltan Cendes is founder and chairman of Ansoft Corp., Pittsburgh, PA. He also serves as Ansoft's chief technology officer and is responsible for managing the company's research and development. He has made significant contributions in the

area of finite element modeling of electromagnetic devices. In particular, he solved the problem of spurious modes that prior to his work had made the application of finite element methods in electrical engineering impractical. He, along with his coworkers, developed new types of finite elements called edge elements that eliminate the problem of spurious modes. He also introduced the Delaunay mesh generation algorithm and adaptive mesh refinement procedures to finite element analysis and the transfinite element method and model order reduction procedures to high frequency electromagnetics. In 1980, he was appointed associate professor of electrical engineering at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. In 1982, he joined the faculty of electrical and computer engineering at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, where he was a professor until 1996. Cendes received his MS and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering from McGill University. Dr. Cendes is a Fellow of the IEEE, has served on the Editorial Board of IEEE Spectrum, on the International Steering Committee of the COMPUMAG Conference and as an IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (IEEE AP-S) Distinguished Lecturer. He is a member of the International Workshop on Finite Elements in Microwave Engineering Steering







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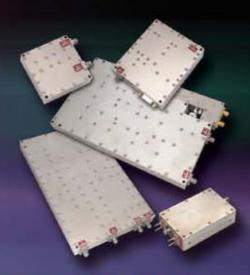
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OCTAVE BA	ND IOW N	DISE AMPI	IFIFRS			
Model No.	Freq (GHz)	Gain (dB) MIN		Power -out @ P1-d	3rd Order ICP	VSWR
CA01-2110	0.5-1.0	28	1.0 MAX, 0.7 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA12-2110 CA24-2111	1.0-2.0 2.0-4.0	30 29	1.0 MAX, 0.7 TYP	+10 MIN +10 MIN	+20 dBm +20 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA48-2111	4.0-8.0	29	1.1 MAX, 0.95 TYP 1.3 MAX, 1.0 TYP	+10 MIN +10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0.1
CA812-3111	8.0-12.0	27	1.6 MAX, 1.4 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA1218-4111	12.0-18.0	25	1.9 MAX, 1.7 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA1826-2110	18.0-26.5	32	3.0 MAX, 2.5 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA01-2111	0.4 - 0.5	NOISE ANI 28	D MEDIÚM PON 0.6 MAX, 0.4 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA01-21113	0.8 - 1.0	28	0.6 MAX, 0.4 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA12-3117	1.2 - 1.6	25	0.6 MAX, 0.4 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA23-3111	2.2 - 2.4	30	0.6 MAX, 0.45 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA23-3116 CA34-2110	2.7 - 2.9 3.7 - 4.2	29 28	0.7 MAX, 0.5 TYP 1.0 MAX, 0.5 TYP	+10 MIN +10 MIN	+20 dBm +20 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA56-3110	5.4 - 5.9	40	1.0 MAX, 0.5 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0.1
CA78-4110	7.25 - 7.75	32	1.2 MAX, 1.0 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA910-3110	9.0 - 10.6	25	1.4 MAX, 1.2 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA1315-3110	13.75 - 15.4	25 30		+10 MIN +33 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA12-3114 CA34-6116	1.35 - 1.85 3.1 - 3.5	40	4.0 MAX, 3.0 TYP 4.5 MAX, 3.5 TYP	+35 MIN +35 MIN	+41 dBm +43 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA56-5114	5.9 - 6.4	30	5.0 MAX, 4.0 TYP	+30 MIN	+40 dBm	2.0:1
CA812-6115	8.0 - 12.0	30	4.5 MAX, 3.5 TYP	+30 MIN	+40 dBm	2.0:1
CA812-6116	8.0 - 12.0	30	5.0 MAX, 4.0 TYP	+33 MIN	+41 dBm	2.0:1
CA1213-7110 CA1415-7110	12.2 - 13.25 14.0 - 15.0	28 30	6.0 MAX, 5.5 TYP 5.0 MAX, 4.0 TYP	+33 MIN +30 MIN	+42 dBm +40 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA1722-4110	17.0 - 22.0	25	3.5 MAX, 2.8 TYP	+21 MIN	+31 dBm	2.0:1
ULTRA-BRO	ADBAND &	MULTI-O	CTAVE BAND A	MPLIFIERS		
Model No.	Freg (GHz)	Gain (dB) MIN		Power -out @ P1-dl		VSWR
CA0102-3111 CA0106-3111	0.1-2.0 0.1-6.0	28 28	1.6 Max, 1.2 TYP 1.9 Max, 1.5 TYP	+10 MIN +10 MIN	+20 dBm +20 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA0108-3110	0.1-8.0	26	2.2 Max, 1.8 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA0108-4112	0.1-8.0	32	3.0 MAX, 1.8 TYP	+22 MIN	+32 dBm	2.0:1
CA02-3112	0.5-2.0	36	4.5 MAX, 2.5 TYP	+30 MIN	+40 dBm	2.0:1
CA26-3110 CA26-4114	2.0-6.0 2.0-6.0	26 22	2.0 MAX, 1.5 TYP 5.0 MAX, 3.5 TYP	+10 MIN +30 MIN	+20 dBm +40 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA618-4112	6.0-18.0	25	5.0 MAX. 3.5 TYP	+23 MIN	+33 dBm	2.0:1
CA618-6114	6.0-18.0	35	5.0 MAX, 3.5 TYP	+30 MIN	+40 dBm	2.0:1
CA218-4116	2.0-18.0	50	0.3 MAA, 2.0 III	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA218-4110 CA218-4112	2.0-18.0 2.0-18.0	30 29	5.0 MAX, 3.5 TYP 5.0 MAX, 3.5 TYP	+20 MIN +24 MIN	+30 dBm +34 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
LIMITING A		LI	J.0 MAX, 0.5 111	+Z+ //III	TOT UDITI	2.0.1
Model No.	Freq (GHz)	nput Dynamic R	lange Output Power	Range Psat Pov	ver Flatness dB	VSWR
CLA24-4001	2.0 - 4.0	-28 to +10 df	Bm +7 to +1	1 dBm -	⊦/- 1.5 MAX ⊦/- 1.5 MAX	2.0:1
CLA26-8001 CLA712-5001	2.0 - 6.0 7.0 - 12.4	-28 to +10 de -50 to +20 de -21 to +10 de	Bm +14 to +1 Bm +14 to +1	18 apm -	F/- 1.5 MAX F/- 1.5 MAX	2.0:1 2.0:1
CLA618-1201	6.0 - 18.0	-50 to +20 dB	Bm +14 to +1	19 dBm -	-/- 1.5 MAX	2.0:1
AMPLIFIERS \	WITH INTEGR.	ATED GAIN A	ATTENUATION			
Model No.	Freq (GHz)	Gain (dB) MIN		ver-out@P1-dB Gair		VSWR
CA001-2511A CA05-3110A	0.025-0.150 0.5-5.5	21 5		+12 MIN +18 MIN	30 dB MIN 20 dB MIN	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA56-3110A	5.85-6.425			+16 MIN	22 dB MIN	1.8:1
CA612-4110A	6.0-12.0		2.5 MAX, 1.5 TYP	+12 MIN	15 dB MIN	1.9:1
CA1515-4110A	13.75-15.4			+16 MIN	20 dB MIN	1.8:1
CA1518-4110A LOW FREQUE	15.0-18.0 NCY AMPLIFI		3.0 MAX, 2.0 TYP	+18 MIN	20 dB MIN	1.85:1
Model No.		Gain (dB) MIN		Power-out@P1-dB	3rd Order ICP	VSWR
CA001-2110	0.01-0.10	18	4.0 MAX, 2.2 TYP	+10 MIN	+20 dBm	2.0:1
CA001-2211	0.04-0.15	24 23	3.5 MAX, 2.2 TYP 4.0 MAX, 2.2 TYP	+13 MIN	+23 dBm	2.0:1
CA001-2215 CA001-3113	0.04-0.15 0.01-1.0	28	4.0 MAX, 2.2 TTP 4.0 MAX, 2.8 TYP	+23 MIN +17 MIN	+33 dBm +27 dBm	2.0:1 2.0:1
CA002-3114	0.01-2.0	27	4.0 MAX, 2.8 TYP	+20 MIN	+30 dBm	2.0:1
CA003-3116	0.01-3.0	18	4.0 MAX, 2.8 TYP	+25 MIN	+35 dBm	2.0:1
CA004-3112	0.01-4.0	32	4.0 MAX, 2.8 TYP	+15 MIN	+25 dBm	2.0:1
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Harris Completes Advanced EHF Navy Multi-band Terminal Testing

arris Corp. has successfully completed the Advanced EHF Multiband Terminal Prototype Testing (PT1) on its triband ship antenna and associated RF components five months ahead of schedule. Early completion of the PT1 testing ensures that compliant hardware

will be available for system-level testing of the Navy Multi-band Terminal scheduled for March 2007. The testing is part of the US Navy competition for the engineering, manufacture and development phase of the contract, which is expected to be awarded in June 2007 and could exceed \$1 B in value by 2015 for the winning company. Harris won a contract in 2003 to develop four prototypes of the next generation AEHF Navy Multi-band terminal for the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, which awarded the contract on behalf of its organizational partner, the Navy's Program Executive Office for C41. The first phase of the program is a 43-month effort to design and develop Q-band SATCOM submarine and shipboard terminals in support of the Navy's FORCEnet concept. The new terminals will provide the Navy with a modernized, highly reliable system that provides more than four times the data capacity of today's Milstar terminals. Additional phases will add high performance Ka- and X-band capabilities to the common terminal. The resulting system will replace current single- and dual-band terminals, yielding significant life cycle cost reductions and improved reliability. This approach offers the Navy better access to SATCOM assets, increased bandwidth and protection from jamming and interception of transmissions.

Lockheed Martin
Upgrades Missile
Warning System

Lockheed Martin announced the successful delivery of a new missile warning system to address tactical and strategic missile threats against the United States and Canada. US Strategic Command, US Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense comman-

ders will rely on this upgraded technology to quickly and accurately identify threats and coordinate response across forces. These Combatant Commander's Integrated Command and Control System (CCIC2S) Spiral 2 upgrades were developed as part of the Integrated Space Command and Control (ISC2) contract to integrate approximately 40 systems inside the Cheyenne Mountain Command Center into a common, interoperable command and control infrastructure. The delivery enhances the CCIC2S Spiral 1 air mission system deployed in 2004, improves the enterprise system operations capability and deploys the second release of the communication system.

"This delivery is a significant step forward in our nation's missile warning capability," said John Mengucci, vice president and general manager of the Mission and Combat Support Solutions Group for Lockheed Martin's Integrated Systems and Solutions business area. "The advanced technology implemented in this CCIC2S Spiral 2 enterprise system accurately and quickly depicts tactical and strategic missile threats posed by modern day weapon systems, providing commanders new capabilities to identify threats and coordinate responses across forces." Industry standard commercial-off-the-shelf technology in the new missile warning system will enable future integration with existing missile defense systems. The system also includes an updated missile processing display for theater users that includes support for the Joint Staff's emergency action procedures. With this release, the current Cold-War era system can be decommissioned, as operations are migrated to the new, flexible, open standard infrastructure that takes advantage of commercial products and technologies. When completely deployed, CCIC2S will be a "virtual command center," where operators can effortlessly reach across the full spectrum of the nation's space and strategic assets. War fighters at all echelons will have a common operational picture of the global battlefield derived from shared, real-time data that is available anytime and to any location in the world for specified users. This translates into faster response to enemy actions and improved strategic and tactical coordination among forces.

Raytheon Successfully Demonstrates Satellite Communications Alternative

During an exercise with the I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, CA, Raytheon successfully demonstrated that a traditional, transportable satellite communications terminal could be field configured to communicate without acquiring a satellite connection. This

capability, known as Troposcatter, or TROPO, transmits radio waves over the curvature of the Earth without using satellites. The US military currently employs these systems for tactical and strategic communications throughout the world. "This demonstration showed that it is possible to provide a viable alternative to traditional satellite communications with a light-weight, low power and rapidly deployable solution," said Jerry Powlen, vice president, Network Centric Systems' Integrated Communications Systems. "Enemy threats to satellite communications are real. We are offering a high performance, cost-effective solution to counter these threats." Colonel Kirk Bruno, information technology officer for the I Marine Expeditionary Force, said: "The ease of deployment and setup and the improved data rates with the TROPO systems drastically reduce the support needed to carry out a mission. Increased data throughput without relying on already stressed satellites is critical and unlike satellite communications, TROPO systems provide cost-free access."





Raytheon established the TROPO communications link between its Dual-mode, All-band Re-locatable Tactical Terminal, or DART-T, and a modified Joint Network Node satellite transportable terminal. The demonstration showed that the widely fielded JNN terminal could be adapted to include a high bandwidth troposcatter mode, which not only minimizes the current limitation of existing satellite bandwidth, but also provides continuous and reliable communications in areas of the world that do not have access to SATCOM.

Northrop Grumman Develops a New GPS Range Tracking System

newly certified Global Positioning System (GPS) range tracking system, developed for the Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) by Northrop Grumman Corp., was successfully flown at Vandenberg Air Force Base for the first time, as one of the two

independent tracking systems required for range safety. The GPS Metric Tracking System (GMTS) was developed, tested and provided by Northrop Grumman's Mission Systems sector as part of its role as the US Air

Forces' ICBM prime integrating contractor. "This new system will greatly improve capabilities for range users through more precise tracking, fewer range delays caused by radar downtime and significantly reduced launch support costs," said John Clay, vice president and general manager of the Northrop Grumman ICBM Prime Contract. The GMTS replaces the C-band transponders previously used to track the Minuteman III test launches from Vandenberg Air Force Base. As directed by the Air Force Space Command, the C-band tracking system is to be deactivated in FY 2007 for cost saving and modernization. The C-band tracking radars use the on-board C-band transponder signal to lock onto the missile and track missile position and velocity. The GMTS now utilizes the GPS satellite constellation to ensure accurate tracking worldwide. The Minuteman III incorporates GPS translators on the missile to receive information from the satellites and relay translated time and identification data to ground facilities. This data is used to more accurately calculate the position and velocity of the missile, which is required for range safety tracking during missile flight. Northrop Grumman is the Air Force's ICBM prime integration contractor charged with modernizing and maintaining alert readiness of the US ICBM weapon system through 2020. The company manages a team consisting of three principal teammates—Boeing, Lockheed Martin and ATK—and more than 20 subcontractors.

Dual High Power Directional Couplers

Freq. Range (MHz)	Coupling (dB)	Ins. Loss dB max.	VSWR In/Out max.	Input Power max.	P/N
2-32	30 ± 1	0.10	1.10:1	100w	C30-104-481/2*
2-32	50 ± 1	0.06	1.10:1	2500w	C50-101-481/1N
0.5-50	50 ± 1	0.10	1.10:1	2000w	C50-100-481/1N
0.5-100	30 ± 1	0.30	1.15:1	200w	C30-102-481/2*
0.5-100	40 ± 1	0.20	1.15:1	200w	C40-103-481/2*
20-200	50 ± 1	0.20	1.15:1	500w	C50-108-481/4N
20-400	30 ± 1	0.30	1.15:1	50w	C30-107-481/3*
100-500	40 ± 1	0.20	1.15:1	500w	C40-105-481/4N
500-1000	50 ± 1	0.20	1.15:1	500w	C50-106-481/4N
Directivity g	reater than 20	dB			

High Power Combiners 25 to 400 Watt Input

Freq. Range (MHz)	Isolation (dB)	Insertion Loss dB max.	Total Input Power max.	VSWR max.	P/N
			2-Way		
800-1000	25	0.3	100w	1.20:1	PPS2-12-450/1N
800-2200	18	0.5	100w	1.40:1	PPS2-10-450/1N
1700-220	0 20	0.4	100w	1.30:1	PPS2-11-450/1N
10-250	25	0.5	200w	1.20:1	PP2-13-450/50N
250-500	20	0.3	100w	1.30:1	PPS2-16-450/20N
500-1000	20	0.3	100w	1.30:1	PPS2-15-450/20N
			4-Way		
20-400	20	0.6	400w	1.30:1	PP4-50-452/2N
100-700	25	1.2	25w	1.40:1	P4-P06-440
30-1100	20	1.5	25w	1.50:1	P4-P09-440
5-1500	20	1.5	25w	1.50:1	P4-P10-440
* Available	in SMA and	N Connecto	ors		



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International Report

Richard Mumford, European Editor

European Consortium Forges NFC Development

Apan-European consortium of companies, universities and user groups has been created to develop an open architecture for the development, deployment and use of Near Field Communication (NFC) enabled applications in mobile handsets. Co-funded by the European Commission and the

Information Society Technologies (IST) programme, the *Store Logistics and Payment with NFC* (StoLPaN) project aims to define open commercial and technical frameworks for NFC enabled services on mobile devices.

In order to accurately address the interoperability issues currently affecting the technology, various usage cases are to be defined within the StoLPaN framework and tested throughout Europe. These usage cases will contribute to the identification of a common set of business rules, which will define the roles and responsibilities of every player in the NFC ecosystem. The results will then be submitted for approval to the relevant industry bodies for standardization of payments, mobile, transit and ticketing.

Based on these findings, the consortium will look into the specifications for technical requirements and the security aspects of NFC enabled applications. They will also explore the connection to existing contactless platforms, easing the burden on individual providers. At the same time the project team will demonstrate how the business rules and technical requirements can be implemented in existing contactless infrastructures. Also, a NFC host application will be developed to support a range of services.

The StoLPaN project team expects to issue its first version of the business rules and technical requirements by the summer of 2007. These will be accompanied by the first version of the host application, with the StoLPaN project scheduled for completion by 2009.

Intelligent Move as Wavecom Joins ERTICO

avecom has joined the ERTICO alliance—a partnership of companies whose goal is to reinforce a future European transport system that is safer, more efficient, more sustainable and more secure. Through Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) and Services technology, combined with the ap-

propriate investment in infrastructure, the partnership's efforts are aimed at reducing the number of accidents and congestion, while making transport networks more secure and minimizing their impact on the environment.

Membership in ERTICO is a natural extension to the contribution Wavecom is already making to the European Commission's eSafety Forum. The EC's major initiative, eCall is implementing an action plan to promote pan-European in-vehicle emergency call initiatives by using com-

bined information and communications technologies of which Wavecom is a leading supplier.

Pierre Piver, Wavecom vice president, automotive, commented, "ERTICO represents the best in cooperation among a wide variety of players in the transport industry who are working together to improve all aspects of the industry in Europe. To date, the results coming from ERTICO demonstrate true world leadership and we are looking to bring our experience and our solutions in order to help improve transport systems not only in Europe but around the world."

aRfic Integrates R&D with NTU

n order to advance research and development in Radio Frequency Integrated Circuit (RFIC) technology, Advanced RFIC (aRfic) Pte Ltd. is investing \$9 M in a new collaboration with Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. RFIC is a highly specialised seg-

ment of the semiconductor industry. It involves engineering design and development for which the work is patented. It is a segment that Singapore is increasingly pursuing to move the local industry up the value chain and is seen as the next step in the local industry's growth.

As part of the aRfic investment, a new laboratory dedicated to the research of RFIC technology will be set up at the NTU's School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. It will contain state-of-the-art equipment, including a world class 300 mm probe system that will facilitate the modeling, measurement and characterization of nano-RF devices as well as integrated circuits. The investment will also create 30 postgraduate scholarships worth \$2000 per month for 24 months, with the selected students working on four key projects over two years.

Henry Liu, chairman, aRfic, commented, "This joint collaboration aims to further research on deep submicron nanometre devices as well as develop design software that helps predict device performance; strengthening the company's R&D capabilities. We are confident that this nine million dollar collaboration will harvest greater expertise in this high technological area and more as aRfic and NTU scale greater heights together."

NXP and ASE Join Forces in China

NXP Semiconductors and Advanced Semiconductor Engineering have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to form a joint venture in Suzhou, China focused on semiconductor testing and packaging. It is planned that NXP will hold a 40 percent share while

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ASE will hold the remaining 60 percent. Terms of the agreement are subject to final negotiations between the two companies and the receipt of necessary approvals from regulatory authorities.

The joint venture will serve the international and domestic Chinese markets, focusing on testing and packaging of a wide range of semiconductors in areas such as mobile communications, consumer electronics and automotive products. Since the new company will be located at NXP's existing manufacturing site in Suzhou, the parties expect that the joint venture will be able to quickly and efficiently serve customers and support the required fast time-to-market requirements necessary to compete in the high tech arena.

The joint venture is expected to begin operations in Q2 2007. NXP will contribute its existing testing and packaging operation in Suzhou as its initial investment into the joint venture. This joint venture does not affect the other testing and packaging sites for NXP in Asia and Europe.

Ajit Manocha, chief manufacturing officer, NXP Semiconductors, stated, "We are pleased to be able to strengthen our relationship with ASE through the formation of this joint venture and appreciate the willingness of governments to help in this regard. The joint venture combines the expertise of both companies to provide high quality, competitive products to address the needs of electronics manufacturers around the world."

to Singapore
Aerospace
Programme

Luropean aerospace leader EADS is ramping up its Research and Technology (R&T) activities with Singaporean partners by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the country's Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) agency in its Na-

tional Aerospace Programme. This MoU envisages a tier 1 membership for EADS in the programme, along with other international aerospace companies.

The Aerospace Programme is aiming at the R&T in precompetitive technologies with an option for members to set up specific projects with A*STAR at preferential rates. It targets five main directions of research, namely communication and electronics, inspection, modeling and security, materials and coatings, and manufacturing and automation. The programme has been launched in order to engage the international aerospace industry with the R&T community in Singapore and to drive innovation in the local aerospace industry and in related sectors.

As a tier 1 member, EADS will contribute S\$200,000 annually to the research programme and membership entitles the company to royalty-free access to all results of the research activities carried out in the framework of the programme. It also gives voting rights to EADS in the decision making process aimed at defining the R&T projects that will be launched.

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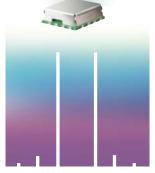
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LAVI-10VH+	300-1000	525-1175	60-875	+21	+33	+20	6.3	50	45	22.95
LAVI-17VH+	470-1730	600-1800	70-1000	+21	+32	+20	6.8	52	50	22.95
LAVI-22VH+	425-2200	525-2400	100-700	+21	+31	+20	7.7	50	45	24.95
L A\/L 2\/LL :	2 1100	2 1100	2 1000	122	134	1.03	7.5	/Ω	17	24.05

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SBTC-2-10-75+	10-1000	75Ω	3.49
SBTC-2-15-75+	500-1500	75 Ω	3.49
SBTC-2-10-5075+	50-1000	50/75 Ω	
SBTC-2-10-7550+	5-1000	50/75 Ω	3.49
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COMMERCIAL MARKET



Cellular Carriers
Need to Develop
WiMAX Strategy
Now

The impact of WiMAX on the cellular industry is not currently known, but carriers need to put together their strategies concerning WiMAX now, reports In-Stat. For existing cellular carriers, WiMAX may potentially become a big competitor, a great ally or a minor factor, the high tech

market research firm says. Nevertheless, it is clear that a strategy for WiMAX is the biggest decision cellular carriers have had to make since planning for 3G deployment. "WiMAX faces many challenges, including multiple incompatibility standards, different frequency allocations in each country and expensive consumer devices," says Allen Nogee, In-Stat analyst. "But fixed-line WiMAX is here and mobile WiMAX will be arriving in the next few years." Recent research by In-Stat found the following:

- Mobile VoWiMAX is not likely to be used much before 2009.
- There are many "profiles" in different regions of the world, meaning that WiMAX devices will likely operate differently in different regions, unless device manufacturers are willing to accept extra expenses to make a universal WiMAX device that supports all profiles.
- When WiMAX competes with cellular, cellular operators will be forced to decrease their prices for wireless data services over cellular. Even if WiMAX fails after that point, it is unlikely that cellular carriers will ever again be able to charge the amount they currently do for wireless data services.

The research, "WiMAX and Cellular: Threat or Opportunity – Cellular Strategies," covers the impact of WiMAX on the cellular industry. It includes a detailed analysis of WiMAX drivers and challenges and the potential responses by cellular carriers. It also contains a forecast of Voice over WiMAX subscribers through 2011.

2.4 GHz Products
Ready to Win Share
in Wireless Mouse
and Keyboard
Markets

The wireless human interface device (HID) market, which includes wireless mice, keyboards and remote controls, has historically been dominated by products operating in the 27 MHz band. But 2008 looks set to be a crossover year in which shipments of 2.4 GHz-

based products outstrip those running at 27 MHz, thanks to wholesale product changes by major OEMs. ABI Research expects that by 2011, 2.4 GHz products will account for triple the number of 27 MHz products shipped. Some wireless HID products may employ other communication methods such as Bluetooth, but according to research director Stuart Carlaw, "Bluetooth still does not have price points low enough to allow it to penetrate

much outside of its present territory: products aimed at smartphones and mice for use with Bluetooth-enabled laptops. The narrowing cost differential between 2.4 GHz and 27 MHz ICs and the improved range of 2.4 GHz mean that 2.4 GHz products are well positioned to take advantage of the growing need to support media center PCs with rich navigational solutions such as Vista's Side Show." A new ABI Research Brief, "Wireless PAN Technologies in PC and Mobile HID," forecasts the total market for wireless HID to grow from just over 100 million units in 2005 to over 168 million units in 2012, at a CAGR of 8 percent. A respectable share of that growth may be claimed by companies such as Nordic Semiconductor and TI, which stand to profit from the shift to 2.4 GHz products. According to Carlaw, a wild card in the development and growth in this market is Wibree, the new low power wireless local area network technology. "While Wibree is interesting and may have significant potential," he says, "it is still very new and the jury remains out on the question of whether it can make significant inroads in the wireless HID market." "Wireless PAN Technologies in PC and Mobile HID" profiles market trends affecting the uptake of wireless HID in both mobile and computing environments. It addresses issues including the market mix of 27 MHz and 2.4 GHz products, the impact of standardized products such as Bluetooth and Wibree, and rich navigation scenarios stemming from Media Center and Vista uptakes. It forms part of two ABI Research Services: Short Range Wireless and Home Networking.

Ultrawideband Coming to Market in 2007

As reported by In-Stat, this year the Consumer Electronic Show (CES) saw Ultrawideband (UWB), a high data rate, short-range wireless technology, getting very close to market. While the first UWB-enabled products were shipped in the fourth quarter of 2006 in Japan,

wide commercial availability of UWB products should be available worldwide in 2007. At CES, there were several companies demonstrating UWB-based solutions in their booths and suites, and UWB chip companies were well represented, including WiQuest, Staccato, Intel, WiLinx, Alereon, Wisair, NEC, NXP, Focus Enhancements and Artimi. The first manifestation of UWB chip solutions will be in wireless USB solutions in the first half of 2007. The specifications that govern certified Wireless USB (WUSB) products are overseen by both the Wi-Media Alliance and the USB Implementer's Forum.

The first WUSB products will be dongle and wireless hub solutions for PCs and PC peripherals, such as printers, multifunction devices and external hard disc drives. By late 2007, embedded WUSB solutions should begin to be shipped in PCs. In total, In-Stat expects 10.4 million WUSB-enabled devices to be shipped in 2007. The future of UWB extends beyond WUSB. For example, there were

COMMERCIAL MARKET



companies at CES that were demonstrating UWB as a medium for high definition video transmission, including wireless transmission. These companies include Pulse-LINK, Tzero Technologies, WiQuest and Radiospire. Looking at the number of UWB companies at CES, in addition to the quality of their demos, the future of UWB looks extremely bright.

WiMAX and Metro Wi-Fi Are More Energy-efficient Than Cellular

Energy costs represent the third most significant operating expense (OPEX) item for cellular carriers today and fluctuating energy costs are a significant area of concern for business planners. The introduction of mobile broadband to the equation means that the energy re-

quired per subscriber arising from increasing the data uptake will push per-subscriber energy OPEX for cellular solutions past acceptable barriers—unless carriers move from a traditional cellular only approach to one

that integrates WiMAX and Metro Wi-Fi. Stuart Carlaw, director of wireless research at ABI Research, says that "From a pure coverage perspective WiMAX is twice as energy-cost-effective and Metro Wi-Fi is 50 times more energy-cost-effective than WCDMA. When data traffic is factored into the equation, WiMAX can accommodate 11 times today's average data consumption and still be more energy-cost-efficient compared to WCDMA or HSDPA." A recent ABI Research study found that the total energy consumption arising from mobile service delivery is forecast to grow from 48.2 billion kilowatt hours (KWh) in 2005 to 124.4 billion KWh in 2011. The Asia Pacific region will account for the majority of this growth. The report, "Energy Efficiency Analysis for Mobile Broadband Solutions," provides a theoretical and real world analysis of the relative costs of deploying WCDMA, HSDPA, CDMA2000 1xRTT, EV-DO, WiMAX and Municipal Wi-Fi. It offers strategic recommendations to the industry as to the best way of combating rising power consumption costs. It forms part of two ABI Research Services: Mobile Devices and Mobile Broadband, which also include other Research Reports, Research Briefs, Market Data, Online Databases, ABI Insights and analyst inquiry support.





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	Model	Frequency (GHz)	Output Power	Power Gain	Output IN-BAND	Emissions SHOULDERS	RF Input VSWR	RF Output VSWR
1	DHPA - 1500	1.450 - 1.500	300 W	54 dB (typ.)	- 25 dB	- 30 dB	1.50 : 1	1.20 : 1
	DHPA - 1670	1.670 - 1.675	250 W	53 dB (typ.)	- 30 dB	- 35 dB	1.50:1	1.20:1
١	DHPA - 2200	2.170 - 2.200	280 W	54 dB (typ.)	- 27 dB	- 32 dB	1.50:1	1.20:1
	DHPA - 2330	2.305 - 2.360	280 W	55 dB (typ.)	- 25 dB	- 30 dB	1.50:1	1.20:1
l	DHPA - 2600	2.500 - 2.700	250 W	54 dB (typ.)	- 27 dB	- 32 dB	1.50 : 1	1.20:1

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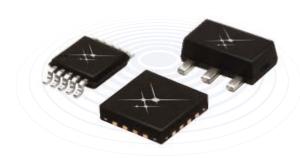








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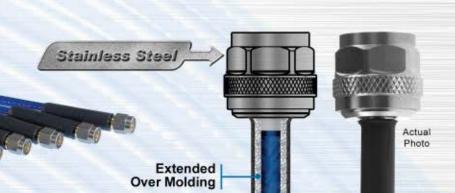
INDUSTRY NEWS

- Ohmite Manufacturing Co. announced that it has acquired both the Ultronix Precision Wirewound Resistor and Angstrohm Rheostat Businesses of Vishay Intertechnology Inc. Ultronix is a Pennsylvania-based manufacturer of precision wirewound resistors. Angstrohm, based in Hagerstown, MD, is a manufacturer of wirewound rheostats.
- Elcom Technologies Inc. announced a strategic partnership with Frequency Electronics Inc. (FEI). FEI has acquired an approximate 20 percent interest in Elcom Technologies, which includes preferred stock, a convertible note and 10-year warrant to purchase additional stock in exchange for an undisclosed amount of cash and shares of FEI common stock.
- Antenova Ltd. has acquired the RF design engineering team from a US-based developer of advanced RF power amplifiers for mobile handsets. The team will be housed in a new Design and Support Center in the Chicago area in the first quarter of 2007 and will complement the company's North American sales organization already established in California and Texas. The initiative is a major advance in the company's aggressive expansion from delivering embedded antennas to providing integrated radio antenna modules for the mobile device markets.
- Agilent Technologies Inc. announced it has completed the acquisition of certain assets of PXIT Inc., a privately held company that provides signal integrity testing systems for broadband optical transceiver manufacturers. Financial details were not disclosed. All of PXIT's Massachusetts-based employees have joined Agilent.
- Freescale Semiconductor and IBM announced that Freescale will join the IBM technology alliance for joint semiconductor research and development. The agreement includes Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) and Silicon-on-Insulator (SOI) technologies as well as advanced semiconductor research and design enablement transitioning at the 45-nanometer generation. Freescale is the first technology development partner in the IBM technology alliance to participate in both low power and high performance technology research and development. This agreement brings together Freescale's leadership in key embedded markets with IBM's success in developing world-class technology and industry-leading systems expertise.
- Andrew Corp. announced it has become the first company to manufacture both radio frequency cable products and antennas in India with the opening of its newly-built production facility in Goa. Andrew's new Indian facility will serve the various equipment manufacturers and network operators in this rapidly growing market with technically superior, high quality products, which previously were available only through importing. For the first time, customers can benefit from the local supply of Indian-produced RF products, backed by in-country technical assistance and customer sup-

AROUND THE CIRCUIT

port. The new facility also hosts a staffed service and repair depot for Andrew RF repeater products.

- TenXc Wireless Inc., an innovator in intelligent radio frequency solutions for enhanced wireless networks, and Coherent Designs Pvt. announced the establishment of a joint development center in Islamabad, Pakistan. The new development center expands TenXc's existing research and development capabilities and will play an integral role in the development of evolving fourth generation (4G) access systems such as mobile WiMAX and 3GPP LTE with combined MIMO/AAS technology.
- Val Jackson + Associates Inc., an established applications engineering-oriented sales and marketing company, has relocated within the Pacific Northwest area of the United States. The company has relocated from Scotts Valley, CA to Port Angeles, WA. Founded in 1994, Val Jackson + Associates represents leading manufacturers within the high technology, RF/microwave defense electronics and commercial wireless communications markets. For more information, contact: Val Jackson + Associates Inc., 818 N. Barr Road, Port Angeles, WA 98362 (360) 452-7308, fax: (360) 452-7306, e-mail: vjackson@cruzio.com or visit: www.valjacksonassoc.com.
- Manncorp, a provider of SMT assembly equipment, announced plans to expand its West Coast location to meet increasing demands for machines including pick and place, lead-free wave solder and reflow ovens. The address and phone number remain the same: 4901 Morena Boulevard, Suite #314, San Diego, CA 92117 (858) 490-6266.
- Alereon Inc., an ultra-wideband (UWB) technology leader for mobile WiMedia and Wireless USB solutions, announced its support for the USB Implementers Forum's (USB-IF) plan to add support for ultra-wideband (UWB) frequencies above 6 GHz in the Wireless USB specification in 2007. The extended specifications will expand the current options for manufacturers in specific geographic regions and better utilize the total available spectrum allocated for UWB.
- Aeroflex has announced it has added the ability to undertake live receiver testing and transmitter testing, including HSDPA on its highly successful 6413A UMTS base station test system. The capability is ideal for the ongoing maintenance of UMTS base stations to ensure they perform to specification. It enables testing to be undertaken without any disruption to live traffic caused by taking the base station out of service.
- The ZigBee® Alliance, a global ecosystem of companies creating wireless solutions for use in residential, commercial and industrial applications, announced that **Eaton Corp.** is now a Promoter level member and the newest member of the ZigBee Alliance Board of Directors. Eaton has been a Participant level member of the ZigBee Alliance since the Alliance's inception in 2002. As a key early member of the Alliance, Eaton provided valuable input into the development of the ZigBee standard.



Cable Construction

Туре	Frequency (GHz)	Inner Conductor	Dielectric	Jacket
SF Series	DC-18	Solid Silver-Plated Copper Clad Steel	Solid PTFE	Blue FEP
SFR Series	DC-8	Stranded Silver-Plated	PTFE	Gray PVC

Connectors

Gold Plated Brass Center Contact Passivated Stainless Steel Coupling Nut Captive Contacts PTFE Dielectric





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- 4. Excellent Shielding Effectiveness.
- 5. Wide Frequency Range.
- 6. RoHS Compliant.
- 7. -55°C to +105° Storage & Operating Temperature.

Frequency (GHz)	Length** (ft.)	Connector (Male)	Price * Qty. 1-9
DC-18	2	SMA - SMA	\$44.95
DC-18	3	SMA - SMA	\$52.95
DC-18	2	SMA - Type N	\$72.95
DC-18	3	SMA - Type N	\$77.95
DC-8	2	SMA - SMA	\$26.95
DC-8	3	SMA - SMA	\$29.95
	DC-18 DC-18 DC-18 DC-18 DC-18 DC-18	(GHz) (ft.) DC-18 2 DC-18 3 DC-18 2 DC-18 3 DC-18 2 DC-18 3 DC-8 2	Confidence (Male)

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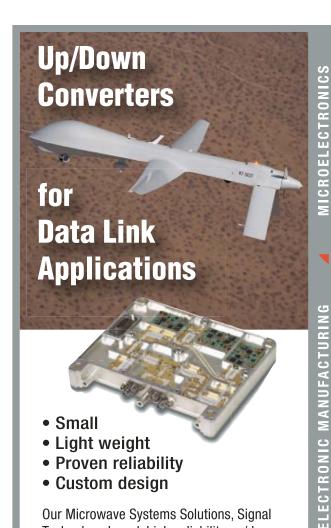
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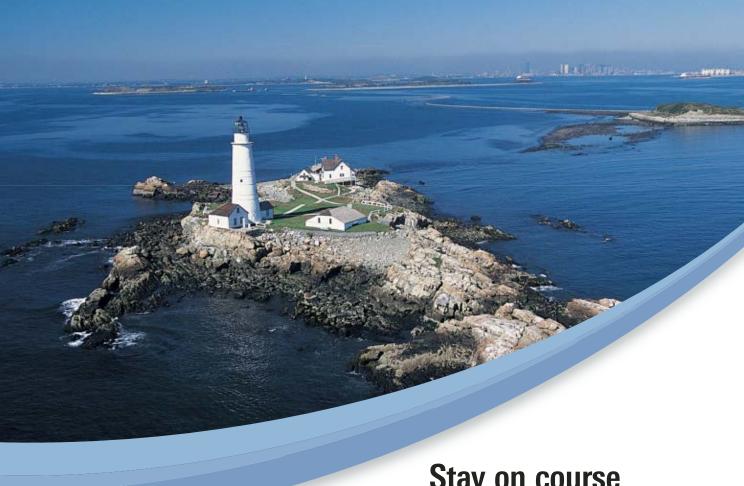
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■ Vishay Intertechnology Inc. announced that its Asian subsidiary, Vishay Intertechnology Asia Pte Ltd., recently received a certificate of accomplishment from Agilent Technologies in recognition of its excellent support to the latter between November 2005 and December 2006. Vishay had successfully supported and fulfilled Agilent's quick orders for electronic components, which in turn, had enabled Agilent to enhance its quarterly sales forecasts.

CONTRACTS

- Comtech Telecommunications Corp. announced that its Melville, New York-based subsidiary, **Comtech PST Corp.**, received a \$4.8 M contract from a major domestic OEM to supply high power amplifiers. These amplifiers are key components in a complex Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) system used to interrogate aircraft to determine their friend or foe status. This order supplements a significant installed base of Comtech IFF high power amplifiers previously delivered to this customer.
- Micronetics Inc. announced that its subsidiary Stealth Microwave Inc. has been awarded a \$2.5 M order from IP-Wireless for high power amplifiers on the Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS) platform. IP-Wireless is planning to incorporate these high performance amplifiers as part of a comprehensive wireless network to be installed in New York City. This wireless network is expected to enhance the existing mobile wireless communications network with secure high speed data and video capabilities, and deploy several new, advanced wireless applications to support first responders and other public safety personnel.
- Applied Radar Inc., a small business based in North Kingstown, RI, is the recipient of a \$1.4 M congressional earmark to develop a Wideband Digital Airborne Electronic Sensing Array for the US Air Force. Supported by Senator Jack Reed (D-RI), the set-aside will be used to develop an advanced prototype of a novel digital radar receiver initiated under a Department of Defense (DoD) Phase II Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) contract with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) at Hanscom Air Force Base, MA.
- RF Monolithics Inc. announced that its subsidiary Cirronet Inc. received an initial production order as part of a wireless sensor network contract with an industrial original equipment manufacturer (OEM). The production order combined with its associated development contract represents approximately \$500K cumulatively from this OEM customer, a Fortune 500 company. The order, consisting of wireless sensor nodes, routers and base stations, will permit deployment of several thousand sensor nodes in an industrial application. The overall market opportunity for this industrial application includes a million or more of existing potential sensor points.
- Unity Wireless Corp. announced that it has successfully concluded the first phase 18-month trial of the company's patented synchronized multi-source transmission technology with China's second largest wireless carrier. Unity's unique



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AROUND THE CIRCUIT

technology overcomes multi-path fading and economically increases existing network capacity and coverage.

FINANCIAL NEWS

- Merrimac Industries Inc. reports sales of \$6.8 M for the third quarter ended September 30, 2006, compared to \$7.9 M for the same period in 2005. Net loss for the quarter was \$599,000 (\$0.19/per share), compared to a net income of \$228,000 (\$0.07/per share) for the third quarter of last year.
- Auriga Measurement Systems LLC announced that it has accepted additional funding from White Oak Partners Inc. in order to develop and launch its next generation of products for RF and microwave modeling, characterization and test industry customers. After achieving worldwide acceptance in its first two years, Auriga is now refining its product suite to offer enhanced products that incorporate key features to protect its customers' capital equipment investment while maximizing its test capabilities. For more information, visit www.auriga-ms.com.
- Inphi® Corp. announced it has won the FSA award for "Outstanding Financial Performance by a Private Fabless Company." FSA, the voice of the global fabless business model, made the announcement at its 12th annual FSA Awards Dinner in Santa Clara, CA. This award recognizes private companies that doubled either revenue or net in-

come with no negative quarters over eight consecutive quarters ending June 2006.

NEW MARKET ENTRIES

- RFMD's newest RF switches—the RF1200 and RF1450—utilize RFMD's industry-leading GaAs manufacturing capability and leverage the switch technology developed for use in the company's transmit modules. These high performance switches enable front-end applications in multiple market segments, including multimode GSM/WCDMA cellular handsets, antenna tuners, IEEE 802.11a/b/g WLAN and cellular infrastructure. RFMD expects to grow revenue in the RF switch market as it introduces new products and enhances its growing leadership position in cellular RF.
- Comarco Inc., a supplier of wireless test systems for field applications, announced that its Wireless Test Systems division is expanding its range of test, optimization and Quality of Service (QoS) measurement products. In November, Comarco announced that it had formed an alliance with Ascom to develop and market advanced QoS test and measurement solutions for 3G and 4G wireless standards. The company further intends to accelerate the introduction of several products that will help wireless carriers optimize the performance of new cellular networks. Comarco is also increasing its sales and marketing resources in Asia and Latin America to better serve its customers in these growing markets and to the position the company for the deployment phase of 3G systems in China, Mexico and elsewhere in Latin America.

8

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Frequency Range	Phase Noise (dBc/Hz)							
(MHz)	100 Hz	1 kHz	10 kHz	100 kHz	1 MHz			
10 GHz	-92	-109	-120	-120	-128			
1 GHz	-111	-127	-137	-139	-147			
100 MHz	-125	-135	-145	-150	-153			



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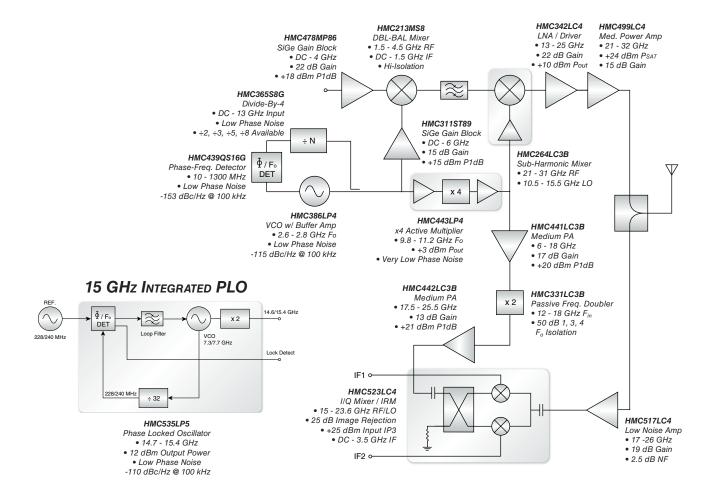
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Function	7 / 8 GHz	11 GHz	13 GHz	15 GHz	18 GHz	23 GHz	26 GHz	28 GHz	32 / 38 GHz
Low Noise Amplifier	HMC564 HMC564LC4 HMC565 HMC565LC5	HMC516LC5 HMC564 HMC564LC4 HMC565 HMC565LC5	HMC516LC5 HMC565 HMC565LC5	HMC516LC5 HMC565 HMC565LC5	HMC517LC4 HMC565 HMC565LC5	HMC341LC3B HMC517LC4	HMC341LC3B HMC517LC4	HMC341LC3B HMC518	HMC263 HMC566
Driver Amplifier	HMC441LP3 HMC451LC3 HMC516LC5	HMC441LP3 HMC451LC3 HMC516LC5	HMC441LC3B HMC451LC3 HMC490LP5	HMC441LC3B HMC451LC3 HMC490LP5	HMC383LC4 HMC442LC3B HMC498LC4	HMC383LC4 HMC442LC3B HMC498LC4	HMC383LC4 HMC283LM1 HMC499LC4	HMC383LC4 HMC283LM1 HMC499LC4	HMC283LM1 HMC300LM1 HMC383LC4
Power Amplifier	HMC486LP5 HMC590LP5 HMC591LP5	HMC487LP5 HMC592	HMC489LP5 HMC592	HMC489LP5	HMC498LC4	HMC498LC4	HMC499LC4	HMC499LC4	HMC283LM1
Attenuator: Analog	HMC346LP3	HMC346LP3	HMC346LP3	HMC346LC3B	HMC346LC3B				
Divide-by-2	HMC361S8G	HMC364S8G	HMC492LP3	HMC492LP3	HMC492LP3				
Divide-by-4	HMC362S8G	HMC365S8G	HMC493LP3	HMC493LP3	HMC447LC3	HMC447LC3	HMC447LC3		
Divide-by-8	HMC363S8G	HMC363S8G	HMC494LP3	HMC494LP3					
Multiplier: Active X2	HMC368LP4 HMC575LP4 HMC561LP3	HMC368LP4 HMC573LC3B HMC561LP3	HMC368LP4 HMC573LC3B HMC561LP3	HMC368LP4 HMC573LC3B HMC561LP3	HMC448LC3B HMC576 HMC576LC3B	HMC448LC3B HMC576 HMC576LC3B	HMC448LC3B HMC578 HMC578LC3B	HMC449LC3B HMC577LC4B HMC578LC3B	HMC449LC3B HMC578LC3B HMC579
Multiplier: Active X4		HMC443LP4	HMC370LP4	HMC370LP4					
Multiplier: Passive X2	HMC189MS8	HMC189MS8	HMC204MS8G	HMC204MS8G	HMC204MS8G	HMC205	HMC205	HMC331	HMC331
I/Q Receiver	HMC567LC5	HMC568LC5	HMC569LC5	HMC570 HMC570LC5	HMC571 HMC571LC5	HMC572 HMC572LC5	HMC572 HMC572LC5		
I/Q Mixer / IRM	HMC520LC4 HMC525LC4	HMC521LC4 HMC527LC4	HMC521LC4 HMC527LC4	HMC522LC4 HMC528LC4	HMC523 HMC523LC4	HMC523 HMC523LC4 HMC524	HMC524 HMC524LC3B	HMC524 HMC524LC3B	HMC404 HMC524 HMC555 HMC556
Mixer: Fundamental	HMC129LC4 HMC144LC4 HMC219MS8 HMC220MS8 HMC553 HMC553LC3B	HMC144LC4 HMC411MS8G HMC412MS8G HMC553 HMC553LC3B	HMC144LC4 HMC411MS8G HMC412MS8G HMC553 HMC553LC3B	HMC144LC4 HMC260LC3B HMC412MS8G HMC554 HMC554LC3B	HMC144LC4 HMC260LC3B HMC292LC3B HMC554 HMC554LC3B	HMC260LC3B HMC292LC3B	HMC292LC3B HMC329LC3B HMC560 HMC560LM3	HMC292LC3B HMC329LC3B HMC560 HMC560LM3	HMC294 HMC329LM3 HMC560 HMC560LM3
Mixer: Sub-Harmonic				HMC258LM3	HMC258LM3 HMC337	HMC264LC3B HMC338LC3B	HMC264LC3B HMC338LC3B	HMC265LM3 HMC338LC3B	HMC338 HMC339
Switch	HMC547LP3	HMC547LP3	HMC547LP3	HHMC547LP3	HMC547LP3				
VCO & PLO: **Requires X2 or X4	HMC505LP4 HMC506LP4 HMC532LP4 HMC586LC4B HMC587LC4B	HMC513LP4 HMC515LP5 HMC534LP4 HMC588LC4B	HMC513LP4 HMC529LP4 HMC584LP5	HMC529LP4 HMC531LP5 HMC535LP5	HMC429LP4	HMC431LP4	HMC515LP5	HMC531LP5	HMC505LP4 HMC506LP4



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	Frequency (GHz)	Function	Gain (dB)	OIP3 (dBm)	NF (dB)	P1dB (dBm)	Bias Supply	Package	Part Number
NEW!	29 - 36	Low Noise	20	22	2.9	11	+3V @ 80mA	C-10 Module	HMC-C027
	2 - 20	Wideband LNA	15	24	2.2	14	+12V @ 65mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C001
	2 - 20	Wideband LNA	14	26	2	18	+12V @ 60mA	C-2 Module	HMC-C002
	2 - 20	Wideband LNA	14	27	2	16	+8V @ 75mA	C-2B Module	HMC-C022
	7 - 17	Wideband LNA	22	25	2.5	14	+8V @ 93mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C016
	17 - 27	Wideband LNA	18	25	3	14	+8V @ 96mA	C-1B Module	HMC-C017
	0.01 - 20	Wideband Driver	16	33	3	23	+12V @ 195mA	C-3 Module	HMC-C004
	0.01 - 20	Wideband Driver	15	30	3	23	+12V @ 225mA	C-3B Module	HMC-C024
NEW!	2 - 35	Wideband Driver	11	26	4	16	+11V @ 92mA	C-10 Module	HMC-C038
NEW!	0.01 - 15	Wideband PA, 1/2 Watt	12	36	4	28	+11V @ 360mA	C-10B Module	HMC-C036
NEW!	0.01 - 15	Wideband PA, 1/2 Watt	12	36	4	28	+11V @ 360mA	C-12 Module	HMC-C037
	2 - 20	Wideband PA	15	34	4	26	+12V @ 310mA	C-2 Module	HMC-C003
	2 - 20	Wideband PA	14	30	4	24	+12V @ 310mA	C-2B Module	HMC-C023
	2 - 20	Wideband PA	28	30	3	25	+12V @ 400mA	C-3B Module	HMC-C026
NEW!	17 - 24	Wideband PA	22	33	3.5	24	+8V @ 250mA	C-10 Module	HMC-C020
NEW!	21 - 31	Wideband PA	15	32	5	24	+8V @ 215mA	C-10 Module	HMC-C021
	0.4 - 1.0	10 Watt PA	40	54	12	40	+12V @ 6.5A	C-7 Module	HMC-C012
	0.8 - 2.0	10 Watt PA	43	56	12	40	+12V @ 6.5A	C-7 Module	HMC-C013
	1.8 - 2.2	15 Watt PA	42	53	6	42	+14V @ 6.5A	C-7 Module	HMC-C008

ATTENUATORS - Digital

	Frequency (GHz)	Function	Loss (dB)	Atten. Range (dB)	Input IP3 (dBm)	Control Input (Vdc)	Package	Part Number
NEW!	DC - 13	6-Bit Digital, Serial Control	3.6	0.5 to 31.5	32	Serial TTL/CMOS	C-6 Module	HMC-C018
	DC - 13	6-Bit Digital	3.2	0.5 to 31.5	38	0 / +5V	C-6 Module	HMC-C025

FREQUENCY DIVIDERS (Prescalers)

	Input Freq. (GHz)	Function	Input Power (dBm)	Output Power (dBm)	100kHz SSB Phase Noise (dBc/Hz)	Bias Supply	Package	Part Number
	0.5 - 18	Divide-by-2	-15 to +10	-4	-150	+5V @ 75mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C005
	0.5 - 18	Divide-by-4	-15 to +10	-4	-150	+5V @ 93mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C006
NEW!	0.5 - 8	Divide-by-5	-15 to +10	-1	-155	+5V @ 80mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C039
	0.5 - 18	Divide-by-8	-15 to +10	-4	-150	+5V @ 98mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C007
NEW!	0.5 - 17	Divide-by-10	-15 to +10	-1	-155	+5V @ 152mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C040

FREQUENCY MULTIPLIERS - Active

	Input Freq. (MHz)	Function	Output Freq. (GHz)	Input Power (dBm)	Output Power (dBm)	100kHz SSB Phase Noise (dBc/Hz)	Package	Part Number
NEW!	3000 - 5000	Active x2	6 - 10	3	17	-140	C-10 Module	HMC-C031
NEW!	9000 - 14500	Active x2	18 - 29	3	16	-132	C-10 Module	HMC-C032
NEW!	12000 - 16500	Active x2	24 - 33	3	17	-132	C-10 Module	HMC-C033
NEW!	16000 - 23000	Active x2	32 - 46	3	13	-130	C-10 Module	HMC-C034







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I/Q MIXERS

RF/LO Freq. (GHz)	Function	IF Frequency (GHz)	Conversion Gain (dB)	Image Rejection (dB)	Input IP3 (dBm)	Package	Part Number
4 - 8.5	I/Q Mixer	DC - 3.5	-7.5	37	23	C-4 Module	HMC-C009

MIXERS

	RF Freq. (GHz)	Function	IF Frequency (GHz)	Conversion Gain (dB)	LO/RF Isol. (dB)	Input IP3 (dBm)	Package	Part Number
NEW!	23 - 37	+13 LO, DBL-BAL	DC - 13	-9	35	19	C-11 Module	HMC-C035
	16 - 32	+13 LO, DBL-BAL	DC - 8	-8	28	19	C-11 Module	HMC-C014
	24 - 38	+13 LO, DBL-BAL	DC - 8	-8.5	35	20	C-11 Module	HMC-C015

PHASE SHIFTERS - Analog

Frequency (GHz)	Function	Insertion Loss (dB)	Phase Range (deg)	2nd harmonic Pin = 10 dBm (dBc)	Control Voltage Range (Vdc)	Package	Part Number
6 - 15	Analog	7	750° @ 6 GHz 450° @ 15 GHz	40	0V to +5V	C-1 Module	HMC-C010

SWITCHES

	Frequency (GHz)	Function	Insertion Loss (dB)	Isolation (dB)	Input P1dB (dBm)	Control Input (Vdc)	Package	Part Number
NEW!	DC - 20	SPST, Hi Isolation	3	100	23	0 / +5V	C-9 Module	HMC-C019
	DC - 20	SPDT, Hi Isolation	2.0	40	23	0 / -5V	C-5 Module	HMC-C011

VOLTAGE CONTROLLED OSCILLATORS

	Output Freq. (GHz)	Function	Output Power (dBm)	10kHz SSB Phase Noise (dBc/Hz)	100kHz SSB Phase Noise (dBc/Hz)	Bias Supply	Package	Part Number
NEW!	4 - 8	Wideband VCO	20	-75	-95	+12V @ 185mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C028
NEW!	5 - 10	Wideband VCO	20	-64	-93	+12V @ 195mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C029
NEW!	8 - 12.5	Wideband VCO	21	-59	-83	+12V @ 195mA	C-1 Module	HMC-C030

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41.66 x 29.84 x 8.50 mm

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AROUND THE CIRCUIT

PERSONNEL

■ Superconductor Technologies Inc. (STI), a provider of high performance infrastructure products for wireless voice and data applications, announced the appointment of **David Vellequette** to its board of directors. With the addition of Vellequette, STI's board has seven members. Vellequette currently serves as chief

financial officer of JDSU, a position he has held since June of 2005.

■ Tower Semiconductor Ltd., a pureplay independent specialty foundry, announced that its board of directors has nominated **Dov Moran** to serve as the company's new chairman of the board. Moran is co-founder of msystems Ltd., a leader in flash memory development, which was recently acquired by San-Disk Corp. Moran was president, CEO and chairman of the board of directors of msystems from 1989 until September 2006. ■ Credence Systems Corp. announced the appointment of Lavi Lev as president and chief executive officer. Lev succeeds Dave Ranhoff who has stepped down. Lev has more than twenty years of experience in the design tool and semiconductor industries at companies including National Semiconductor, Intel, Sun Microsystems, Silicon Graphics, MIPS Technologies and Cadence. He most recently served as the executive vice president and general manager of the products and solution business at Cadence Design Systems Inc., where he had responsibility for Cadence's worldwide product portfolio.



Remtec announced that **Walt Dollman** has joined the company's management team as vice president of sales and marketing. Dollman has nearly 30 years of previous experience in se-

nior sales, marketing and management positions in the ceramics and electronics industry. Serving as a senior manager, Dollman's most recent position was with CeramTec North America Corp.

■ Tundra Semiconductor Corp. announced that **Robert Fischer** has been promoted to the position of vice president of sales. In this new role, he will lead Tundra's global sales effort across all markets. Fischer will be responsible for defining and implementing strategic and tactical sales plans to accelerate growth and increase the company's market share while exceeding customers' expectations. Fischer previously held the position of North American sales director at Tundra, having joined the company in July 2006.



Technology Ltd. announced that **Glenn A. Johnson** has joined the company as director of operations. Johnson is a senior management professional with over 20 years of diverse

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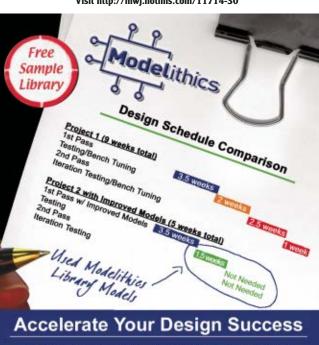
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▲ Carsten Barth

■ Elcoteq SE has appointed Carsten **Barth** as director, corporate strategy and global marketing. He brings marketing experience in the automotive, plastics and financial services industries to direct the company's focus on total customer orientation from design through a product's lifecycle. Prior to joining Elcoteq, Barth spent eight years in marketing leadership positions with General Electric in Germany as

well as technology companies in the Netherlands, Austria and Switzerland.

■ Nextreme Thermal Solutions has recently named Phil **Deane** as senior technology fellow. Deane, formerly the director of packaging for the Advanced Optoelectronic Components Group at JDS Uniphase, joins Nextreme to address thermal management and thermoelectric packaging issues. Deane will define product and packaging strategies for insertion of Nextreme thermoelectric coolers into customer's products.

REP APPOINTMENTS

- Richardson Electronics announced a North American distribution partnership with Avago Technologies, San Jose, CA, to distribute its complete line of RFIC, transistor, Schottky and PIN diode, and millimeter-wave (mmW) products. Ávago's extensive line of RF semiconductors provides solutions for numerous markets including cellular base station, WLAN, WiMAX, GPS, ISM, RFID and mmW including radio links, VSAT and military.
- Digi-Key Corp. and Cree Inc. announced the signing of a global distribution agreement for Cree's silicon carbide-based power devices. Digi-Key is currently stocking Cree's Schottky diodes with voltage ratings ranging from 300 to 1200 V and current ratings from 1A to 20A. These products are featured in both Digi-Key's print and on-line catalogs and are available for purchase directly from Digi-Key. This new distribution agreement will enable Digi-Key to fulfill both the design and production quantity needs of its diverse customer base.
- Triton Electron Technology Division (ETD) of **Triton Services Inc.** has made several new rep appointments. **CDB Enterprises Inc.** will be responsible for the territory of metropolitan New York and northern New Jersey. Matrix Sales Inc. will handle the territory of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and eastern Connecticut. Northern Technical Sales Inc. will cover the territory of northern New York state and **Anglia Microwaves Ltd.** will be responsible for the territory of the UK.



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ZHL-10W-2G	800-2000	43	+40 +41	7.0	+50	24	5.0	1295.00
 ZHL-20W-13 	20-1000	50	+41 +43	3.5	+50	24	2.8	1395.00
 ZHL-50W-52 	50-500	50	+46 +48	4.0	+55	24	9.3	1395.00
• ZHL-100W-52	50-500	50	+47 +48.5	6.5	+57	24	9.3	1995.00
▲ Without Heat Sin	k/Fan							
ZHL-5W-2GX	800-2000	49	+37 +38	8.0	+44	24	2.0	945.00
 ZHL-10W-2GX 	800-2000	43	+40 +41	7.0	+50	24	5.0	1220.00
 ZHL-20W-13X 	20-1000	50	+41 +43	3.5	+50	24	2.8	1320.00
 ZHL-50W-52X 	50-500	50	+46 +48	4.0	+55	24	9.0	1320.00
 ZHL-100W-52X 	50-500	50	+47 +48.5	6.5	+57	24	9.0	1920.00

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▲ With heat sink/fan removed, customer must provide adequate cooling to ensure that the base plate temperature does not exceed 85°C.

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THE LXI STANDARD: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

The idea for an LXI standard was first formulated in 2004. Since then, what progress has been made? What is the role of the LXI Consortium? How does LXI fit with competing standards? Are LXI-compliant products being widely produced and adopted? And what does the future hold? This Special Report attempts to offer some answers.

Test and measurement (T&M) is one of the most dynamic sectors of our industry as rapidly developing technologies require complementary, parallel T&M development to support and augment their implementation. Technological advances are moving apace, particularly in the communications sector as manufacturers of handsets, wireless systems, etc. develop products to satisfy the seemingly insatiable demand for the latest innovations. Test and measurement manufacturers have a significant role to play in developing the associated standards, test procedures and protocols for prototyping right through to full production of the end product.

To provide insight into just what this role entails this Special Report focuses on the development of the LXI standard and resultant initiatives and products. First, key figures from the LXI Consortium provide background information, starting from the identification of the need for a new standard, then chart its development and proffer future goals and objectives. Second, to give a 'coal-face' perspective, representatives from individual companies involved in the development of the standard and compliant products answer questions on their involvement in the development of the LXI standard, its adoption, the availability of compliant products, international reach and future developments.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LXI STANDARD



Bob Helsel, president of Bode Enterprises and executive director of the LXI Consortium, and Fred Bode, retired president of Bode Enterprises

The LXI standard is the result of several change vectors prevalent at the be-

ginning of this millennium. The Ethernet had become more ubiquitous and a number of test and measurement companies began experi-

menting with this interface. No one, though, had solidified this into a vision or a set of products that challenged the current dominant interconnect for instruments—GPIB—although it was clear that a successor for GPIB was desired for many applications.

Many interfaces had been proposed and introduced on instruments. Firewire, or IEEE-1394, and USB were leading contenders at

RICHARD MUMFORD Microwave Journal European Editor

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one time, and a few products were introduced with these interfaces. However, it was generally recognized that Ethernet was the obvious choice, but there was no agent for change.

That was until 2004 when Agilent Technologies and VXI Technology banded together and proposed forming an open consortium for standardizing Local Area Network (LAN)-based instrumentation systems. After publicly announcing the initiative at AU-TOTESTCON 2004 in September of that year the first meeting was held in Salt Lake City, UT, in November 2004. Over 50 people encompassing vendors, systems integrators and end users attended the open meeting where a very rough draft of the initial specification was circulated, scrutinised and discussed. Some excellent work had been done in formulating the outlines of the specification and defining particular parameters, but it was clear that there was still a lot of work to be done to complete the specification.

However, from this first meeting, a few things were very clear. First, there was tremendous interest and enthusiasm in this new proposed technology from the test and measurement industry. Second, many companies in attendance had thought about connecting their instruments to computers via a LAN interface and many had done some preliminary investigations into how to develop such an interface. Third, there was virtually unanimous agreement that an industry standard for LAN interfacing of instrumentation was needed and viable.

From this positive standpoint, what followed was an extremely rapid formation and development of the LXI standard from draft to first release, very strong growth in the membership of the LXI Consortium and the rapid introduction of new products that were conformant to the standard. To put the pace and extent of these developments into perspective consider the initial accomplishments.

Within the first two months the LXI Consortium had been joined by five additional Sponsor members, bringing the number of Directors to seven. They had elected officers, hired a management firm (Bode Enterprises), set up a Technical Committee, formed six Technical Subcommittees to work on various aspects of the specification, hired a firm

to develop the *LXIstandard.org* web site and began holding weekly technical subcommittee meetings.

Within 18 months of the concept being first introduced the membership had grown to over 40. The first release of the LXI standard was at AUTOTESTCON 2005, less than nine months after the first meeting of the LXI Technical Committees in January of 2005. At AUTOTESTCON 2006 over 150 products had been introduced by a large array of instrument vendor member companies, which had been invented, tested for compliance and offered for sale.

This momentum has continued and to explain some of the intricacies of the LXI standard's progress, its place within the larger LAN/instrumentation picture and future development, consider some pertinent questions.

First, "Isn't LAN already a standard?" Of course, LAN is a wellestablished standard, and the Consortium follows it completely. This is especially important since the design and protocol (TCP/IP) is very widespread and universally recognized. In addition, LAN data transfer speed is flexible and has been designed in such a way as to grow with technology. While initial LXI implementations are required to work with 10 MHz systems, most implementations are being designed to work with 100 MHz systems, which are currently being deployed. 1 GHz systems are available now, and the LAN and LXI standards will be able to seamlessly adopt the new faster implementations as they develop.

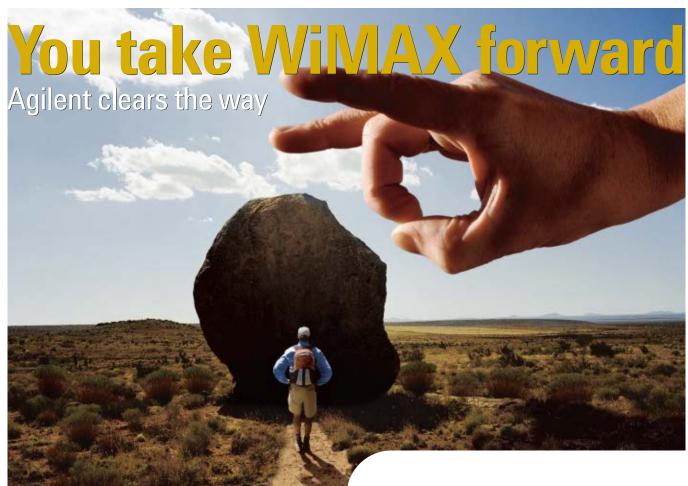
The answer to the question, "What else needs to be added for instrumentation systems?" is quite a bit, actually. Particularly significant are the 'extensions for instrumentation' that LXI has standardized. The first to look at is Discovery, which is when a new printer (or other standard peripheral, such as a scanner or hard drive) is connected to a PC, it notifies the user of the new device, identifies the type and suggests the right driver. The user may still have to locate the correct driver, download and install it, but MS Windows makes this fairly straightforward. However, there are millions of these similar devices and Microsoft is very interested in making this interconnect easy for its millions of consumers. The test and measurement industry is much smaller and has hundreds of instrument categories, in each of which the number of installations is probably only in the thousands. This makes each instrument category three or four orders of magnitude less important to Microsoft (or any other OS developer).

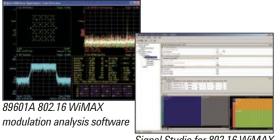
No matter how much we would like connecting a new instrument to a PC to be as easy as hooking up a new printer, Microsoft is not going to do this for us. Therefore, we need agreement on some software that will help in this process. The industry already has such a standard, called VXI-11, which was developed by the VXIbus Consortium, but works for other interconnects too. It is a little cumbersome but it is well proven and currently available. The computer industry is working on additional standards in this area, and the LXI Consortium plans to follow this development and may adopt a more elegant way of discovery in the future, but for now, it has adopted the VXI-11 method and made it a requirement for LXI-compliant devices.

With regards to the Web Interface extension, the natural way for any computer controlled device to be controlled when it is initially connected is through a computer screen interface, in this instance, a web interface. There are thousands of ways to design a web interface, but upon studying the problem, the LXI design engineers all agreed on a specific set of functions.

For instance, the LXI Web Welcome Page requires the following information: Instrument Model, Manufacturer, Serial Number, Short Description, LXI Class (A, B or C), LXI specification version (initially Rev. 1.0), Host Name, MAC address, TCP/IP address, Firmware of software revision and IEEE-1588 current time (optional for Class C devices). LAN Configuration Web Pages and SYNC Configuration Web Pages have similar lists of required information. Standardization of this information goes a long way to ensuring that the system integrator will have the information needed to quickly implement a system and this will help ensure rapid implementation of LXI systems.

For Software Control of the Instruments – IVI Drivers the industry has been working for many years to standardize software solutions to help test engineers control their instru-





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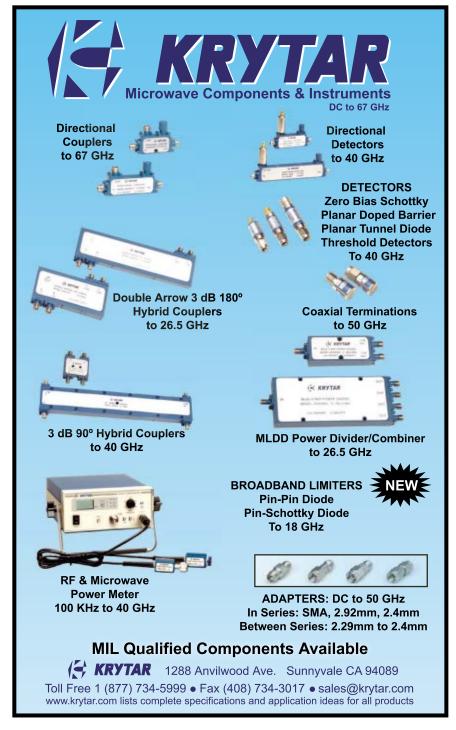
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ments. This started with the Standard Commands for Programmable Instruments (SCPI), which was first introduced in 1990. That effort gave way to VXIplug&play drivers, introduced in 1995, which used SCPI commands as their default command set. As the demand for an even more robust standard became evident and the requirement for interchangeable instruments and drivers rose in importance, the Interchangeable Instru-

ments Foundation (IVI) was formed by the same manufacturers who had worked on SCPI and VXIplug&play standards. Both of these former organizations were absorbed by the IVI Foundation and the resulting IVI Driver standards are well recognized as 'the' software driver standards supplied by the leading test instrument vendors. LXI requires that an IVI compliant driver be supplied with every LXI instrument.



With regards to *Hardware Triggering* any LXI device can supply trigger signals or receive triggers in a wide variety of ways. Most current programmable GPIB instruments can receive or provide triggers via external BNC connectors, or via software over GPIB. This is also perfectly acceptable for any LXI device, if it provides acceptable trigger precision. However, triggering precision has undergone considerable advances since GPIB was invented some 35 years ago.

Therefore, both VXI and PXI, with their controlled impedance backplanes and known distance between modules, have been able to offer the industry much tighter triggering. Considerable effort has been invested in working with commercial manufacturers of connectors, cabling and internal circuits to develop unique hardware trigger systems that could match or exceed anything available, without the constraints of a fixed backplane and this is available on Class A LXI instruments.

Finally, there is Software Triggering, Time Stamping and IEEE-1588 Capability - The Precision Time Protocol. Perhaps the most exciting and interesting new capability introduced to the industry by LXI is the adoption of the IEEE-1588 Precision Time Protocol. This new standard has already been adopted by other industries, but is just now being introduced into the test industry. Briefly described, it allows all instruments on the same network to automatically look for the most accurate clock available to them on their internet subnet, synchronize to it and then provide either time of daytime stamps or synchronization signals to all instruments with exceptional accuracy. It also provides peer-to-peer communications between instruments (relieving traffic congestion and loading of the control computer). We are still learning about this capability as new implementations appear and, as time goes by, this may be the most important aspect of LXI.

Another pertinent question is: "By adding additional requirements, do you break LAN compatibility?" The answer is a resounding no. All LAN requirements are intact, and we expect to be able to follow the developments of the LAN development with complete transparency.

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Also frequently asked is, "Do I have to wait for enough LXI instruments to make a complete system, or can I mix VXI, PXI or GPIB instruments in the same system with LXI instruments?" Again, the answer is easy. LXI instruments are expected to be used in test systems with legacy instrumentation that already exists. This includes GPIB instruments, clusters of LXI and/or PXI instruments, and perhaps other interfaces. It is extremely important that

LXI instruments integrate easily with other interface technologies, and the LXI Consortium is working on specifying bridges and enhancing our own specifications to make this transition easy and transparent. While testing is still ongoing, we have not yet found a combination that could not be accomplished, usually in a very straightforward manner.

Perhaps the most important question though remains, "Is LXI a viable

replacement for GPIB, and if so, will it be successful?" There is no doubt that the jury is still out, but some pretty strong indicators are already visible. First, there is the impressive list of enhancements to LAN listed above. Then there are the advantages that LAN brings to instrument connectivity when compared to GPIB even without any of the LXI enhancements. These include low cost cabling and no requirement for a GPIB interface card, no distance restriction, whereas GPIB is limited to 20 m, no restriction on the number of instruments, while GPIB is limited to 14 instruments per interface, and the LAN speed is faster for large data transfers and will get faster still as internet technology progresses.

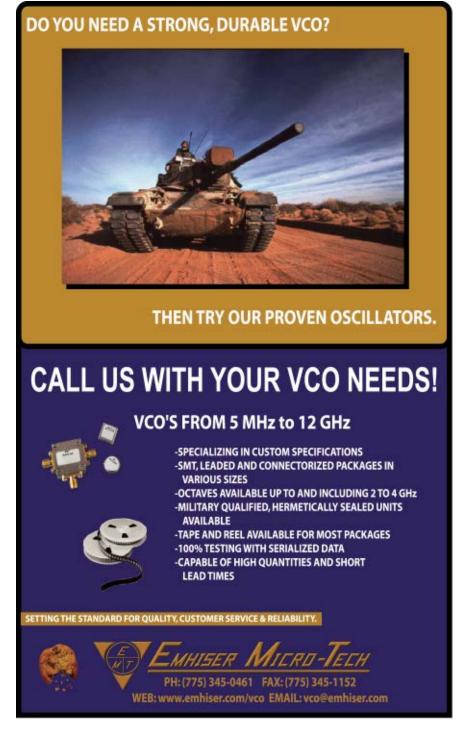
Also, the cost to implement basic LXI requirements (Class C) for instrument manufacturers is low, as LAN technology is mass produced and very inexpensive. This may eventually drive down the cost of instruments, although for some time vendors are expected to provide LAN interfaces in addition to GPIB and other current interfaces.

What cannot be ignored is the overwhelming acceptance of the concept by the test and measurement vendor community, as evidenced by the growth of the LXI Consortium membership, the intense activity for specification development and immediate product introductions.

That said, it is also true that the T&M user community is very conservative and adopts new technology slowly. Most test engineers subscribe to the old adage, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it," as do we. The intriguing point of the argument then, is that GPIB is not broken. It works just fine. Sure, it may be a little slow for some applications, but it works for most. It may be a little more expensive, and the thick cable is a pain, but users are used to it, and it is not that burdensome.

SUMMARY

After tracing the developments and presenting the evidence what can we conclude? Undoubtedly, users will vote with their money, but the momentum behind LXI is fairly overwhelming. Some unforeseen glitches could still be encountered, but we are beginning to get some significant experience with implementation, both



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in developing compatible instruments and by initial systems integrators developing systems.

So is GPIB dead? Not by a long shot. GPIB instruments will be around for a very long time... probably another 35 years or so. However, as more LXI instruments are introduced, and as more systems are implemented using LXI, we believe the inherent advantages of LAN and the enhancements offered by the LXI ex-

tensions will become increasingly apparent. As more IEEE-1588 implementations appear, these will foster new applications not possible by GPIB instruments, which will open still more applications.

And if more powerful tools for systems integration through the use of the internet are provided, then LXI will, over time, become the de facto instrument standard that GPIB has been for the last 35 years. Of course,

this will not happen overnight. It may take five or possibly 10 years, but it will happen and hopefully the preceding explanations have proffered the reasons why.

A COMMERCIAL VIEWPOINT

That is the history, background, development and prospects for the LXI standard, but what are the practicalities of promoting, developing and selling LXI compliant products. To get another perspective, this time from the manufacturer's point of view, *Microwave Journal* asked representatives from leading T&M manufacturers, who are also key players in the LXI Consortium, questions designed to give a commercial insight into the development of the LXI standard.

COMPANY SURVEYS

Aeroflex Inc.



David Poole, technical fellow, Aeroflex; chairman, Hybrid Systems, Physical Specifications and Resource Management Working Groups, LXI Consortium

MWJ: Briefly explain Aeroflex's role to date in the development of the LXI standard.

DP: Aeroflex has been very active in supporting the development of the LXI standard. We are a Participating Member of the Consortium and, as such, work very closely with the other members, while also advising the Board of Directors on various matters. At the initial meeting of the Consortium we volunteered to chair two working groups—the Programmatic Interface WG (which we led for 18 months) and the Physical Specifications WG, which defines the mechanical, thermal and electrical standards for LXI devices. Since then we have also chaired two of the new working groups that were formed to solve specific applications: Hybrid Systems was tasked with establishing interfaces to non-LXI instruments; and Resource Management with developing specifications for the control of LXI devices assembled into an integrated system in a multi-threaded environment for use by more than

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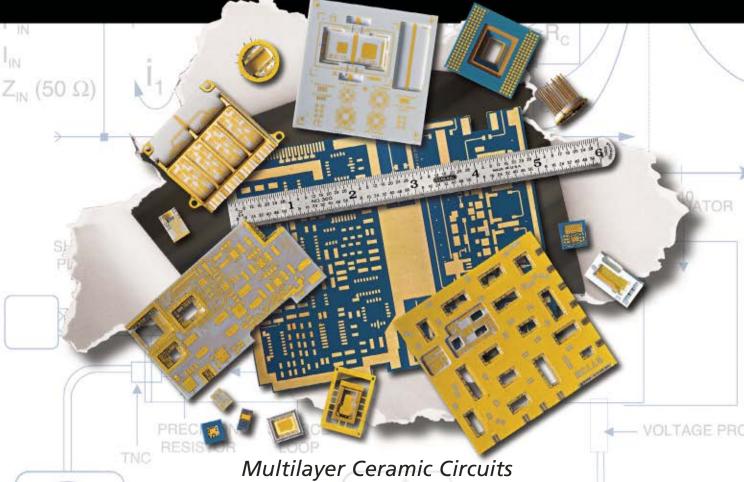
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one client. We also continue to participate and advise at various levels in the LXI Consortium, including on the other working groups and the Technical Committee.

MWJ: What do you see as the next key stage of development of the LXI standard?

DP: The IEEE-1588 version 2.0 standard (due out near the end of 2007) will bring improvements in terms of reduced uncertainty in system wide timing with possible applications to any large scale test system. It will have the capability to synchronize all test and data tag times of LXI Class A and B devices to around 10 nanoseconds (from the 50 nanoseconds of V 1.0) using only the LXI Ethernet bus. The Consortium is also pursuing the development of conformance tests that will allow manufacturers to certify their own instruments, which will definitely help the manufacturing base. However, it seems clear that LXI will have to go through the adoption phase by both commercial and military users before any more major developments can occur. The Consortium will be actively focusing on this aspect over the next year

MWJ: As they are developed are LXI products being readily accepted and adopted?

DP: LXI is still in its infancy and it is difficult to gauge the impact on the overall market. There were over 170 LXI products registered with the Consortium at the end of 2006, and it is clear that these manufacturers believe it has a bright future. The LXI specification is also starting to emerge in some procurements. Overall, it seems a natural step for instrument customers to use the ubiquitous LAN bus to connect various devices into a system. Consequently, we assume that LXI devices will generally be accepted by some segments of the test market.

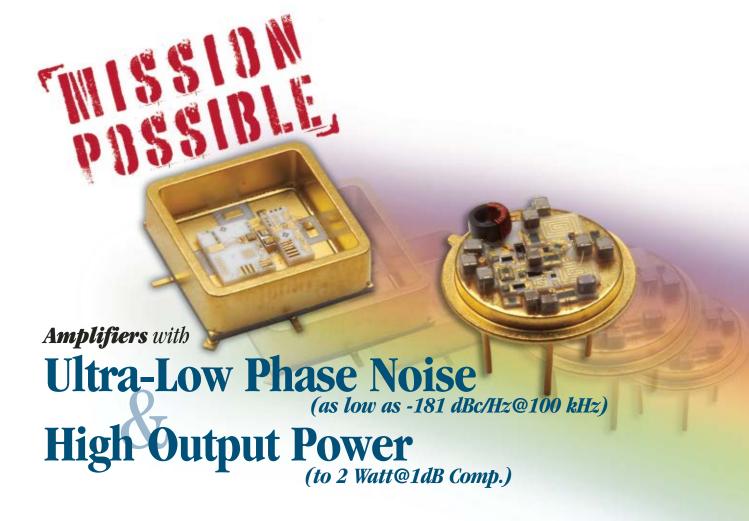
MWJ: Generally, do potential customers need to be educated as to the benefits of LXI products and if so how can this be best achieved?

DP: There is no easy answer to this question since the knowledge of LXI and the inherent advantages vary widely across the customer base. There is

still a strong market and a well-established customer base for PXI and VXI products. Consequently, LXI will have to compete with these other standards and start establishing a footprint of its own. Doubtlessly there are real advantages to all these standards and form factors in different applications. At this point in time all indications point toward coexistence of the various standards as well as possible integration of VXI, PXI and LXI-based devices and system components.

MWJ: The vast majority of the member companies of the LXI Consortium are North American. Is this a true reflection of the global commitment to LXI?

DP: At present there are many North American members. However, there are also T&M OEMs such as Agilent, Rhode & Schwarz and Aeroflex that are very active with an established global presence. Now that the initial specifications have been defined the Consortium is also focusing on Europe and Asia since there is a significant interest in LXI in these geographical areas.



Agilent Technologies Inc.



Bob Rennard, program manager, Agilent; LXI Consortium president

MWJ: Briefly explain Agilent's role to date in the development of the LXI standard.

BR: Agilent, along with VXI Technology, founded the LXI Consortium in 2004 following some conversations where we realized we were pursuing very similar paths. We also noted others were pursuing LAN-based instruments as well and we reasoned it made more sense to collaborate as an industry standard than to develop independent implementations. Our goal was simply to recommend a common LAN implementation to ensure instruments behave in a consistent manner, simplifying life for system designers and integrators. LXI is really a bunch of test and measurement companies who recognize that LAN is an ideal interface for test systems and agree on a common implementation.

Recognizing the power and potential of Ethernet as an instrument interface, VXIT and Agilent approached other companies in the industry to solicit interest and participation. The response was overwhelming. Most vendors were already developing products with LAN ports on them and we all realized a common implementation would improve multi-vendor interoperability and simplify integration tasks. The two founder companies developed the initial draft document describing LXI and presented it to potential members at the first meeting in Salt Lake City. During that meeting, we proposed a governance structure and set up technical working groups to develop the specification.

Addressing your question directly, Agilent contributed many engineers to help create and test the specification and we license our IEEE-1588 IP to member companies. We also contributed leadership, chairing the Consortium since its inception. Fur-

ther, Agilent contributes leadership and engineering to IVI, IEEE-1588, DoD SIWG and DoD ATML, organizations that draw upon or contribute technology to LXI.

MWJ: What do you see as the next key stage of development of the LXI standard?

BR: As a new standard, LXI's top priority and challenge is to build awareness and preference to spur LXI system demand. We want to show LXI is real, there are real products available and users are building real systems with it. In its first year, over 300 LXI products were launched by test vendors across all product classes. There were 171 by the end of 2006, which ballooned to 313 in January 2007, just 13 months after the first one was certified.

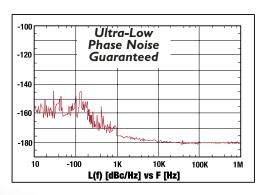
In addition to terrific acceptance by the vendor community, we have seen some very impressive system performance improvements by some leading system integrators. Our biggest challenge now is to spread the word and show how it is done through tutorials, application examples and LXI User Groups.

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The 2008 IEEE Radio and Wireless Symposium (RWS 2008) incorporating IEEE Wireless and Microwave Technology Conference (WAMICON) will be held in Orlando, FL, on 22 - 24 January 2008 as part of the Radio Wireless Week technical event. In addition to oral presentations and posters, RWS 2008 includes workshops, panels, and an exhibition. Others collocating in the event are the Topical Meeting on Silicon Monolithic Integrated Circuits in RF Systems (SiRF) and the IEEE Topical Workshop on Power Amplifiers for Wireless Communications (PA Symposium).

RWS 2008 sessions will highlight applications including (but not limited to):

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Proposals for workshop topics are solicited, and must be received by 28 June 2007. Details on the process and requirements can be found at www.radiowireless.org.

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Authors must submit a summary (not more than 4 pages including figures) electronically using the www.radiowireless.org web page by 13 July 2007; this is a firm date and will be strictly enforced! Authors can indicate their preference for oral or poster presentation format but the Technical Program Committee reserves the right regarding final presentation format decision. Please note that the only accepted file format is pdf.

Submissions will be evaluated for originality, significance of the work, technical content, and interest to a wide audience. Authors will be notified by 1 September 2007. Final manuscripts of accepted papers (4 pages in length) must be received by 4 November 2007 to be included in the published Proceedings.



The top priorities for the LXI Consortium in 2007 include simplifying the LXI infrastructure and ease of adoption for integrators, developing and demonstrating basic and advanced features, and updating the LXI specification and developing marketing programmes to build awareness and preference for LXI as the successor to GPIB.

MWJ: As they are developed are LXI products being readily accepted and adopted?

BR: Absolutely. We are seeing a large number of requests for LXI instruments and many leading systems integrators clearly see the benefits of networked test systems. The beauty of LXI is it is just an interface standard. There is a simple migration path from GPIB and other interfaces—integrators can simply swap a GPIB cable for a LAN cable. Yet LXI also gives integrators new tools they can use when they want to adopt them. They get to use the same products with the same performance they are accustomed to. We are seeing LXI products available in both bench top and card implementations,

allowing integrators to leverage software and specifications from development through deployment.

LXI, at its basic implementation, simply brings an additional IO to allow networked systems, significantly reducing costs and improving performance over legacy GPIB. At its best, it offers advanced new capabilities like peer-topeer, downloadable scripts and precision timing capabilities that make high performance synthetic instruments realizable. The DoD Synthetic Instruments Working Group (SIWG) has enthusiastically endorsed LXI and chose it as the basis for military synthetic instrument implementations.

MWJ: Generally, do potential customers need to be educated as to the benefits of LXI products and if so how can this be best achieved?

BR: Yes and no. At its basic level, LXI is just another interface and many integrators use the LAN port much as they would the familiar GPIB port. LXI was developed to provide a very easy transition from GPIB to LXI. Integrators can use as much or as little capability as they want without penalty. Think of it as allowing integrators to use the same familiar GPIB capabilities with a new toolbox available when they want and

That said, many systems designers are still unfamiliar with creating networks, particularly without the assistance of IT professionals. In most implementations, LXI will be used in a dedicated subnet, completely isolated from IT, enterprise traffic and bad guys who may lurk on the other side of the firewall. In practice, it is no more complex or vulnerable than familiar GPIB, but it is still new to many systems designers. For that reason, we are putting time and resources into tutorials, best practice guides and infrastructure recommendations to help designers accelerate the learning curve.

MWJ: The vast majority of the member companies of the LXI Consortium are North American. Is this a true reflection of the global commitment to LXI?

BR: We view LXI as a global standard and three of the eight LXI board members are international (Rohde & Schwarz, Pickering and EADS). Fur-



ther, the Aeroflex Board member is European, so the board is essentially half international. We get strong technical participation from the European board members and companies such as B&K in Denmark. However, we are conscious of becoming US centric and we are actively reaching out to the international community. We had a meeting and Plug-fest in Germany last spring and we participated twice in Electronica/Productronica in Germany. We will do that again this year. We have several system integrators and OEM/ self integrators throughout Europe actively working on LXI systems for automotive, aerospace and wireless applications.

In Asia, we participated in several Chinese system integrator meetings towards the end of last year. We are engaged with the China Test & Control, Metrology and Instrument Technology Institute, a government supported organization that represents 132 companies in China. Agilent represented the LXI Consortium by presenting at the 2006 Test & Control Bus Technology and LXI Technology Conference in Zhang Jia Jie as well as the 15th China Test & Measurement and Fault Diagnosis Technology Conference in Xi'an, China. We will have our June LXI General Meeting in China and, in addition to these organizations, we have several member companies from Japan, Taiwan and China.

Keithley Instruments



Chuck Cimino, marketing director, Keithley Instruments; member of the LXI Board of Directors

MWJ: Briefly explain Keithley Instruments' role to

date in the development of the LXI standard.

cc: Keithley was the first joining member of the consortium (after founders Agilent and VXI Tech) at the strategic (BoD) level in late 2004. Our technology lab manager was asked to chair the technical working groups that developed the various elements of the standard and continues to do so. Numerous Keithley business and technical people have and do actively participate in the on-going ad-

vancement of the standard now in its second version 1.1. We contribute to weekly teleconferences with the LXI BoD, marketing and technical committees, as well as quarterly combined general and Plug-fest conformance testing meetings.

MWJ: What do you see as the next key stage of development of the LXI standard?

CC: Moving forward into the development and release of version 1.2 during 2007 there is a roadmap to address the evolution of technologies such as IEEE-1588 v2, newer methods of instrument discovery and the continuous knowledge gained from the vendor and applications communities. Keithley will continue to support the continued adoption and evolution of this important standard as new products continue to emerge.

MWJ: As they are developed are LXI products being readily accepted and adopted?

CC: Keithley now has two LXI enabled RF products that are being embraced by our customers in large part due to the advantages of their LXI capabilities. In some cases the remote web browser interface provides useful capabilities and in others the basic Ethernet interface provides lower cost and data transfer advantages. Interoperability with other LXI instruments has also been an advantage of embracing the standard.

MWJ: Generally, do potential customers need to be educated as to the benefits of LXI products and if so how can this be best achieved?

CC: Globally detailed LXI awareness remains fairly low despite high levels of PR spending by the Consortium and key members such as Agilent over the past year or so and since the release of v1.0 towards the end of 2005. Keithley has developed a number of presentations on the various aspects and advantages of LXI applied to our targeted applications, and has made them available through various sources. There is still a lot to be done to drive awareness and preference for LXI in the Asia region, for example, and the Consortium and member companies are acting accordingly.

MWJ: The vast majority of the member companies of the LXI Consortium are North American. Is this a true reflection of the global commitment to LXI?

CC: Expanding on the comment above about Asia, the Consortium is fully aware of, and concerned about, the urgent need for more international participation. We are actively working on broadening the membership through various PR activities in China, for example. We are also looking to increase liaison leverage through existing and potential international members to increase the international content and preference for LXI.

Rohde & Schwarz

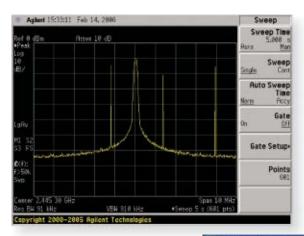


Jochen Wolle, head of R&D software spectrum and network analyzers; member of LXI BoD, LXI Conformance WG chair

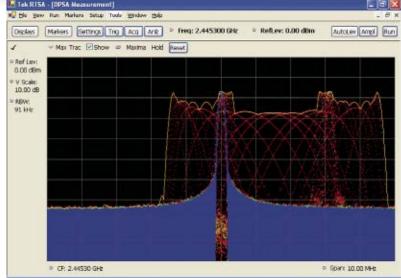
MWJ: Briefly explain Rohde & Schwarz' role to date in the development of the LXI standard.

JW: Rohde & Schwarz strongly supports the LXI Consortium and the move to open standards for modular instrument platforms. LAN is a ubiquitous interface in today's test and measurement world and LXI's LANbased architecture provides the basis for flexible, modular instruments for the aerospace, defence and communications markets. Rohde & Schwarz joined the Consortium as a strategic member at an early stage in November 2004 and hosted the first LXI Plug-fest outside North America in Munich, Germany, in April 2006. The event had 69 registered attendees representing more than 25 different organizations, encompassing manufacturers, system integrators, customers, universities and the press.

We are contributing to the standard development by chairing the Conformance Working Group and leading the effort to define the conformance process as well as participating in the joint development of the Multi Vendor Systems Demo, which was shown at AUTOTEST-CON 2006 and Electronica 2006. Also, Rohde & Schwarz has certified the FSL, FSP, FSU and FSQ spectrum analyzer families as well as the SMU, SMJ and SMATE signal generators as LXI compliant, making a total of more than 20 instruments.







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MWJ: What do you see as the next key stage of development of the LXI standard?

JW: The LXI Consortium is currently working on the LXI Standard Release v1.2. The working groups are actively developing the specifications for resource management and for an enhanced discovery protocol based on XML schema. The upcoming new release v2.0 of the IEEE-1588 precision time protocol will also be adopt-

ed by the LXI standard and the LXI Consortium is also working on a self-certification process supported by tools for LXI Class C devices.

MWJ: As they are developed are LXI products being readily accepted and adopted?

JW: We are seeing a growing interest in the LXI standard from our customers. Nevertheless, customers are still in the investigation phase regarding the benefits and integration of LXI-based test systems. We expect to see more LXI instruments being used in hybrid systems, combining existing GPIB/VXI/PXI-based instruments, together with LXI devices in the near future. As more and more compliant LXI instruments become available, this adoption process will quicken.

MWJ: Generally, do potential customers need to be educated as to the benefits of LXI products and if so how can this be best achieved?

JW: There is still a great need to educate potential customers concerning the benefits of the LXI technology. Therefore, the LXI Marketing Committee coordinates the promotional activities with articles, application notes, web blogs, seminars and trade show participation. Rohde & Schwarz is actively involved in all of these efforts and serves as a focal point for the promotion of the LXI standard in Europe.

MWJ: The vast majority of the member companies of the LXI Consortium are North American. Is this a true reflection of the global commitment to LXI?

JW: The primary initiators of the LXI standardization were companies in North America. Nevertheless, there has been a growing interest for LXI in Europe and Asia, too. As an example, the June 2007 Plug-fest that will be held in Beijing, China, demonstrates the global commitment being undertaken outside of North America, in order to help promote the awareness of LXI.

CONCLUSION

The development of the LXI standard has come a long way in a relatively short period of time. Instigated by the emergence of LAN and driven by the LXI Consortium and its partners, the standard has gained considerable momentum. They have a commercial interest in making it a success and are striving towards that goal. That said, there is still some work to be done. Technologically, compatibility and interoperability issues need to be addressed, especially if the standard is to be widely accepted by a traditionally conservative T&M user community. Efforts to publicise and extend its global reach are key too. The LXI standard has progressed rapidly and has now reached a critical stage of its development. It will be interesting to see how that development advances over the next few years.



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It's a Wrap: 2007 RADIO & WIRELESS SYMPOSIUM AND EXHIBITION

KEITH MOORE AND FRANK BASHORE Microwave Journal staff

he second IEEE Radio & Wireless Week was held January 7–12, 2007, in Long Beach, CA, and was comprised of the IEEE Radio and Wireless Symposium (RWS), the IEEE Topical Symposium on Power Amplifiers for Wireless Communications (PAS), the Topical Meeting on Silicon Monolithic Integrated Circuits in RF Systems (SiRF) and an accompanying Industry Exhibition. Although the local residents were complaining about the relatively cold weather, most of the 1200+ partici-

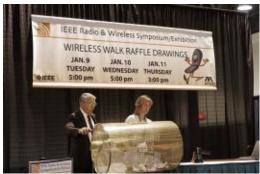
pants were enjoying the mild winter temperatures. The newly combined symposium attracted over 500 delegates from around the world and was an interesting and rewarding event for the attendees. The combined technical programs featured 214 technical presen-

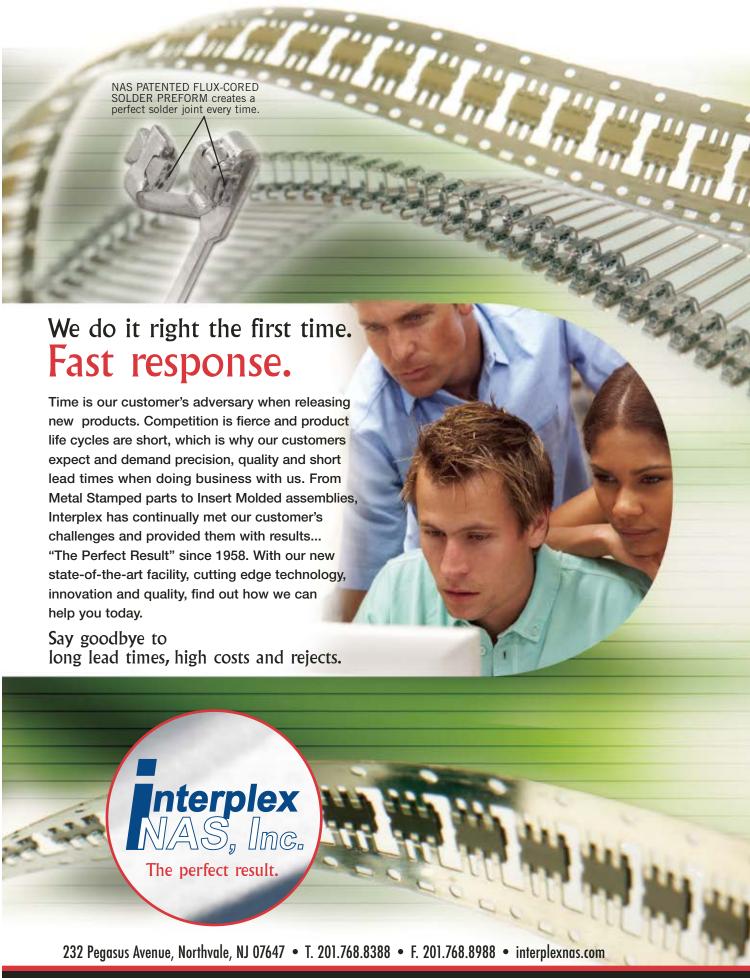
tations, six workshops and one short course, along with three poster sessions comprised of 51 individual presentations.

The Industry Exhibition this year was made up of over 60 exhibiting companies in 88 booths and attracted a modest attendance. One bright spot was the daily Wireless Walk Raffle. Frederick Raab walked away with the \$1500 prize on the final day, while the many daily \$500 prize winners included Nitin Jain, Kyung Heons Koo, Cory Root and Dong-yun Jung on Tuesday; Ke Wu, Song Lin, Oystein Jensen and Sherwin Wang on Wednesday; and Jack Pekarik, Dimitri Lederer, Ji Hoon Kim and Debabani Choudhury on Thursday. Congratulations to all the winners.



As with any Industry Exhibition, many of the exhibiting companies were showing off their newest products. A collection of some of the more notable products on display follows. Due to space limitations, we are unable to include every company.









Agilent Technologies featured new test solutions for the fast growing 3GPP LTE, MIMO, fixed and mobile WiMAX, and WiMedia markets based on the popular Agilent ADS and recently introduced signal generators, analyzers and power meters. These innovative and leading products provide engineers with the test resources they need to efficiently and effectively deliver the next generation of high speed/high capacity wireless devices and networks.

Also featured in booth 637 was the new Time Division-Synchronous Code Division Multiple Access (TD-SCDMA) measurement capability for its PSA series

high performance spectrum analyzers, a test and measurement solution for analysis of HSDPA/8PSK signals over TD-SCDMA.

Agilent showcased a series of first-to-market, broadband microwave test accessories specifically optimized for communications and aerospace/defense applications. Also on display was the 1xEV-DO Release A Enhancement to its 8960 Wireless Communications Test Set running 1xEV-DO networks. The 1xEV-DO Release A system is an upgrade to existing 1xEV-DO networks.

AR Worldwide RF/Microwave **Instrumentation** showcased two amplifier series that cover the WiMAX frequency range. Very linear amplification is available from 800 MHz to 4.2 GHz (1 to 700 W) and another series that covers 4 to 8 GHz (1 to 60 W). The company also introduced a custom amplifier module for the emerging wireless access market. The CMS1070 is a 3.4 to 3.7 GHz solid-state power amplifier module for the wireless broadband network. This 20 W, 43 dBm output linear power amplifier has a scaleable gain of 20 to 50 dB and is designed to meet the WiMAX 802.16d specifications. It can be modified to meet various types of OFDM or NPR requirements. The module comprises a printed wiring assembly housed in a machined aluminum enclosure. The amplifier is protected from thermal overload, over power, over voltage or wrong voltage polarity as well as having an internal isolator.

Computer Simulation Technology (CST) featured its CST STUDIO SUITE 2006B, including the industry-standard 3-D EM Time Domain tool, CST MI-CROWAVE STUDIO. In this latest release, improved and extended solver technology has been at the





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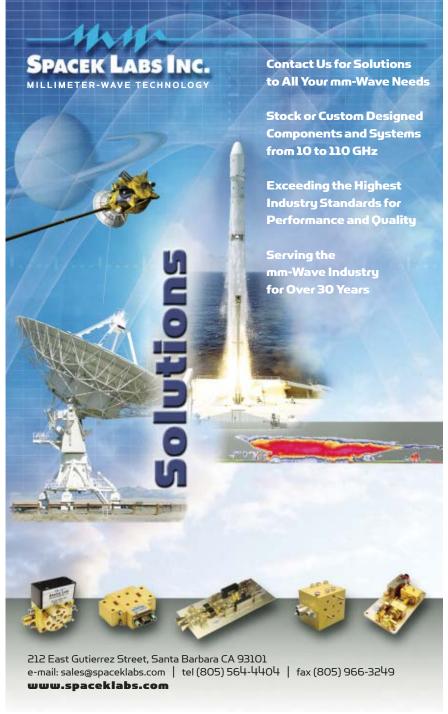
ports, and the performance of mesher and solver has been increased. CST MWS 2006B's range of solvers has been enriched by the addition of an Integral Equation solver based on the Multilevel Fast Multipole Method (MLFMM).

To provide an alternative for many test scenarios in which only a high quality CW source is required, **dBm** introduced the SSG synthesized CW signal generator. The SSG is small and light and can be held in one hand, yet has enough mass to stay planted on the workbench with heavy coax cables attached to it. Giving up little or nothing in terms of performance,

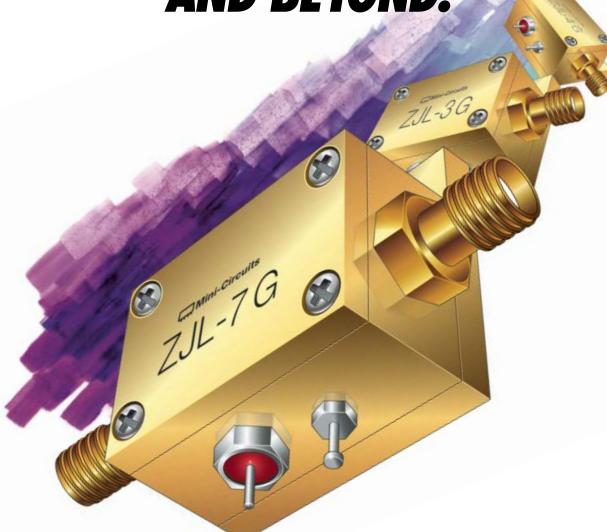
the SSG provides excellent phase noise, and switching speed that is much faster than YIG-based signal generators. The SSG can function within an automated test system since it can be remotely controlled via IEEE-488.2, RS-232 and 10/100BaseT Ethernet.

Focus Microwaves has developed a multi-purpose tuner (MPT) for WLAN, WiMAX and 3G/4G applications. The model iMPT-1818-TC uses three independent wideband probes allowing independent control of the amplitude and phase of the reflection factor at all three harmonic frequencies. The main application of the MPT is harmonic load pull, although it can also be used as a single-probe tuner as well as a high VSWR prematching tuner. The ultra-stable (fundamental only) mode of operation is a necessity for on-wafer vibration-free testing and is accomplished by moving the probes only vertically. MPT option "TC" (twin carriage) allows wideband operation up to one Decade. The iMPT-1818-TC covers the frequency range from 3 to 18 GHz.

Freescale Semiconductor unveiled four general-purpose broadband RF amplifiers that deliver high gain and linearity over bandwidths from DC up to 6 GHz. The amplifiers are well suited for applications ranging from WiMAX base stations to meter readers, set-top boxes, RFID readers and any application requiring a cost-effective, small-signal gain source. In addition, the company introduced its first 3.3 V UHF television radio frequency (RF) modulators based on CMOS technology. The modulators offer customers cost-effective, low power solutions designed to help shorten design-to-market cycles. They also reduce system requirements for television-related applications in-



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and reliability built into these miniature 12 V amplifiers lies another important feature, the low price...from only \$99.95! Call now for fast delivery.

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SPECIFICATIONS

Model (MHz) (dB) (±dB) (dBm) NF(dB) IP3(dBm) I(mA) ³ (1-2) ZJL-5G 20-5000 9.0 ±0.55 15.0 8.5 32.0 80 125 ZJL-7G 20-7000 10.0 ±1.0 8.0 5.0 24.0 50 98 ZJL-4G 20-4000 12.4 ±0.25 13.5 5.5 30.5 75 125 ZJL-4G 20-4000 17.0 ±1.6 9.0 4.5 24.0 50 11 ZJL-3G 20-3000 19.0 ±2.2 8.0 3.8 22.0 45 11 ZKL-2R7 10-2700 24.0 ±0.7 13.0 5.0 30.0 120 148 ZKL-2R5 10-2500 30.0 ±1.5 15.0 5.0 31.0 120 148 ZKL-2 10-2000 35.5 ±1.0 15.0 4.0 31.0 120 148			Gain	(typ)	Max.	Dynan	nic Range		Price
ZJI-7G 20-7000 10.0 ±1.0 8.0 5.0 24.0 50 98 ZJL-4G 20-4000 12.4 ±0.25 13.5 5.5 30.5 75 125 ZJL-6G 20-6000 13.0 ±1.6 9.0 4.5 24.0 50 11 ZJL-4HG 20-4000 17.0 ±1.5 15.0 4.5 30.5 75 125 ZJL-3G 20-3000 19.0 ±2.2 8.0 3.8 22.0 45 11 ZKL-2R7 10-2700 24.0 ±0.7 13.0 5.0 30.0 120 148 ZKL-2R5 10-2500 30.0 ±1.5 15.0 5.0 31.0 120 148 ZKL-2 10-2000 33.5 ±1.0 15.0 4.0 31.0 120 148	Model							I(mA)	\$ea. 3 (1-9)
ZKL-2R5 10-2500 30.0 ±1.5 15.0 5.0 31.0 120 145 ZKL-2 10-2000 33.5 ±1.0 15.0 4.0 31.0 120 145	ZJL-7G ZJL-4G ZJL-6G ZJL-4HG	20-7000 20-4000 20-6000 20-4000	10.0 12.4 13.0 17.0	±1.0 ±0.25 ±1.6 ±1.5	8.0 13.5 9.0 15.0	5.0 5.5 4.5 4.5	24.0 30.5 24.0 30.5	50 75 50 75	129.95 99.95 129.95 114.95 129.95 114.95
ZKL-1R5 10-1500 40.0 ±1.2 15.0 3.0 31.0 115 148	ZKL-2R5	10-2500	30.0	±1.5	15.0	5.0	31.0 31.0 31.0	120 120 115	149.95 149.95 149.95 149.95

NOTES:

- 1. Typical at 1 dB compression. 2. ZKL dynamic range specified at 1 GHz. 3. All units at 12V DC.







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cluding DVD/DVDR players, modules and video games, as well as analog, digital and internet protocol set-top-boxes for satellite, terrestrial or cable television. Freescale also showcased a development platform utilizing Power ArchitectureTM technology for the creation of WiMAX baseband applications. Incorporating high performance PowerQUICCTM communication

technology, StarCoreTM digital signal processors and a field programmable gate array (FPGA), the WiMAX baseband platform works together with Media Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) software to provide the performance and programmable processing required for production of WiMAX base station products. According to In-Stat, the number of

fixed WiMAX subscribers worldwide is projected to reach 16 million by 2010, and the number of mobile WiMAX subscribers is expected to range from 15 to 25 million. Designed to support both fixed and mobile stations, the WiMAX platform provides the essential hardware functionality required for a first generation WiMAX IEEE 802.16-2005 mobile base band platform in a single Advanced Mezzanine Card (AMC) form factor.

JFW Industries introduced a new 20 to 2500 MHz high power switch. Model 50S-1505 delivers high power (25 W average; 200 W peak) and is designed for rugged military environments.

Keithley demonstrated its 2910 vector source and 2910 vector analyzer that allows engineers to create new signal formats and analyze them using general lab tools such as Matlab. The 2910 creates an RF signal by converting the time record to an IF, with 16 bits of resolution and up converting the signal to an RF frequency. Conversely, the newly created signal was captured by the 2810, down converted and digitized with 14 bits of resolution, and stored as an IQ time record in the analyzers memory. In less than a second the record was exported from the instrument and displayed as a constellation on the PC using Matlab.

M/A-COM introduced several new items including two new HBT MMIC amplifiers. The MAAM-007865-0P1R00 and the MAAM-007866-0P1R00 exhibit exceptional broadband frequency performance using only a single application circuit to cover frequency bands from 50 to 2000 MHz and 50 to 3300 MHz, respectively.

M/A-COM announced the MAAP-007649-000100, a 2 W power amplifier for the 800 to 1000 MHz frequency band. The MAAP-007649-000100 design displays optimum performance for RFID reader applications, with greater than 1 W dense reader mode (DRM) spectral mask linearity and a flat gain response.

M/A-COM also featured a new low cost RoHS compliant 2.4 GHz linear power amplifier for 802.11b/g Multiple-Input Multiple-Output



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Model 7110 and SRD residual phase noise comparison. 200MHz, 19dBm input. Measured at 2GHz or 10th harmonic.

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7102	20-24 dBm	300 MHz	700 MHz	20 GHz
7103	20-24 dBm	500 MHz	1.2 GHz	30 GHz
7110	25-29 dBm	100 MHz	300 MHz	20 GHz
7112	25-29 dBm	300 MHz	700 MHz	20 GHz
7113	25-29 dBm	500 MHz	1.2 GHz	30 GHz
7123	25-29 dBm	800 MHz	1.4 GHz	50 GHz
7124	25-29 dBm	1.6 GHz	2.4 GHz	50 GHz

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(MIMO) WLAN applications that require high gain, high efficiency and small size. The MAAP-008015 amplifier provides 20 dBm of linear output power with EVM $<\!3.0$ percent, maximizing system performance while maintaining low DC power consumption.

MicroMetrics featured high power PIN diodes. The structures consist of a P+ layer of carrier concentration > 1020, an intrinsic layer > 3000 ohm-cm and a substrate > 0.001 ohm-cm. The intrinsic layer is varied depending upon the voltage, lifetime, switching speed and series resistance. The > 3000 ohm-cm intrinsic layer produces a larger mesa diameter for a given capaci-

tance value enhancing the power handling capability of these devices. This creates a diode structure that is ideal when power handling is a primary concern. The ceramic passivation enables the user to put the diode chip directly onto a substrate, or the devices can be packaged in various configurations offered by the company.

Nitronex showcased a high voltage platform to support next generation wireless infrastructure applications. Leveraging the company's existing qualified NRF1 (GaN on Silicon) technology, the new platform takes advantage of thermal enhancements in wafer processing, transistor design and packaging to support 48 V operation under all waveforms and extreme flange temperatures. The initial products planned will be designed for WiMAX and 3G/3G LTE waveforms operating in frequency bands from 1.8 to 2.2 GHz and 2.3 to 2.7 GHz. Lineups with output power ranging from 5 to 200 W will be supported.

precisionWave Corp. introduced its next low cost, high performance RF vector signal generator. The new p1511A generates digitally modulated and CW signals in the 800 to 1000 MHz and 1700 to 2200 MHz cellular bands for developers of cellular technology-based products. The instrument's I/Q generator produces high accuracy signals for any digital modulation scheme used in these bands. As examples, EDGE avg. RMS EVM is typically less than 0.8 percent, and GSM phase error is below 1°. With a wide -100 to +20 dBm power output range, harmonic suppression is better than -40 dBc at +13 dBm, and spurious is below -80 dBc. The source's 1 GHz CW phase noise is less than -100 dBc/Hz at 20 kHz offset, and at 2.2 GHz is better than

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-92 dBc/Hz at 20 kHz offset. Like all precisionWave instruments, the source is CE certified, and is fully warranted for one year.

 \mathbf{RF} Micro Devices Inc. (RFMD) had a couple of announcements, the first of which was that its RF3159 linear EDGE power amplifier (PA) is supporting Samsung's SGH-D900 "Black Carbon" mobile phone, the thinnest slider phone in

the world. A member of Samsung's Ultra Edition line of handsets, the SGH-D900 is a GSM/GPRS/EDGE quadband handset featuring an MP3 player with a micro SD-card expansion slot, 3.13 megapixel camera, support for a Bluetooth® stereo headset, TV-output and a vivid 2.1" 262K color screen for a full multimedia experience. Samsung's use of the RF3159 further extends RFMD's

industry leadership in EDGE PAs and supports the company's continued growth in the EDGE market. The RF3159 is a high linearity quadband GSM/GPRS/EDGE PA designed to support EDGE transceivers utilizing a linear transmit architecture, including transceivers by Silicon Laboratories, Infineon Technologies and NXP Semiconductors. The RF3159 PA module is fully matched for easy implementation and is housed in a small 6×6 mm package, which is industry-leading for the linear EDGE PA market. The product's gain and linearity lineups enable handset manufacturers to optimize the transmit chain to meet various requirements of linearity, efficiency and output power. The module is designed to be the final amplification stage in a dual-mode GSM/GPRS/EDGE mobile transmit lineup operating in the 824 to 915 MHz and 1710 to 1910 MHz bands.

The company also introduced its newest RF switches – the RF1200 and RF1450. The RF1200 is a singlepole double-throw (SPDT) high power switch that meets all linearity requirements for WCDMA and features low insertion loss, low control voltage and very good harmonic characteristics. It is fabricated with 0.5 µm GaAs PHEMT process and is packaged in a very compact 2×2 mm, 6-pin, leadless QFN package. The RF1450 is a single-pole fourthrow (SP4T) high power switch specifically designed to provide superior linearity performance for multimode WCDMA applications. The RF1450 includes integrated decoding logic, allowing just two control lines needed for switch control. It is packaged in a compact $3 \times 3 \times 0.6$ mm, 16-pin, leadless QFN package.

Rogers had on display a replacement product for PTFE woven glass circuit material that provides superior mechanical and thermal properties, uses the RO4000® resin system for ease of fabrication and is a cost competitive option for base station antenna applications.

Rohde & Schwarz has expanded its flagship ZVA series vector network analyzers with R&S Option ZVA-K7, which enables pulse profile measurements to be made on semiconductor components and antenna/radar systems. Absolute levels,



and possible presentation at

the symposium. Electronic

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4 June 2007

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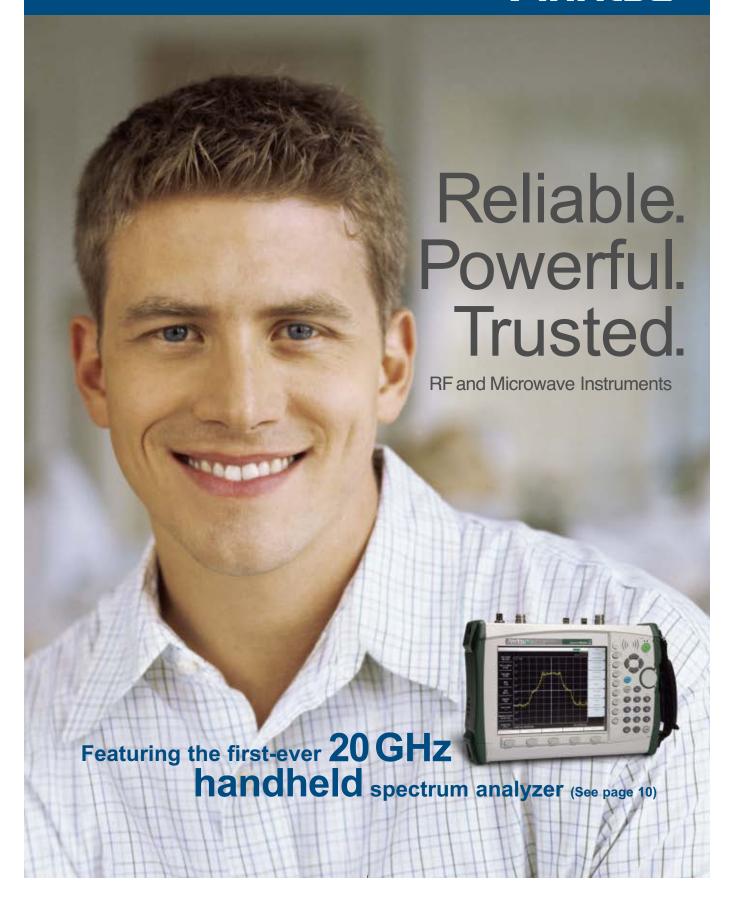
be sent upon the acceptance

of the abstract. Authors are

asked to mark their paper

"Student Paper."

/Inritsu



Spectrum Analyzers

Model	Frequency	RBW	Noise Level	Key Features
MS2661C	9 kHz to 3 GHz	30 Hz	–130 dBm	 Frequency counter C/N Adjacent channel power Occupied-frequency bandwidth
MS2663C	9 kHz to 8.1 GHz	30 Hz	–130 dBm	Burst average power Noise power PASS/FAIL limit lines
MS2665C	9 kHz to 21.2 GHz	30 Hz	–130 dBm	Compact, lightweight (13 kg standard) High C/N and superior distortion characteristics
MS2667C	9 kHz to 30 GHz	10 Hz	–135 dBm	 Easy-to-use operation Options support wide range of applications MS2665C supports easy set up auto
MS2668C	9 kHz to 40 GHz	10 Hz	–135 dBm	measurements MS2667/68C supports millimeter applications
MS2681A	9 kHz to 3 GHz	1 Hz to 20 MHz	Down to –148.3 dBm (option and frequency dependent)	 Fast data transmission speed (GPIB transmission speed:120 kbytes/second) Optional measurement software for high-speed
MS2683A	9 kHz to 7.8 GHz	1 Hz to 20 MHz	Down to -146.5 dBm (option and frequency dependent)	modulation analysis (1.5 seconds with WCDMA, 0.5 seconds with IEEE 802.11a) Optional narrow resolution bandwidth from 1 Hz
MS2687B	9 kHz to 30 GHz	1 Hz to 20 MHz	Down to -146.5 dBm (option and frequency dependent)	 Optional measurement software for high-speed modulation analysis (0.5 seconds with IEEE 802.11a) Optional power meter that measures up to 32 GHz Fast data transmission speed (GPIB transmission speed:120 kbytes/second)
MS2717A Economy	100 kHz to 7.1 GHz	10 Hz to 3 MHz	–153 dBm typical to 1 GHz	Typical dynamic range of 100 dB Typical phase noise of –110 dBc/Hz at 10 kHz offsets up to 6 GHz WCDMA/HSDPA RF measurements Demodulate WCDMA signals and display code domain power, error vector magnitude, codogram and modulation summary
MS2781B Signature™ High-Performance Signal Analyzer	100 Hz to 8 GHz	0.1 Hz to 8 MHz	−167 dBm	■ Excellent measurement performance ■ Fully functional and upgradable built-in PC with a Windows® XP GUI™ ■ Compatibility with simulation tools, such as MATLAB® and Simulink®
MS8608A Digital Mobile Radio Transmitter Tester	9 kHz to 7.8 GHz			Excellent performance for evaluating WCDMA modulation signals Supports GSM/EDGE, HSDPA, WLAN/802.11,
MS8609A Digital Mobile Radio Transmitter Tester	9 kHz to 13.2 GHz	1 Hz to 20 MHz	Down to –146.5 dBm (option and frequency dependent)	CDMA, 1xEVDO, and Pi/4DQPSK (PHS, PDC, IS–136) measurements Resolution bandwidth of up to 20 MHz via built-in spectrum analyzer Power can be measured with an accuracy of ±0.4 dB using the power sensor

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MS2661C



MS2668C

Vector Network Analyzers

Vector Network Analyzer	Frequency	Key Features	Target Applications
37000D Series Lightning Family Microwave and Millimeter Wave VNA	40 MHz to 110 GHz (expandable to 500 GHz)	 Flexible test port configuration Multiple upgrade paths High stability and reliability Powerful VNA utilities software Multiple port solutions AutoCal automated calibration 	 Microwave and millimeter wave component test On-wafer Waveguide S-parameter Multi-port device and balanced differential R&D and production environments
37200D Series Lightning for Passive Device Testing	40 MHz to 67 GHz	 Accurate, fast measurements of passive devices High power and wide dynamic range Multiple source control and frequency offset for frequency conversion devices Calibration utility for mixer measurements 	 E/O (modulators) and O/E (photodiodes, receivers) component measurement capability Automatic de-embedded mixer Embed/De-embed application Materials measurements of dielectric properties
37300D Series Lightning for Active Device Testing	40 MHz to 67 GHz	 Internal bias tees Extended power range (source step attenuator and test port attenuator) Gain compression application 	AmplifierDevice characterizationOn-wafer
ME7808C Lightning Broadband and MMWave VNA	40 MHz to 110 GHz Coax Up to 500 GHz in waveguide bands	 Continuous broadband frequency coverage from 40 MHz to 110 GHz in W1 (1 mm) coaxial output Supports on-wafer device characterization, broadband coaxial and waveguide measurements 	 Broadband characterization Parameter extraction Device modeling Millimeter wave
MS462XA Series Scorpion RF Transmission/ Reflection Analyzer	10 MHz to 9 GHz	■ Fast, accurate and repeatable 1-path, 2-port S-parameter measurements	■ Passive 2-port handset components, such as filters
MS462XB Series Scorpion RF VNMS	10 MHz to 9 GHz	 Industry's best 2- and 3-port test for active devices delivers superior accuracy 	 Handset components such as duplexers, amplifiers, and mixers
MS462XC Series Scorpion RF Direct Receiver	10 MHz to 9 GHz	■ Direct access to receivers for flexibility and versatility	 Antennas, mixers, power amplifiers and other multi-port devices
MS462XD Series Scorpion RF 4-port VNMS Configuration	10 MHz to 9 GHz	 Converts S-parameters into real-time differential and common-mode analysis Most popular configuration for functionality, performance and value 	Most wireless components and emerging balanced devices
MS4630B RF VNA	10 Hz to 300 MHz	 Accurate magnitude and phase measurements Filter and resonator analysis functions High-speed device evaluation 	 Passive filters, resonators for both R&D and manufacturing Optimized for IF measurements



Vector Network Analyzers

Anritsu VNAs encompass a wide range of high-performance, component test tools designed to address the growing needs of defense, satellite, radar, broad-band communication and optoelectronic component markets. Choose the Lightning family for troubleshooting any active or passive device measurements—from characterization and designing to manufacturing and verification. And for RF frequency applications, the Scorpion® series provides excellent transmission/ reflection, balanced/differential and S-parameter measurement solutions.



37397D Lightning VNA with 65 GHz Multiport Test Set

Power Meters | Signal Analyzers

Power Meters (RF Microwave)

Anritsu power meters provide accurate measurements for the full range of communications, wireless and aerospace applications.



Power Meter	Frequency	VBW	Dynamic Range (dBm)	Channels
ML2437A Power Meter		100 kHz		1
ML2438A Power Meter	100 kHz to 65 GHz	100 kHz	-70 to +20 dBm Sensor dependent	2
ML2487A Wideband Peak Power Meter		20 MHz		1
ML2488A Wideband Peak Power Meter	Sensor dependent	20 MHz		2
ML2495A Wideband Peak Power Meter		65 MHz		1
ML2496A Wideband Peak Power Meter		65 MHz		2
ML2530A Calibration Receiver	100 kHz to 3 GHz	100 kHz	Range dependent	1

The preferred choice of service providers, network operators and contractors worldwide.

Signal Analyzers

Technicians looking for exceptional engineering insight for advanced RF and communications products need to look no further. Anritsu Signal Analyzers offer cost-effective solutions with integrated fixed and mobile WiMax measurements, industrybest DANL and dynamic range and comprehensive WCDMA/HSDPA measurements.



Signal Analyzer	Frequency	RBW	Noise Level	Key Features
MS2781B Signature™	100 Hz to 8 GHz	0.1 Hz to 8 MHz	–167 dBm	 Excellent measurement performance Fully functional and upgradable built-in PC with a Windows® XP GUI Compatibility with simulation tools, such as MATLAB® and Simulink®

Synthesized Signal Generators

Anritsu provides the best

synthesized signal generator solutions.



Synthesized Signal Generators

Whether you test in the microwave, fixed or mobile satellite communications or defense industries, Anritsu provides the best synthesized signal generator solutions. With high-signal purity, low noise and excellent frequency stability, our signal generators are a fundamental measuring instrument for your lab or manufacturing site. Choose instruments with a full range of modulation capabilities for signal simulations from simple to the most complex, including Amplitude (AM), Frequency (FM), Phase (φ) and Pulse (PM). Plus, you'll find a series of configurable and upgradable broadband high-performance signal generators that meet your exact specifications.

Signal Generator	Frequency Range	Key Features	Key Applications
MG3633A Synthesized Signal Generator	10 kHz to 2700 MHz	High-performanceAnalog modulationSuper low phase noise	Mobile communication
MG3641A Synthesized Signal Generator	125 kHz to 1040 MHz	■ 0.01 Hz resolution ■ −100 dBc non-harmonic spurious	 Radio receiver interference testing On-site maintenance R&D
MG3642A Synthesized Signal Generator	125 kHz to 2080 MHz	■ 0.01 Hz resolution ■ -100 dBc non-harmonic spurious	 Radio receiver interference testing On-site maintenance R&D
MG3681A Digital Modulation Signal Generator	250 kHz to 3000 MHz	 Broadband vector modulation Excellent ACPR Analog modulation 	 3GPP applications All major mobile and communication applications HSDPA
MG3690B Series RF/Microwave Signal Generator	0.1 Hz to 67 GHz/325 GHz and greater	 High-performance High-output power Ultra-low phase noise Analog/Pulse modulation 	 Microwave communications Aerospace/defense Applications signal simulation ATE systems
MG3700A Vector Signal Generator	250 kHz to 3 GHz (6 GHz option)	■ 160 MHz arbitrary waveform generator yields high-level accuracy and large capacity baseband memory	 Digital modulation of signals for all major wireless communication systems
MG442A Synthesized Level Generator	10 Hz to 20/30 MHz	High-precisionBalanced and unbalanced	■ Telecommunications
MG724E1/G1 Signal Generator	6.3 to 7.8 GHz 12 to 13 GHz	■ Compact high-performance	Line repeaterMaintenance

Handheld Solutions

Don't let their size fool you. These rugged, lightweight and easyto-use instruments deliver powerful, fieldtested, lab-approved reliability and accuracy to the palm of your hand—and to wherever there's microwave or communication systems issues.



Delivering benchtop performance in a handheld instrument.

Handheld Cable and Antenna Analyzer: Site Master

As powerful as it is easy to use, more field technicians choose Site Master than any other handheld analyzer. And for applications as VHF, broadcasting, paging, cellular, GPS, PCS/GSM, 3G, ISM, WLAN and WLL, Site Master delivers accurate, repeatable measurements.

Site Master	Frequency	Measurements		
S113C Cable and Antenna Analyzer	2 MHz to 1600 MHz		■ SWR ■ Distance-to-fault	
S114C Cable and Antenna Analyzer	2 MHz to 1600 MHz	Return lossCable loss		
S331D Cable and Antenna Analyzer	25 MHz to 4000 MHz			
S251C Cable and Antenna Analyzer	625 MHz to 2500 MHz	Gain/InsertionCable lossRF Source	■ Return loss/SWR ■ Distance-to-fault	
S332D Cable and Antenna Analyzer	25 MHz to 4000 MHz	■ Channel power ■ Field strength	Occupied bandwidthAdjacent channel power ratio	
S810D Broadband Microwave Transmission Line and Antenna Analyzer	2 MHz to 10.5 GHz	■ Return loss ■ 1-port cable loss	■ Distance-to-fault ■ 2-port cable loss	
S820D Broadband Microwave Transmission Line and Antenna Analyzer	2 MHz to 20 GHz	- I-port cable loss	■ Coax and waveguide VSWR	



Quickly and easily perform all measurements for wireless network deployment, installation and maintenance.

Handheld Base Station Analyzers: BTS Master and Cell Master

BTS Master™ is like having multiple tools in one compact instrument. You get the functionality of a transmitter analyzer (WCDMA/HSDPA, GSM/GPRS/EDGE, WiMax), plus all the features of the field-proven Spectrum Master.

Cell Master eliminates the need to carry, manage and learn multiple test sets. It includes a transmitter analyzer (GSM, CDMA, cdmaOne, CDMA2000 1xRTT, and CDMA2000 1xEV-DO), a transmission analyzer for 2-port devices, interference analyzer, channel scanner, GPS receiver, CW signal generator (tests LNAs, repeaters or base station receiver sensitivity) and T1/E1 analyzer.

Base Station Analyzer	Frequency	Measurements	
BTS Master MT8222A	 10 MHz to 4 GHz (Built-in cable and antenna analyzer) 100kHz to 7.1 GHz (Built-in spectrum analyzer) 10 MHz to 7.1 GHz (Built-in power meter) 	 Spectrum analysis Interference analysis Cable loss Fixed WiMax (802.16–2004) WCDMA/HSDPA code domain power 	 Channel scanner Return loss GSM/EDGE channel power Distance-to-fault GPS receiver
Cell Master MT8212B	 25 MHz to 4 GHz (Built-in cable and antenna analyzer) 100 kHz to 3 GHz (Built-in spectrum analyzer) 4.5 MHz to 3.0 GHz (Built-in power meter) 	 Return loss Distance-to-fault Interference analyzer Transmitter measurements (cdmaOne, CDMA2000 1xRTT, CDMA2000 1xEV-DO, GSM) 	 Cable loss Channel scanner GPS receiver T1/E1 analyzer Transmission analyzer for 2-port devices

Handheld Solutions



Handheld Vector Network Analyzers: VNA Master

Need unparalleled performance and essential RF capabilities at modest prices? Enter the VNA Master series—simply the most advanced ultraportable handheld VNAs on the market.

VNA Master	VNA Frequency	SPA Frequency	Measurements
MS2024A	2 MHz to 4 GHz	_	■ Return loss ■ Cable loss ■ VSWR ■ 1-port phase
MS2026A	2 MHz to 6 GHz	_	 2-port phase 2-port gain Distance-to-fault
MS2034A	2 MHz to 4 GHz	100 kHz to 4 GHz	MS2024A measurements plus: High-performance spectrum analysis
MS2036A	2 MHz to 6 GHz	100 kHz to 7.1 GHz	Channel scannerInterference analysis



MS2721B

Handheld Spectrum Analyzers: Spectrum Master

As the de facto industry standard, the Spectrum Master™ series provides ultimate measurement flexibility in a lightweight, rugged package for field environments and mobile applications. With frequencies ranging from 9 kHz to 20 GHz, the Spectrum Master is ideal for such applications as identifying sources of interference, measuring field strength of cellular, satellite and military land mobile signals, field analysis of 802.11a/b/g wireless LAN signals and measurement of RF output from circuits, devices and instruments.

Spectrum Master	Frequency	RBW	Noise Level (dBm)
MS2711B	100 kHz to 3 GHz	10 kHz to 1 MHz	–115 dBm
MS2711D	100 kHz to 3 GHz	100 Hz to 1 MHz	–135 dBm
MS2721A	100 kHz to 7.1 GHz	10 Hz to 3 MHz	–153 dBm typical to 1 GHz
MS2721B NEW!	9 kHz to 7.1 GHz	1 Hz to 3 MHz	–163 dBm typical to 1 GHz in 1 Hz RBW
MS2723B NEW!	9 kHz to 13 GHz	1 Hz to 3 MHz	–156 dBm to 1 GHz, 1 Hz RBW –139 dBm to 3 GHz, 1 Hz RBW
MS2724B NEW!	9 kHz to 20 GHz	1 Hz to 3 MHz	–156 dBm to 1 GHz, 1 Hz RBW –136 dBm to 18 GHz, 1 Hz RBW

Specialized Products

Frequency Counters

Anritsu's frequency counters provide the most comprehensive frequency measurements in the industry.

Frequency Counter	Frequency	Key Features	Key Applications
MF2400 Microwave Frequency Counter	10 Hz to 20/27/40 GHz	 Wideband measurement High-accuracy burst measurement Analog display function Template function High-speed transient measurement Gating function 	 Mobile radio communications devices and circuits Carrier frequency and pulse width of burst signal

Instrumentation Grade Attenuators

Highly accurate, versatile and economical, Anritsu Instrumentation Grade Attenuators also provide GPIB standard and feature automatic measuring system components.

Grade Attenuators	Frequency	Key Features	Key Applications
MN63A/65A/72A/64B Programmable Attenuator	DC to 18 GHz	 Wide frequency range High accuracy Long operating life High-speed switching 	R&DInspectionProduction

Precision Components, Precision Measurements

Technicians rely on Anritsu for industry-leading design and production of precision microwave components.

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- High-directivity SWR auto testers and bridges
- Precision terminations and air lines
- Precision step attenuators
- Precision bias tees

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- RF detectors
- Precision fixed attenuators
- Precision power dividers and splitters
- Broadband microwave limiters





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complex S parameters and other data can be displayed in real time with resolution of 12.5 ns. The option also allows the analysis of periodic and single pulses. The pulsed RF signal is generated by an external signal source such as the R&S SMR signal generator or it can be generated by modulating the signal generator in the R&S ZVA with an external pulse modulator. The con-

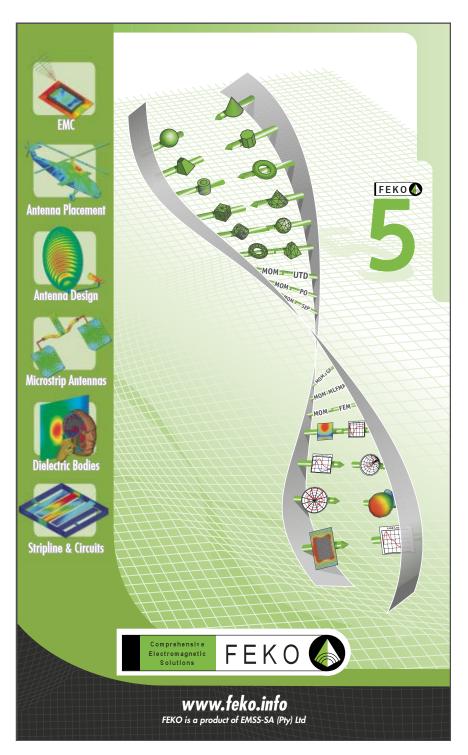
cept employed by Rohde & Schwarz is based on directly recording the signal with a sampling rate of 80 MHz, which makes dynamic range and system error correction independent of duty cycle. Option R&S ZVA-K7 allows pulses with a minimum width of 50 ns and rise times of up to 33 ns to be measured. Measurement bandwidth can be up to 30 MHz, and because of the instru-

ment's large memory, the user can continuously record pulse profiles of up to 3 ms.

Sonnet introduced Version 11 of its software program. Featuring an easy-to-administer cluster computing capability and significantly enhanced interfaces to Agilent, AWR and Cadence, the new port calibration program is designed to enhance high frequency design methodology in the field of radio frequency integrated circuit design.

SUSS MicroTec Test Systems featured AccuraCV,TM part of the SussCal® Professional calibration and measurement software suite. It addresses the challenges resulting from shrinking device sizes by making accurate impedance measurements of physically small elements. Having the capability to make such measurements is becoming increasingly important–for instance, the International Technology Roadmap for Semiconductors (ITRS) reports that in 2012 the thickness of gate oxides, characterized using impedance measurements, is predicted to be about half as thick as it is today. AccuraCV is an intuitive tool for optimizing the frequency of impedance measurements that will provide the most accurate results. In addition, it can be used to optimize device design by reducing the costs incurred during process control.

Tektronix highlighted its new RSA6100A series real-time spectrum analyzers. Featuring the revolutionary DPXTM spectrum display, these spectrum analyzers offer an intuitive live color view of signal transients changing over time in the frequency domain, giving immediate confidence in the stability of a design, or instantly displaying a fault when it occurs. This live display of transients is impossible with other signal analyzers. Once a problem is discovered with DPX, the RSA6100A series can be set to trigger on the event, capture a continuous time record of changing RF events and perform time-correlated analysis in all domains. The functionality of a wideband vector signal analyzer, a spectrum analyzer and the unique trigger-capture-analyze capability of a real-time spectrum analyzer exists all in a single pack-





SIMULATION SOFTWARE FOR HIGH-PERFORMANCE ELECTRONIC DESIGN







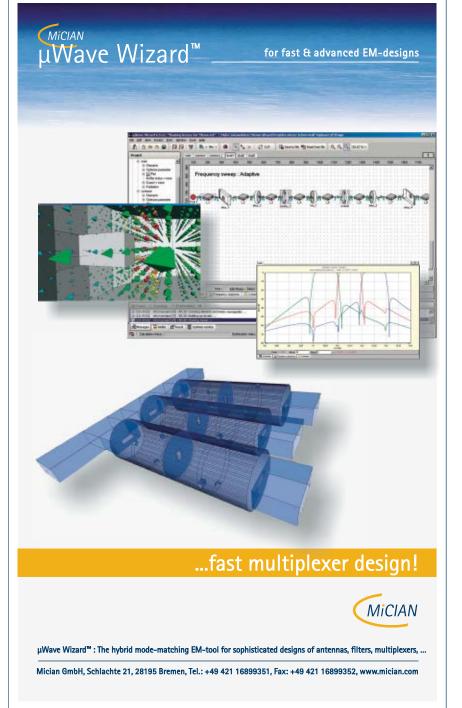
age. The patented DPX spectrum processing engine brings live analysis of transient events to spectrum analyzers. Performing > 48,000 frequency transforms per second, transients as brief as 24 μs in length are displayed in the frequency domain. This is a 1000-fold improvement over swept analysis techniques. Events can be color coded by rate of occurrence onto a bit-mapped display, providing unparalleled insight into transient signal behavior.

Zeland Software Inc. announced the release of IE3D V12. IE3D V12 features a FastEM Design Kit for real-time full-wave EM synthesis; multi-fold speed im-

provement and multi-CPU support for improved efficiency; equationbased schematic-layout editor with Boolean operations for easy and flexible geometry editing; and lumped equivalent circuit automatic extraction and optimization for convenient circuit designs.

LOOKING AHEAD

Next year the 2008 Radio & Wireless Week will be held January 20-25 in Orlando, FL, and will include the IEEE Wireless and Microwave Technology Conference (WAMICON) along with PAS and SiRF. Orlando is always a great host city for these types of events with many local attractions and a warm. pleasant climate for a winter getaway. Next year's general chair, Aly Fathy, and co-chair, Richard Abrahams, and their staff are already working hard to put together a rewarding and informative technical symposium, and the staff of Microwave Journal is hard at work making the Industry Exhibition a fruitful endeavor for all those companies that wish to highlight their wares. We look forward to seeing you in sunny Florida. ■





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VLF-80 VLF-95 VLF-105 VLF-120 VLF-160+ VLF-180+ VLF-190+	DC-80 DC-95 DC-105 DC-120 DC-160 DC-180 DC-190	145 165 180 195 230 270 280	200 220 250 280 330 370 400	VLF-1525 VLF-1575 VLF-1700 VLF-1800 VLF-2250 VLF-2500 VLF-2600	DC-1525 DC-1575 DC-1700 DC-1800 DC-2250 DC-2500 DC-2600	1750 1875 2050 2125 2575 3075 3125	2040 2175 2375 2425 2900 3675 3750
VLF-225 VLF-320 VLF-400 VLF-490 VLF-530 VLF-575 VLF-630	DC-225 DC-320 DC-400 DC-490 DC-530 DC-575 DC-630	350 460 560 650 700 770 830	460 560 660 800 820 900 1000	VLF-2750 VLF-2850 VLF-3000 VLF-3800+ VLF-4400+ VLF-5000 VLF-5500+	DC-2750 DC-2800 DC-3000 DC-3900 DC-4400 DC-5000 DC-5500	3150 3300 3600 4850 5290 5580 6200	4000 4000 4550 6000 6700 6850 7200
VLF-800 VLF-1000 VLF-1200 VLF-1400 VLF-1450 VLF-1500	DC-800 DC-1000 DC-1200 DC-1400 DC-1450 DC-1500	1075 1300 1530 1700 1825 1825	1275 1550 1865 2015 2025 2100	VLF-5850+ VLF-6000 VLF-6400+ VLF-6700 VLF-7200+ U.S. Patent N	DC-5850 DC-6000 DC-6400 DC-6700 DC-7200	6540 6800 7200 7600 8150 90.049 & 6	7600 8500 8300 9300 9500 6.943.646
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VHF-650 VHF-740 VHF-880 VHF-1200 VHF-1300 VHF-1320 VHF-1500	710-2490 780-2800 950-3200 1220-4600 1400-5000 1400-5500	650 740 880 1180 1300 1320 1550	480 550 640 940 930 1060 1250	VHF-2275 VHF-2700 VHF-2700A+ VHF-3100+ VHF-3500+ VHF-3800 VHF-4400+	2450-7000 2650-6500 2900-8700 3400-9900 3900-9800 4250-10000 5000-10100		1770 1800 2150 2450 2800 3200 3500
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REDEFINING DYNAMIC RANGE FOR TODAY'S DIGITAL RF WORLD

Dynamic range and bandwidth have traditionally been banner specifications for spectrum analyzers and other receivers designed to measure RF signals. Dynamic range is a measure of a receiver's ability to receive small signals while in the presence of large ones. Analysis bandwidth describes the range of frequencies that can be processed simultaneously. Dynamic range and bandwidth have traditionally been applied to steady-state signals and are fundamental figures-of-merit for analyzing RF signals. The advent of digital radio, with packet transmissions and other approaches that maximize spectrum usage, has created a need to consider how dynamic range and bandwidth apply to signals that have short durations and unknown timing. This article extends the concepts of dynamic range and bandwidth as they apply to discovering and capturing single RF events. Once captured, the events and their effects can be fully analyzed using digital signal processing (DSP).

F signals are undergoing dramatic changes as a result of the digital RF revolution. The RF spectrum is becoming increasingly crowded as wireless devices multiply. Data is replacing analog signals as the primary payload and there is a race to design efficient modulation and coding schemes capable of sending an ever-increasing number of bits over the same valuable bandwidth. While traditional transmissions were continuous and tended to occupy a single frequency channel, the new digital transmissions tend to be packet-based and often employ frequency hopping or have dynamic channel assignments. These changes in the RF signal environment have driven requirements in the test equipment used by those who design, build, install or service RF systems. This article ex-

plores how dynamic range and bandwidth, key specifications for equipment designed to test and measure RF signals, need to be re-examined.

SIGNALS WITH SHORT DURATION AND RANDOM TIMING

Consider the two cases illustrated in **Figure 1**. In each case, there is a short burst of interference lasting a few milliseconds. The analog signal in the upper part of the figure has duration of several minutes. A single short-duration interfering signal may cause a

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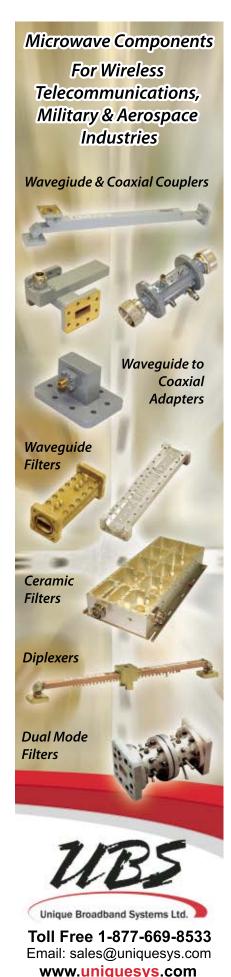
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Device	Description	Frequency (GHz)	Gain (dB)	Output PIdB (dBm)
CMM1118-QT	Driver Amplifier	11.0-20.0	20.0	+14.0
CMM1434-SM	Power Amplifier	13.5-14.5	31.0	+34.5 (Psat)
CMQ1432-QH	Power Amplifier	13.5-15.5	32.0	+32.0 (Psat)
XR1002-BD	Receiver	18.0-34.0	2.0-14.0	NF = 3.0 dB
XLI000-BD L	ow Noise Amplifier	20.0-40.0	20.0	NF = 2.0 dB
XPI026-BD	Power Amplifier	27.0-32.0	22.0	+33.0 (Psat)
XP1027-BD	Power Amplifier	27.0-33.0	21.0	+36.0 (Psat)
XU1007-BD	Transmitter	27.0-36.0	9.0	+13.0





pop or glitch in the reception, without changing the nature of the signal being received. The digital RF signal in the lower half of the figure transmits data packets. Each packet is sent in the form of an RF burst lasting a few milliseconds. The same interfering burst that caused barely a glitch in an analog radio signal causes the irretrievable loss of a number of transmitted symbols. The entire packet is lost if the number of lost symbols exceeds the ability of error correction algorithms to recover them. The need to detect, measure and analyze shortduration signals is changing the test equipment requirements. It is no longer enough to have sufficient bandwidth to demodulate a signal and enough dynamic range to separate weak signals from much stronger ones. It is necessary to detect, capture and analyze signals with increasingly short duration and random timing that occur in the presence of other, often much larger signals, each of which is also changing with time.

DYNAMIC RANGE AND BANDWIDTH FOR STEADY-STATE SIGNALS

Dynamic range is the ability of receiving systems to detect small signals in the presence of larger ones. In the human ear, for example, the difference between a weak sound pressure at the threshold of hearing and a strong sound pressure at the threshold of pain is approximately 100 dB. The ear's ability to distinguish be-

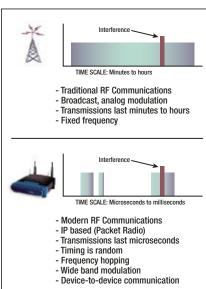
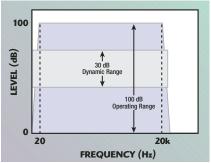
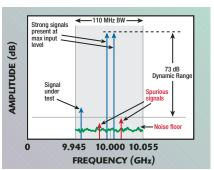


Fig. 1 The effects of a short burst of interference.

tween two sounds that are present simultaneously is approximately 30 dB, reflecting the reality that a human is unable to hear a pin drop during a rock concert. Human hearing has an operating range of 100 dB and a dynamic range of 30 dB, as shown in Figure 2. The frequency range of an RF analyzer defines the minimum and maximum frequencies that can be processed by a particular system. Its analysis bandwidth defines the portion of the spectrum that can be simultaneously analyzed. RF receivers, including spectrum analyzers (SA) and vector signal analyzers (VSA) operate on an analysis bandwidth that is a bandpass function surrounding a center frequency. The analysis bandwidth of SAs and VSAs is typically much narrower than their frequency range. Spectrum and vector signal analyzers are available in many performance levels. Frequency ranges run from DC to more than 300 GHz with a variety of specified bandwidth and dynamic ranges. A dynamic range of 80 dB at 28 MHz bandwidth and 73 dB at a bandwidth of 110 MHz define the state-of-theart at the time of this publication. Figure 3 illustrates the dynamic range and analysis bandwidth of a VSA. Signals within the 110 MHz analysis bandwidth can be examined



▲ Fig. 2 Human hearing dynamic range and bandwidth.



▲ Fig. 3 Steady-state dynamic range and bandwidth in a vector signal analyzer.



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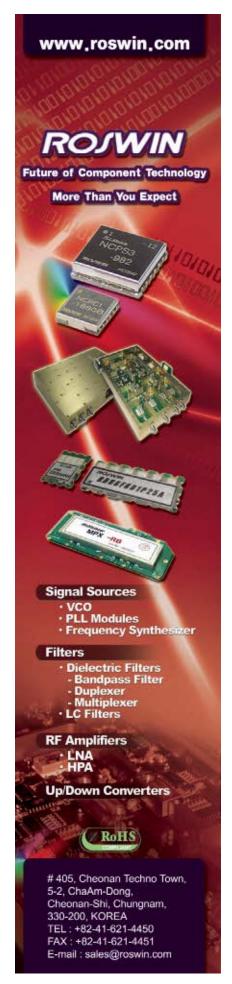
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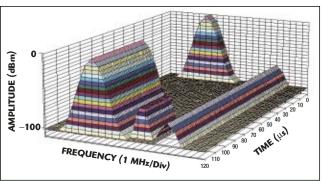


Fig. 4 Three signals shown as a function of frequency and time.

simultaneously. Multiple signals present within the analysis bandwidth can be unambiguously resolved as long as their relative levels are within 73 dB, the specified dynamic range. The analyzer, in this example, has enough over-range capability to accommodate the peak addition of the two large signals. All signals present are assumed to be of steady state. The steady-state dynamic range and bandwidth are the principal attributes that define the performance of an analyzer used to measure signals from traditional communications systems. These attributes, however, are not enough to define performance when measuring digital RF signals, where transmissions are sent in asynchronous bursts and interfering signals with exceedingly short durations can cause data packet errors. Therefore, it is necessary to consider an analyzer's ability to detect RF bursts and transients in the presence of larger signals that are themselves changing over time.

DIGITAL RF SIGNALS

Consider the spectrum versus time plot shown in **Figure 4**. The time record shows two regularly occurring digitally modulated RF bursts occupying the lower half of the displayed frequency span. Each burst lasts 50 μs (one shown partially). The plot also shows a continuous signal in a neighboring channel and a single interfering burst of RF lasting 25 µs. Both the burst and the continuous signal are more than 45 dB lower than the stronger modulated signal. The interferer occurs so infrequently that it can be considered a single event. These hypothetical digital RF signals will now be applied to several classes of equipment in an attempt to discover the lone interfering burst of

RF and to analyze its contents.

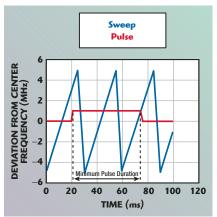
TRANSIENT DISCOVERY

Often, the toughest problem in troubleshooting digital RF signals is discovering the transients that degrade data transmissions. The short duration of digital RF signals,

their unpredictable timing and the wide range of levels that can occur simultaneously make transient interference problems difficult, time consuming and frustrating. Once a transient signal is discovered, it must be analyzed. Triggering on the transient occurrence allows a time record of the waveform containing the signal of interest to be captured and subsequently analyzed using the powerful digital signal processing tools available in most modern analyzers.

TRANSIENT DISCOVERY WITH SWEPT SPECTRUM ANALYZERS

Consider, for example, a swept spectrum analyzer, as shown in *Figure 5* with a 75 dB dynamic range, 25 ms sweep speed, a retrace time of 5 ms and a frequency span of 40 MHz about an arbitrary center frequency. Even though the MAX Hold function can catch and display a single occurrence, a transient signal must be present for the entire sweep for its spectrum to be displayed accurately. The random timing of the burst relative to the sweep means that the minimum burst duration for 100 percent probability of discovery is twice the sweep



▲ Fig. 5 Minimum signal duration for an asynchronous sweep.

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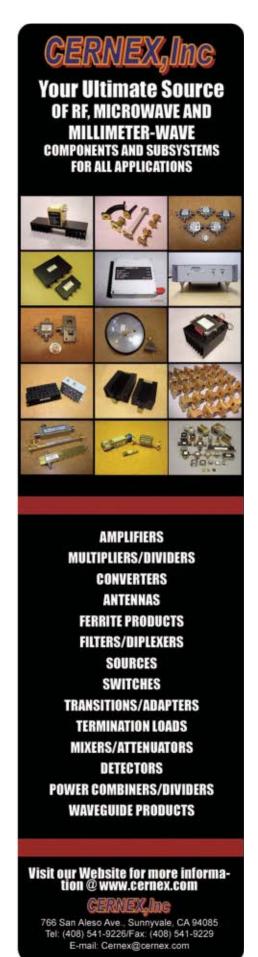
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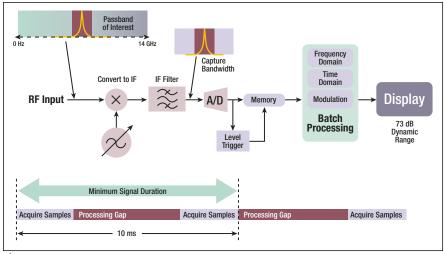
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🛕 Fig. 6 Vector signal analyzer block diagram.

time plus the retrace. The minimum signal duration to guarantee that the correct spectrum is displayed in the example is 55 ms for a burst of RF with random timing. The swept spectrum analyzer can be said to have a single event dynamic range of 75 dB with minimum duration of 55 ms for 100 percent probability of detection. The swept spectrum analyzer can easily show the continuous signal shown previously. The 50 µs pulses have a repetition rate that is frequent relative to the sweep speed, causing their pulse spectrum to be displayed on the swept spectrum analyzer screen. However, the single 25 us burst is much too short to be displayed with any certainty.

TRANSIENT DISCOVERY IN VECTOR SIGNAL ANALYZERS

Figure 6 shows a simplified block diagram of a vector signal analyzer. The input signal is down-converted and a passband of interest is digitized. The digitized samples are placed in memory. The contents of the sample memory are then analyzed. Digital signal processing (DSP) software makes many kinds of analysis possible, including spectrum, modulation, timing and signal statistics. This flexibility comes at the price of processing delay. The DSP algorithms, typically running on a programmable processor, cannot keep up with the incoming signal causing gaps in the analysis record. It should be noted that several models offer swept spectrum analysis and vector signal analysis in that same package. This article will treat them separately for simplicity.

Consider the VSA shown, with a 40 MHz analysis bandwidth, a 100 MHz sample rate and 75 dB dynamic range. Even if a fast Fourier transform (FFT) only requires a 20 µs time record, the computations take several milliseconds. The minimum duration for computing the spectrum of an RF burst with random timing is twice the acquisition length plus the computation gap. The VSA in this example requires a minimum transient duration of 10 ms for 100 percent probability of discovery of a single transient. The VSA in this example can catch the regularly occurring modulated signal and correctly show its spectrum. It will also correctly show the spectrum of the continuous signal. The probability that it will catch the single transient, however, is very small.

TRANSIENT DISCOVERY IN REAL-TIME SPECTRUM ANALYZERS

Consider the real-time spectrum analyzer (RTSA) architecture illustrated in *Figure 7*. Like the VSA, the RTSA digitizes a wide bandwidth IF signal. The RTSA, however, places a real-time processor after the ADC. The real-time processor is capable of performing digital Fourier transforms (DFT) at a rate that keeps up with incoming signals, reducing or eliminating the processing gap and even allowing for overlapped DFTs. This ability to analyze signals without having to post-process the contents of the sample memory gives the RTSA the unprecedented ability to discover rare short-duration RF events. The ability to continuously perform Fourier



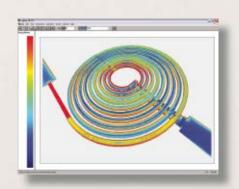


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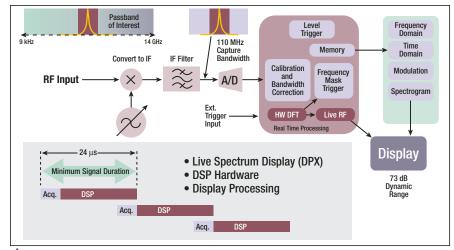
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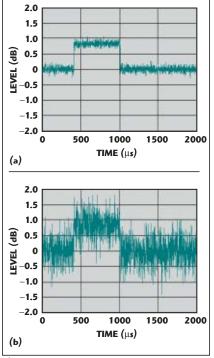
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📤 Fig. 7 Real-time spectrum analyzer block diagram.

analysis with minimum processing gaps allows the real-time spectrum analyzer to provide a live display of the input spectrum. Variable persistence, also called digital phosphor or DPX processing, enables users to visualize the changes in the spectrum of the input signal while providing an indication of how often spectral events occur. Setting the persistence to infinite allows the discovery of single events. The real-time spectrum analyzer shown has a 110 MHz real-time analysis bandwidth, a specified 73 dB



▲ Fig. 8 Power versus time display of a continuous signal at 0 dB with a pulsed signal at -20 dB; (a) unmodulated signal and (b) increasing modulation adds to trigger uncertainty.

dynamic range and a minimum signal duration of 24 μs for a 100 percent probability of discovery using its DPX mode. The real-time spectrum analyzer is thus able to display all three of the signals present in the original example and to indicate the presence of the single transient event, correctly displaying its spectral components.

TRIGGERING

Triggering systems are used to facilitate signal analysis by allowing the user to selectively capture only the time segment of a signal that contains an event of interest, the trigger event. Modern triggering systems are capable of storing a time record of events that leads to the trigger as well as what happens after it. Once the waveform of a signal is captured into analysis memory, the full power of DSP can be used to analyze any and all of its relevant parameters.

LEVEL TRIGGERS IN OSCILLOSCOPES

Oscilloscopes have very complex and fast triggering systems that cover the oscilloscope's bandwidth and verti-

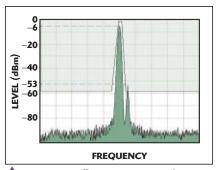
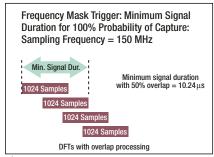


Fig. 9 A small intermittent interferer in the presence of a large signal.

cal range. The dynamic range over which the oscilloscope can trigger on short-duration signals is limited by the ability of its triggering system to detect changes in a waveform produced by the occurrence of a low level transient on top of an existing waveform. The peak voltage displayed on an oscilloscope will vary by 10 percent or approximately 1 dB when a burst containing another sinusoid of 20 dB lower level is added to a constant sinusoidal signal. Noise, modulation and other signal variations further limit the effective dynamic range of a level trigger. Although the trigger range of the typical oscilloscope covers its entire vertical resolution, the ability of the oscilloscope to trigger on a weak signal in the presence of larger ones varies from approximately 20 dB for noiseless unmodulated signals to 0 dB for signals with complex modulation or poor SNR. The oscilloscope can easily trigger on the large RF bursts. Its low steady-state dynamic range places the oscilloscope noise and distortion floor at about the same level as the other two signals, making the capture and analysis of the other two signals unlikely and inaccurate at best.

LEVEL TRIGGERS IN SPECTRUM ANALYZERS AND VECTOR SIGNAL ANALYZERS

Figure 8 illustrates a power versus time display available on many spectrum analyzers and vector signal analyzers. Like oscilloscopes, modern SAs and VSAs have the ability to trigger on the composite level of the signals present in their IF. While the operating range of the level trigger can be quite large, the ability to trigger on a weak signal in the presence of stronger ones is much more limited. Like an oscilloscope, a 20 dB trigger dynamic range is a reasonable esti-



▲ Fig. 10 Frequency mask trigger minimum signal duration for 100 percent probability of capture.



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TABLE I TYPICAL STEADY-STATE TRANSIENT PERFORMANCE FOR DIFFERENT SIGNAL ANALYZERS					
Digital Swept Vector Real-time Storage Spectrum Signal Spectrum Oscilloscope Analyzer Analyzer Analyzer					
Analysis bandwidth	15 GHz	swept	10 to 120 MHz	15 to 110 MHz	
Steady-state dynamic range/BW	45 dB/15 GHz	50 to 80 dB swept	70 to 80 dB	65 to 75 dB	
Single event dynamic range for transient discovery	< 20 dB	50 to 80 dB	50 to 80 dB	65 to 75 DPX	
Minimum signal duration for 100% probability of discovery	< 100 ps	> 5 ms	> 5 ms	24 μs	
Single event dynamic range for triggering	< 20 dB level trigger	< 20 dB level trigger	< 20 dB level trigger	60 to 75 dB frequency mask trigger	
Minimum signal duration for 100% probability of capture	100 ps level trigger	1/RBW triggered sweep	< 10 ns level trigger	10 μs frequency mask trigger	

mate for triggering on the composite level of two unmodulated carriers. The dynamic range degrades significantly for signals with noise or complex modulation. The VSA shown previously (see Figure 6) can easily trigger on the larger pulsed signal and analyze its contents. Its dynamic range allows it to show the continuous signal as well. The spectrum of the single interfering burst, however, will only be shown correctly if it hap-

pens to coincide with the capture interval of the analyzer. Therefore, the probability of capture is very low.

FREQUENCY MASK TRIGGER IN REAL-TIME SPECTRUM ANALYZERS

Advances in digital signal processing and computational hardware have enabled real-time spectrum analysis. A real-time spectrum analyzer computes Fourier transforms at a rate

that keeps pace with the incoming signal. This enables the direct observation of how frequency components of a signal change over time. It also enables triggering in the frequency domain and dramatic improvements in the ability to trigger on small signals occurring in the presence of larger ones. The digital Fourier transform used in frequency mask triggering separates the various components of the incoming waveform with a high dynamic range. Consider the case of a small intermittent interferer in the vicinity of a much larger signal, as shown in Figure 9. The interferer lasts 25 µs and, at 47 dB below the larger signal, is too small to be captured by power or level triggers. A real-time spectrum analyzer continuously computes Fourier transforms of the input signal, separating the signal into its spectral components. Independent trigger levels can be applied to each spectral component. The result is a frequency domain mask. A trigger is generated whenever any of the spectral components cross the mask. In this example, the mask excludes the larger signal. A trigger and subsequent signal capture is initiated on each and every occurrence of the smaller interferer. Once the trigger conditions are detected, then the real-time spectrum analyzer can capture a time record of the signal into memory. DSP software is then used to analyze the captured signals.

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TIME LIMITATIONS IN FREQUENCY MASK TRIGGER

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compute a transform in order for its frequency components to be accurately computed. This places the requirement of minimum signal duration for 100 percent capture using frequency mask trigger. Figure 10 illustrates the minimum signal duration for 1024 sample DFTs. The minimum signal duration is three halves the DFT length for the case of 50 percent overlap, decreasing to a minimum of a single FFT length if more overlap is used. The key parameter is the minimum event duration that can accurately generate a trigger, which, along with analysis bandwidth and dynamic range, determine the analyzers ability to catch elusive transient events. The real-time spectrum analyzer shown previously uses overlap processing to perform a digital Fourier transform every 10.24 µs. It then compares its results with a user-defined mask, generating a trigger. A single transient event with frequency content that crosses the mask and lasts longer than 10.24 µs has a 100 percent probability of generating a trigger. Once triggered, the selected time segment is captured into memory. The full capability of the analyzer's digital signal processor can then be applied to the stored time record.

COMPARISONS

Table 1 shows the expected bandwidth, the steady-state dynamic ranges, the single event dynamic ranges for discovery and triggering along with the minimum signal duration for 100 percent probability of detection. Oscilloscopes are the instruments of choice when extreme bandwidth and high timing accuracy are needed. Oscilloscopes offer the best bandwidth and are capable of detecting signals of extremely short duration. Although modern oscilloscopes have the ability to perform Fourier transforms on the incoming signals, their dynamic range is limited to approximately 45 dB. Swept spectrum analyzers offer the highest dynamic range in narrow spans and are the instrument of choice for measuring RF signals that do not change quickly over time. Swept spectrum analyzers are capable of steady-state dynamic ranges in excess of 80 dB. The swept

analyzer's ability to discover unknown transient signals is limited because a sweep cannot see all frequencies in a span simultaneously, requiring a signal to remain present for an entire sweep for a spectrum to be displayed accurately. Vector signal analyzers are capable of steady-state dynamic ranges in the order of 80 dB and of analysis bandwidths of over 100 MHz. The VSAs available at the time of this publication are limited in their ability to discover short transients by their reliance on post-processing of stored data for performing Fourier transforms or other analysis. The minimum time for 100 percent probability of discovery is of the order of 5 to 10 ms. Level triggers can detect events of the order of 10 ms, but only with very limited dynamic range. The real-time DSP engine at the heart of a real-time spectrum analyzer makes it possible to perform digital Fourier transforms with minimal or no gaps. This allows for the discovery of single RF events as short as 24 ms and for triggering on events as short as 10 us with high single event dynamic range.

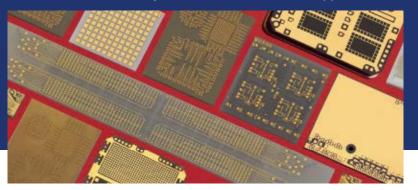
CONCLUSION

Modern RF communications systems are increasingly utilizing digital modulation transmitted in RF bursts lasting mere microseconds. Analysis and testing of these systems requires the ability to discover and capture RF events with increasingly short durations that happen in the presence of many other signals. Traditional definitions of bandwidth and dynamic range that require signals to be present for long periods of time may no longer be enough. One must look beyond the steady state and examine the ability of instrumentation to catch single RF events with high dynamic range and bandwidth, and ever decreasing durations.

Marcus daSilva received his BS and MS degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla. He has held various engineering, management and marketing positions at Hewlett-Packard and Agilent over a 23-year period, and made contributions in frequency synthesis, test methodologies, device modeling, microwave component design and metrology. He was vice president of engineering and chief technical officer at Vivato, where he assembled and managed the team that developed the industry's first WiFi switch. He is currently principal engineer and manager of strategy and advanced technology, RF products, at Tektronix Inc.

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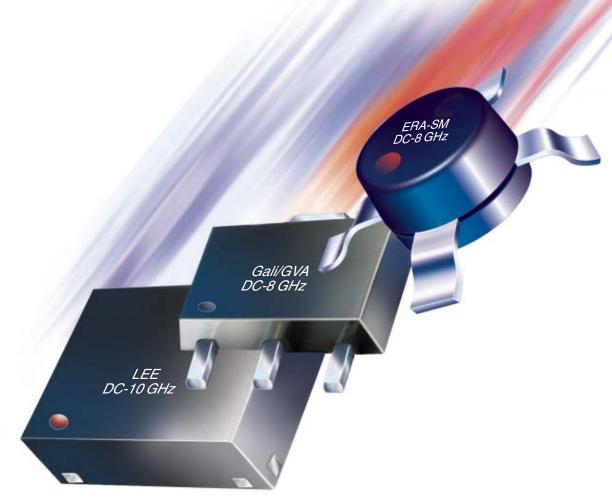


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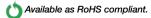
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ANALYSIS AND DESIGN OF A ONE-TWELFTH WAVELENGTH THREE-SECTION DIRECTIONAL COUPLER

This article describes the design and development of a three-section 10 dB backward wave directional coupler at Ku-band. The approach demonstrates a two-third reduction in the line length of each section, compared to the traditional approach. The simulated and measured results of both traditional as well as the proposed circuits are compared. Bandwidth enhancement and size reduction, along with maintained symmetry, are the main advantages of this topology. Furthermore, the achieved dimensions can be easily fabricated using standard etching techniques. Close agreement between the measured results and those simulated validates the adopted approach.

Presently, the trend in satellite communication is focusing on high frequencies with wider user bandwidths. Directional couplers are an integral part of onboard as well as ground applications, either for combining or splitting power. Planar directional couplers, using coupled microstrip lines, are commonly used for different coupling values. Couplers can be either three- or four-port networks. Four-port couplers are preferred, due to their inherent advantage of better matching, isolation and reliability. Backward wave couplers are classified as four-port networks.

The major advantage of using backward wave directional couplers is that the input signal port and the coupled output signal port are on the same side and their implementa-

tion in a system configuration becomes easier. The major constraints, in the realization of planar directional couplers, are size and bandwidth requirements. A traditional technique for achieving broadband is to increase the number of coupled sections, each a quarter-wavelength long. The coupling coefficients for each section are calculated using standard equations.² In this article, a proposed three-section directional coupler is investigated and compared with a standard coupler. The

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Fig. 1 Equivalent transmission line model for a three-section filter.

proposed coupler is designed using one-twelfth wavelength-long coupled sections, along with modified coupling coefficients. The design and development of a 10 dB coupler at Kuband, in the frequency range 13 to 18 GHz, is described. A standard threesection design was also carried out and compared with the proposed approach. This novel approach gives a size reduction of at least 66 percent, along with improved performance characteristics. Symmetry is maintained for ease of implementation. The one-twelfth wavelength coupled sections are analytically inexact, but practically exact for engineering applications, as shown here.

ANALYSIS AND DERIVATION

The traditional design approach for a directional coupler uses binomi-

al, Chebyshev or Klopfenstein tapering,² along with impedance transformations for the different sections. A broad bandwidth can be achieved by using an increased number of sections along with the Chebyshev transformation. A three-section coupledline structure, each a quarter-wavelength long and with different coupling coefficients, is the most widely used. The solution for the standard design, using Fourier analysis for the Chebyshev transformation, gives rise to the following coupling coefficients for a 10 dB coupler.⁴

$$c_1 = 0.0395 = > C_1 = -28 \text{ dB}$$

(outer section)

$$c_2 = 0.3950 = > C_2 = -8.07 \text{ dB}$$

(center section)

where

 $L = \lambda/4$ for each section

This shows that the coupling at the outer section is loose compared to that at the middle section. *Figure 1* shows the proposed design of a three-section directional coupler and its

equivalent single line model. This model is applicable for multiple sections with the condition that $Z_{\rm oe}Z_{\rm oo}=Z_0^2$ is maintained throughout the section.

The input impedance at A is given by

$$Z_{A} = Z_{1} \left\{ \frac{\left(Z_{B} + jZ_{1} \tan \beta x_{1}\right)}{\left(Z_{1} + jZ_{B} \tan \beta x_{1}\right)} \right\} \quad (1)$$

at point B, it can be written as

$$Z_{B} = Z_{2} \left\{ \frac{\left(Z_{C} + jZ_{2} \tan \beta x_{2}\right)}{\left(Z_{2} + jZ_{C} \tan \beta x_{2}\right)} \right\} \quad (2)$$

and at point C

$$Z_{C} = Z_{1} \left\{ \frac{\left(Z_{0} + jZ_{1} \tan \beta x_{3}\right)}{\left(Z_{1} + jZ_{0} \tan \beta x_{3}\right)} \right\}$$
(3)

These equations give rise to transcendental equations, which, with some assumptions, can be solved for Z_1 , Z_2 , Z_3 , x_1 , x_2 , x_3 using nonlinear software.

Solution

This solution will be in the form

$$Z_1 = K^{1/4} \times 50$$

$$Z_2 = K^{2/4} \times 50$$

$$x_1 = x_2 = 0.083 \ \lambda_0$$

where

K = variable and taken to be 2^7

The nonlinear solution for Equations 1 to 3 gives rise to $Z_1 = 70~\Omega$, $Z_2 = 59~\Omega$ for $x = 0.083~\lambda_0$. The proposed design uses the three-section coupled line structure, with one-twelfth wavelength line, using the single line model, and the impedances obtained by solving the transcendental equations.

Broadbanding Approach

The following data has been collected via simulation to validate the approach for the given topology. **Table 1** shows the analysis results for sections of different line lengths to validate the approach. The table shows that, by using three $\lambda/4$ sections with the center frequency at 14.5 GHz, the second peak appears at 24.5 GHz, the next at 34 GHz and so on. However, by using three $\lambda 12$ sections with the center frequency again at 14.5 GHz, the second peak appears at 42.5 GHz, the next at 69.5 GHz and so on. For the same amplitude in both cases, it is obvious that three $\lambda/12$ sections will provide more bandwidth than three

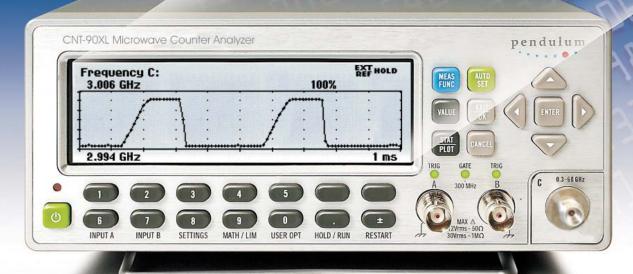


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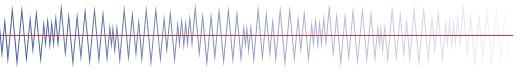
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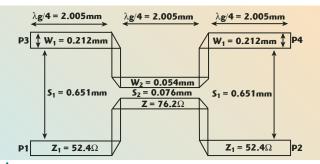


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TABLE I COMPARISON OF PEAKS FOR DIFFERENT LENGTH OF SECTION First Second **Third** Fourth Length Peak Peak Peak Peak Peak (i) (GHz) (GHz) (GHz) (GHz) (GHz) $\lambda/4$ $f_c = 14.5$ 42.5 67.5 $3\lambda/4$ 5.0 $f_c = 14.5$ 245 34.0 $5\lambda/4$ 2.5 8.0 $f_c = 14.5$ 20.5 30.5 $3*\lambda/12$ $f_c = 14.5$ 42.5 5*λ/20 41.5 69.0 $f_0 = 14.5$



▲ Fig. 2 Standard design of a three-section coupler at Ku-band.

 $\mathcal{N}4$ sections, thereby providing broadband characteristics. The slight change in the frequencies of the second and

 $\lambda g/12 = 0.668 \text{mm} \qquad \lambda g/12 = 0.668 \text{mm} \qquad \lambda g/12 = 0.668 \text{mm}$ $\downarrow W_1 = 0.180615 \text{mm} \qquad \downarrow W_2 = 0.160615 \text{mm} \qquad \downarrow W_1 = 0.180615 \text{mm} \qquad \downarrow W_1 = 0.180615 \text{mm} \qquad \downarrow W_2 = 0.075 \text{mm} \qquad \downarrow S_1 = 0.055 \text{mm} \qquad \downarrow S_1$

Fig. 3 Proposed structure showing design dimensions.

third peak, when using five $\lambda/20$ sections, is due to the slight change in wavelength, because of impedance mismatch between the sections. The approach is to use odd number of multiple (N) sections each of length $\lambda/4N$, so that the total length is always $N\lambda/4N = \lambda/4$,

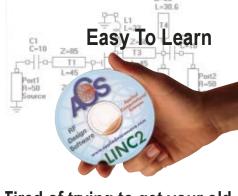
and hence the fundamental peak alone is dealt with, solving the amplitude criticality problem.

DESIGN METHODOLOGY

The number of sections is chosen to be three for both the standard as well as the proposed design. The length of each section of the standard coupler is made to be $\lambda_0/4$ and the couplings obtained being -8.07 dB (for the center section) and -28 dB (for the outer section). The coupling of the outer sections is loose, while that of the center section is tight, resulting in a -10 dB-coupled output over a broad frequency range. The circuit was fabricated on a 10-mil thick alumina substrate ($\varepsilon_r = 9.8$). The line dimensions corresponding to the coupling are shown in *Figure 2*.

The proposed three-section coupler has been designed using three $\lambda/12$ coupled sections, the coupling coefficients being 0.131 and 0.176 (using Fourier analysis), which corresponds to couplings of -8.5 dB (outer sections) and -10 dB (center section). Here, too, the coupling coefficient of the outer section is different from that of the middle section. The difference between the standard and proposed designs is in the tightness of





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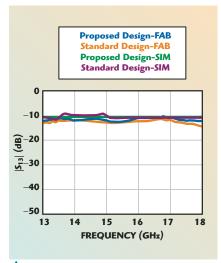


Fig. 4 Comparison between simulated and measured coupling of the standard and proposed couplers.



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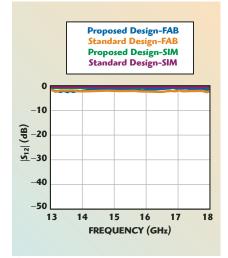
coupling. The proposed design has tight coupling in the outer sections while incorporating loose coupling in the middle section, which is contrary to the standard design. The corresponding dimensions, along with the spacings, are shown in *Figure 3*.

Simulation

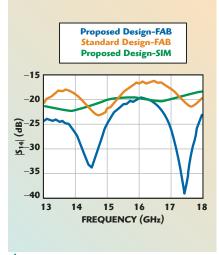
Simulation was carried out using Linmic software,⁸ which is basically an electromagnetic analysis tool. The

software tool generates the look-up tables at the desired frequencies, taking into account the discontinuities as well as line losses and parasitics and these are used in the simulation. These results are further verified using electromagnetic simulation with Momentum from ADS. The corresponding widths and lengths are found using standard formulae.^{4,5} The symmetry of the middle section is maintained by adjusting the line di-

mensions. The impedance at the outer section is maintained at 57.37 Ω instead of 53 Ω , after optimization.



▲ Fig. 5 Comparison between simulated and measured insertion loss of the standard and proposed couplers.



▲ Fig. 6 Comparison between simulated and measured isolation of the proposed and standard couplers.

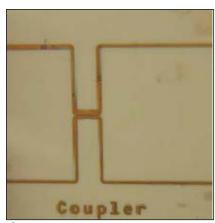
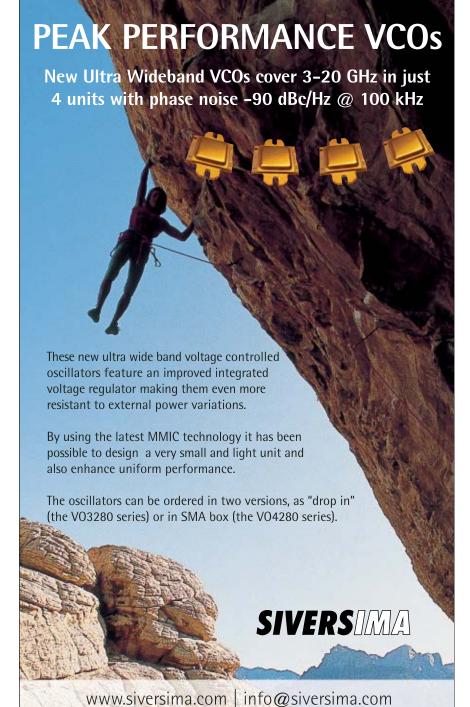
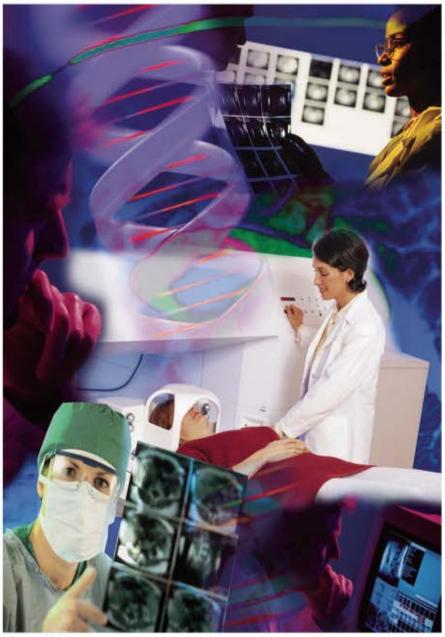


Fig. 7 Photograph of the proposed



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EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The fabricated circuit has been tested using a network analyzer (8510C from Agilent). Figure 4 shows the measured and simulated coupling, comparing the standard design with the proposed design in the 13 to 18 GHz frequency range. Figure 5 shows the comparison of the insertion loss, which is better than 2 dB for the proposed design over the

wideband range. The connector losses as well as the conductor and radiation losses are included in the measurement. **Figure 6** shows the isolation between ports, which is better than 25 dB. A return loss better than 18 dB is achieved over the entire frequency band. These measurements were carried out with a standard jig of dimensions 30.2×12 mm. For the circuit to fit within the jig dimensions

sions, the 50 Ω line lengths have been extended by 10 mm at each port, resulting in increased line losses.⁶ The circuit size is approximately 2.1 \times 0.88 mm. *Figure* 7 is a photograph of the proposed coupler circuit.

CONCLUSION

The proposed coupler shows a close agreement between the simulated and measured results. The repeatability of the structure was verified. This approach is different from the traditional approach where the middle section is tightly coupled and the outer loosely coupled. An added advantage is a considerable size reduction without compromising the other characteristics. This design approach can be easily extended to higher frequencies for both MIC and MMIC configurations. Because of the present fabrication limitations in MIC, due to etching difficulties to achieve the spacing and tight coupling specifications, only a three-section coupler could be designed and fabricated. However, in the future, as the fabrication limitations are eased, couplers using five or even seven sections for tight coupling can be designed and developed using this novel approach.

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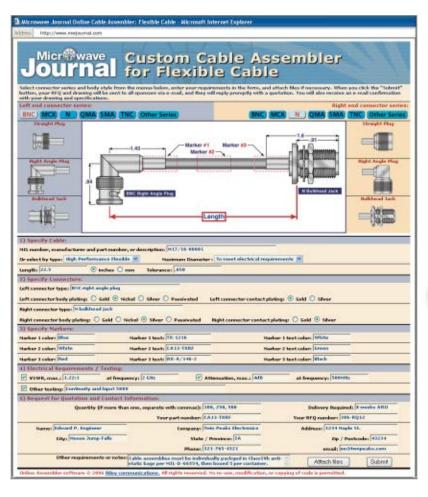


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pplied Wave Research (AWR) offers customization tools for particular processes to the Microwave Office (MWO) design environment. The tools needed to adapt a custom process to MWO are a text editor, Model Wizard, the Source Development Kit (SDK) and a MS Visual C++ compiler. The MWO plug-in Model Wizard is used to create the source code for custom models. Models can also be included in the Process Development Kit (PDK) as sets of Sparameter files. It is also possible to use existing MWO models. The AWR SDK is needed by the C++ compiler to turn the source code for the models and layout cells into .dll files. A layout cell is implemented by built-in functions in the SDK. Various functions for different geometric shapes exist in the SDK. It is also possible to implement design rules in the source code. Layout cells and models are dynamically linked together by an .xml file in the PDK. The PDK also contains a modified MWO shortcut, an initialization (.ini) file and a layer process definition (.lpf) file. If an MWO-228 license is available, a design rule check (DRC) file can be included in the PDK.

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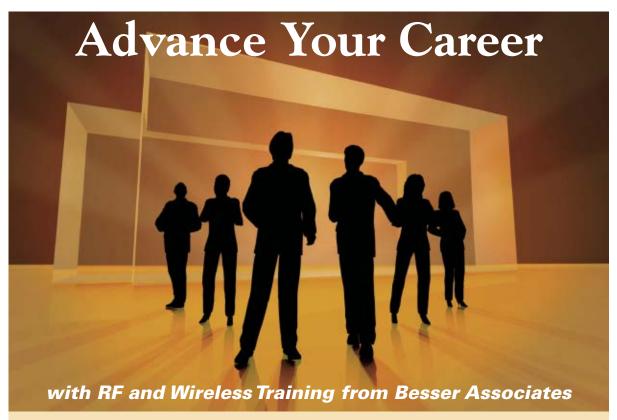
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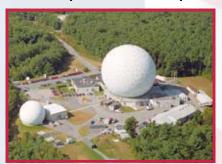
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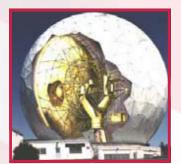
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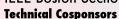


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TABLE I THE GMIC COMPONENT LIBRARY						
Folder	Component	Description				
Components	TFR MRINDSBR MICAP TFCM TFCM PEDESTAL	thin-film resistor spiral inductor interdigital capacitor thin-film capacitor thin-film capacitor placed on pedestal				
Lines	MLIN MTEE MCROSS MTAPER MTRACE MLEF MXOVER	microstrip line microstrip tee junction microstrip cross junction microstrip tapered line microstrip meander line microstrip open line microstrip cross-over				
Other	AIRBRIDGE PEDESTAL ABPOST EPA018A FOOTPRINT PROBE POINT LANGE COUPLER	airbridge interconnection plated via-hole to ground plane airbridge support pillar footprint for the transistor Excelics EPA018A probe point Lange coupler				
Substrates	MSUB MSUB2	microstrip substrate definition two-layer microstrip substrate definition needed for MXOVER				

The .ini file specifies additional information, such as file paths to model and layout libraries, that needs to be added to the program on startup. File paths to the .lpf and .xml files are included in the .ini file. The modified MWO shortcut contains the path to the .ini file.¹

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The elements in **Table 1** have been included in the GMIC component library. Dynamic layouts for all of the elements in the table have been constructed with the SDK. Model Wizard has been used to create models for pedestals, airbridge support pillars and probe points. The constructed models were aggregated from MWO schematics. For instance, the pedestal was modeled as a small resistor terminated to ground. The resistance values were found by simulating the pedestal in the High Frequency Structure Simulator (HFSS) from Ansoft. For other elements, the layouts have been linked together with existing MWO models.

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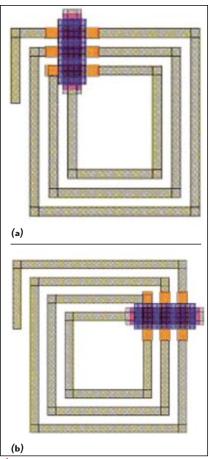


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▲ Fig. 1 Possible bridge locations in spiral inductors; (a) 13 segments and (b) 14 segments.

The model for the Lange coupler has been modified by Model Wizard. The existing MWO model MLANGE has no parameters that specify the widths of the four feeding lines. In the modified model, the parameters for the four ports have been added to the existing model by Model Wizard. Values of the port widths do not affect the performance of the MWO model. The model for the Lange coupler is only used to generate layouts. To obtain as accurate a model as possible, the Lange coupler needs to be exported to an EM simulator.

Spiral Inductors

GMIC spiral inductors are implemented on the substrate as loops in one of the metallization layers. The inner turn is brought to the outside by a conductor crossing. A conductor crossing is constructed as a thin conductor with a dielectric layer above overlapped by an airbridge. The main motive for the dielectric layer is to prevent a short-circuit if the airbridge is crushed.³ The existing MWO mod-

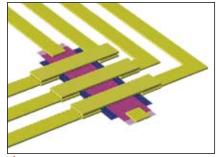


Fig. 2 3D close-up view of the conductor crossing in a spiral inductor.

el of a microstrip spiral inductor (MRINDSBR) has a parameter that defines the number of linear segments. A layout that takes consideration of this parameter has been constructed with the SDK. The layout is valid between 5 and 27 linear segments. Of course, other parameters that define the geometry such as conductor width, outer dimensions and line spacing have also been taken into consideration. The layout has been linked together with the existing MWO model by the .xml library. Fig**ure 1** show the layouts of the spiral inductor for different numbers of linear segments. It can be seen that the location of the bridge varies if the number of linear segments is changed. The MWO model is only used to generate the layouts. Since a spiral inductor is dependant upon electric coupling, the structure needs to be simulated in an EM simulator.

When an arbitrary structure is exported from MWO to an EM simulator, it is possible to preset the 3D properties in the .lpf file. *Figure 2* shows a 3D close-up view of the conductor crossing in a spiral inductor. The correct thicknesses of the layers that define the inductor have been specified in the .lpf file.

Thin-film Capacitors

A thin-film capacitor consists of two parallel metal plates separated by a dielectric layer. The bottom plate of the capacitor consists of a thin metal layer followed by a dielectric layer. The top plate of the capacitor consists of one of the metallization layers. An airbridge is used to interconnect the capacitor top-plate with the adjacent conductor. Thin-film capacitors are modeled by the existing MWO model TFCM. *Figure 3* shows the created layouts of the thin-film capacitor. If the capacitor width ex-





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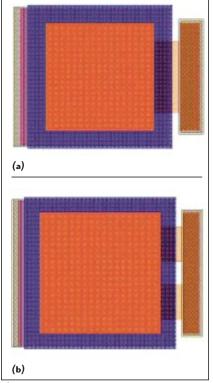
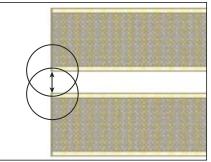


Fig. 3 Airbridge configuration in thinfilm capacitors; (a) w<maximum allowed airbridge width and (b) w>maximum allowed airbridge width.



▲ Fig. 4 Polygon-based design rule violation between adjacent microstrip lines.

ceeds the maximum allowed airbridge width, the airbridge configuration will be changed. Since airbridges are fabricated by a wet etch process, the airbridges cannot be as wide as possible. When a large airbridge is required, one or more slots must be included in the bridge to increase the span. Geometric properties, such as airbridge configuration and offsets of the layers that define the capacitor, are automatically fixed with the SDK.

To evaluate the Microwave Office model of a thin-film capacitor, the layout has been exported to HFSS from Ansoft. The HFSS simulation tool utilizes the finite element method (FEM) to solve Maxwell's equations in the 3D structure. The results from HFSS showed that the accuracy of the MWO model is excellent in the frequency range from 5 to 15 GHz.

Design Rule Checking

If a MWO 228 license is available, design rule checking is possible to implement in the PDK. Design rules can be included as cell-based or polygon-based checking. Both types of design rule checking have been implemented in the GMIC component library.

The cell-based checks are implemented by overriding a checking function in the parameterized layout cell implementation. Design errors appear as dialog boxes when the check is performed. Rules, implemented as cell-based design rules, check only individual layouts. No interaction between adjacent elements is checked with this feature.⁴

Polygon-based design rules are implemented by built-in functions in MWO using a simple text editor. Rule checks for separation between layers, minimum area, overlap, minimum width, etc., exist in the set of functions. Polygon-based design rules work on arbitrary layout geometries in MWO. With this type of design rule check, it is possible to locate errors in dynamic layouts as well as in static GDSII layouts.4 Figure 4 shows a polygon-based design rule violation between two adjacent microstrip transmission lines. The spacing between the two lines is too small. As shown in the figure, a polygon-based design rule violation is visualized clearly in the MWO interface. Other types of polygon-based design errors, such as minimum area and overlap violations, are visualized in the same way. For more comprehensive knowledge about design rule checking, see Reference 4.

DESIGN EXAMPLE

The created GMIC component library was used in a master's thesis called "Design of a Balanced X-band Low Noise Amplifier using a GMIC Process." Some of the specified amplifier requirements are listed below:

- Frequency range: 8 to 12 GHz (X-band)
- $S_{11} < -15 \text{ dB}$
- $S_{21} > 8 \, dB$
- $S_{12} < -20 \text{ dB}$

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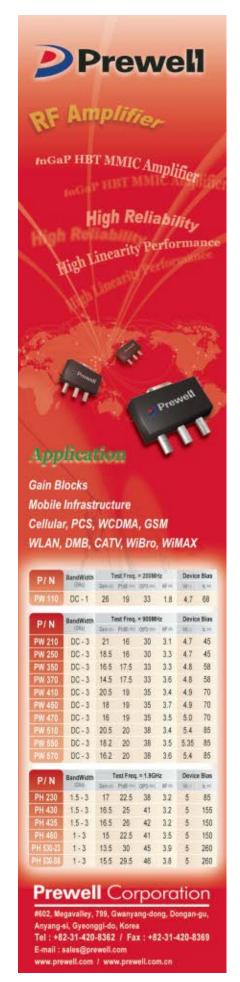


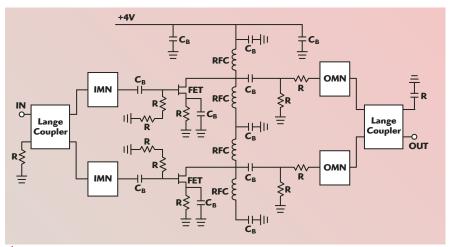
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▲ Fig. 5 Schematic of the balanced X-band low noise amplifier.

- $S_{22} < -15 \text{ dB}$
- NF < 3 dB
- P1dB > 5 dBm
- Gain variation within frequency range: ±1 dB
- Current consumption: < 50 mA
- Supply voltage: +4 V
- The two amplifier branches should be biased from the same DC supply.

Figure 5 shows the circuit schematic of the amplifier. The selected transistor for the amplifier was the Excelics EPA018A high efficiency heterojunction power FET. The EPA018A has a noise figure of 0.75 dB and an associated gain of 12.5 dB at 12 GHz. S-parameter files measured under specific bias conditions were supplied by the manufacturer. The large-signal model was represented as a Curtice-Ettenburg model in MWO. The large-signal model parameters were provided by the manufacturer.⁶

According to the design specification, the two amplifier branches should be biased from the same DC supply. This problem was circumvented with a DC network, which consists of radio frequency chokes (RFC) and blocking capacitors. The constructed network divides the current contributed by the supply equally between both amplifier branches. The resistors connected to the transistor sources limit the currents through the transistors and give the required bias settings on the gates. Both transistors have been biased with +4 V and 25 mA. An amplifier with this bias settings results in a compromise between class A and class AB operation. The requirements for unconditional stability were satisfied by placing shunt resistors at the inputs and outputs. Series resistors have also been placed at

the outputs. According to basic amplifier theory, resistors are preferably placed on the transistor output since the noise caused by a resistor at the input results in amplified noise. No combination without a shunt resistor at the input was found to satisfy the unconditional stability requirements. The resistors at the inputs are also required for the DC bias settings. To compensate the gain variations, input and output matching networks (IMN and OMN) have been included in the design. The main disadvantage with this technique is the poor impedance match. Since the gain is decreased at some frequencies, more power is reflected. A good impedance match is achieved if two identical amplifier stages are placed between two 3 dB 90° hybrids. The incident power wave on the input is equally divided in magnitude but with a phase shift of 90° between the input ports of the two amplifier branches. The output 3 dB 90° hybrid combines the output signals from the two amplifiers by introducing an additional 90° phase shift, thus bringing them in phase again. Lange couplers were used in the design, since they are the smallest microstrip realization of a 3 dB 90° hybrid and can be fabricated with the GMIC process. Signals reflected from the input and output ports of the two amplifier branches are summed together and dissipated in the 50 Ω terminations of the Lange couplers.⁷

Lange Coupler

A Lange coupler has been constructed with the adapted component library of MWO. The Lange coupler consists of microstrip segments interconnected by cross-unders, that is,

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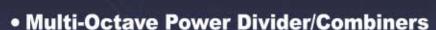
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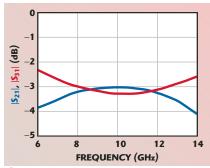
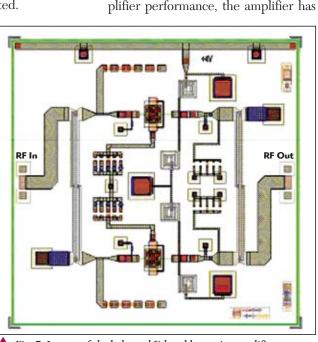


Fig. 6 Transmissions through the Lange coupler.

the same type of interconnections as in the spiral inductors. The MWO model was only used to generate layouts of the Lange coupler. The feeding lines were designed with a characteristic impedance of 50 Ω . Optimal dimensions were found by simulating the structure in HFSS. With optimal dimensions, the transmission S-parameters S_{21} and S_{31} shown in *Figure 6* were obtained. The results show that the transmission parameters S_{21} and S_{31} are both -3 dB, that is, the magnitude of the incident power on port 1 is equally divided between ports 2 and 3. Another important feature of the Lange coupler is the phase difference of 90° between ports 2 and 3. Since the length of the Lange coupler is $\lambda/4$ at 10 GHz, phase differences of 90° at 8 GHz and approximately 92° at 12 GHz were achieved. The 2° difference between the frequencies 8 and 12 GHz can be neglected.

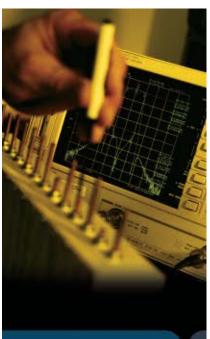
The Balanced Amplifier

Figure 7 shows the layout of the complete balanced X-band low noise amplifier. The outer dimensions of the amplifier are 9 by 9 mm. All the layout work has been accomplished with the adapted **GMIC** component library to MWO. Optimal dimensions of the input and output matching networks were found by using the optimization utility in MWO. The



input-matching net- A Fig. 7 Layout of the balanced X-band low noise amplifier.

work suppresses high frequencies and the output-matching network suppresses low frequencies. High gain at low frequencies can start undesired oscillations in the amplifier; the output-matching network improves the stability. Tuning options have been included in the resistor networks and in the input and output matching networks. For instance, the source resistance value can be changed if the airbridge interconnection in the middle network branch is moved. To facilitate manual bonding, airbridge support pillars have been added on both sides of the conductor gaps in the resistor networks. The tuning options in the matching networks were implemented in the same way. The 50 Ω resistors terminating the Lange couplers were designed with the same width as the feeding lines. A 50 Ω resistor with smaller dimensions than the implemented resistor required an impedance transformer to minimize the discontinuity introduced at the interface of the Lange coupler. The additional length added by the impedance transformer reduced the performance of the balanced amplifier, since the phases of the reflected signals were changed in the 50 Ω terminations. The motive for the RFC (the spiral inductor) and the blocking capacitor placed on the lower amplifier branch is to ensure that the output ports of the two branches are seeing equal impedances. According to the balanced am-



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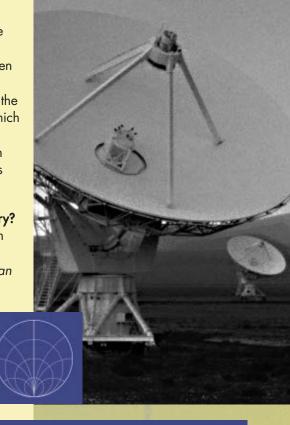
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TABLE II SIMULATED RESULTS

Parameter	Simulated Result
Frequency range (GHz)	8 to 12
S ₁₁ (dB)	< -22
S_{21} (dB)	> 8.4
$S_{12} (dB)$	< -24
S ₂₂ (dB)	< -28
NF (dB)	< 2.3
P1dB (dBm)	> 12.7
Gain variation within frequency range (dB)	±0.3
Current consumption (mA)	50
Supply voltage (V)	+4

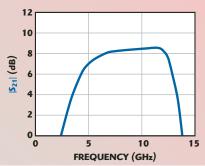


Fig. 8 Gain of the balanced amplifier.

been designed to be as symmetrical as possible.

Simulations

Table 2 contains some of the simulated results of the balanced amplifier. As shown, all of the amplifier requirements have been satisfied. According to the design specification, the 1 dB compression point P1dB should be greater than 5 dBm. The amplifier delivers linear output powers up to approximately 13 dBm. One of the reasons for this feature is the balanced amplifier configuration. A balanced amplifier delivers twice the output power of a single amplifier branch.

The poor impedance matches in the single branch amplifiers were heavily reduced by introducing the Lange couplers in the design. As shown in the table, S_{11} and S_{22} have magnitudes less than -22 and -28 dB, respectively.

As shown in *Figure 8*, the gain requirements have been satisfied. The flat and broadband frequency response was achieved by the frequency compensated matching networks

placed on the inputs and outputs of the amplifier branches.

CONCLUSION

With a basic knowledge in C++ programming, it is possible to adapt a custom process to MWO with the PDK. Instead of designing microwave circuits with manually implemented static layouts, the PDK is a convenient way to make dynamic layouts. If a custom process is adapted to MWO, the development time when designing microwave circuits in the specific process will be reduced. Another important advantage with the PDK is that design errors will almost be eliminated. When the design work of the balanced low noise amplifier was finished, the layout was submitted to the manufacturer M/A-COM. The layout was reviewed for manufacturability only. Since no design errors were found, the adaptation of the GMIC process to MWO was considered successful.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors gratefully acknowledge Mats Eriksson at MTT AB for providing the Microwave Office 228 license and the PDK tools. Rikard Eliasson would also like to express appreciation to his colleagues within the Microwave and Proximity Fuze Technology Development Group at SAAB Bofors Dynamics AB in Linköping, Sweden, for their supervision and support.

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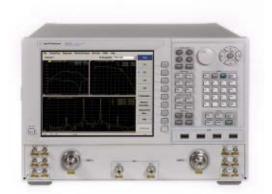
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DEFINING THE NEXT GENERATION

While conventional network analyzers can effectively be used to measure active devices like amplifiers, mixers and converters, they fail to provide the accuracy, ease-of-use and speed that today's R&D and manufacturing engineers crave. Such functionality is extremely important in the wireless communications industry where time-to-market can often make the difference

between a company's ultimate success or failure. Consider, for example, that in manufacturing any delay in throughput or decrease in yield can have a tremendous impact on a company's bottom line in terms of both time and cost. Consider also, that use of a conventional network analyzer to perform a range of measurements on a number of different components can be a slow and tedious process, complicated by the need to continually re-arrange the test equipment setup. Today's engineers now demand a faster, more efficient alternative.

What is required is a new type of integrated network analyzer—capable of measuring active as well as passive devices—and that offers functionality equivalent to having multiple tools in one box. It must be able to make lots of measurements quickly and with great accuracy. Additionally, it must be defined by the following characteristics:

- High available power to provide the larger signals needed; for example, to drive an amplifier into its compression region.
- Low source harmonics to test amplifiers for harmonic distortion or intermodulation distor-

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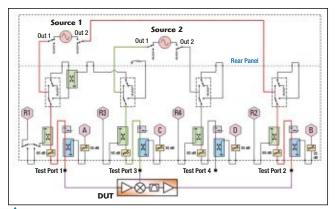
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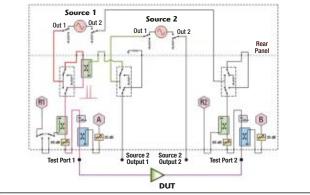
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▲ Fig. 1 The second internal source is used here as a fast fixed or swept LO signal for conversion loss or conversion gain measurements of frequency converters and mixers.



▲ Fig. 2 In this configuration, the PNA-X analyzer's two sources are combined internally and routed out of test port 1 for intermodulation distortion measurements.

tion (IMD) performance. Additionally, the combination of high output power and low harmonics results in simplified setup since it reduces the need for external amplifiers and filters.

- High stability level to reduce the number of calibrations, thereby saving time and increasing measurement confidence.
- Excellent gain compression to improve measurement accuracy, especially at high power levels where, if the network analyzer is not well specified, it may inadvertently contribute error to the measurement of amplifier compression.
- Integrated pulse hardware to simplify the setup for making pulsed S-parameter measurements. With integrated pulse modulators and pulse generators, the need for anything external to the network analyzer to make this measurement is eliminated.
- A second RF signal generator for measuring amplifiers, mixers and frequency converters. A second signal source provides a convenient and fast local oscillator (LO) signal for exceptionally quick fixed-IF tests of converters and mixers, and it can be used as one of the RF signals in an amplifier IMD measurement.
- An internal source-combining network to eliminate the need to find and hook up an external combiner with the right frequency range, thereby making it easier for engineers to perform IMD measurements on amplifiers and converters and saving valuable time. With the internal combiner, S-parameter and IMD tests on components can be performed without having to change the test setup.
- A configurable signal routing architecture to provide the engineer

with the flexibility to make a range of measurements with multiple pieces of test equipment via a single connection to the DUT. It is no longer necessary therefore to modify the test equipment setup to make additional measurements beyond those that can be done with the network analyzer. For example, an external signal generator with digital modulation capability and a vector signal analyzer can be switched to the inputs and outputs of an amplifier to make additional measurements such as adjacent-channel power ratio (ACPR), error-vector magnitude (EVM), or complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF). The flexible architecture also makes it easy to add external signal-conditioning hardware such as filters and booster amplifiers.

A NEW PREMIER-PERFORMANCE NETWORK ANALYZER

The N5242A PNA-X is a new premier-performance network analyzer from Agilent Technologies for testing components from 10 MHz to 26.5 GHz. It not only delivers all of the previously detailed functionality, but also features an unsurpassed combination of speed and accuracy. Because it is configurable, it provides engineers with flexibility never before possible. The result is higher levels of test integration, the ability to work with higher frequencies, and reduced setup time, measurement complexity, time to make measurements, and test costs.

The new PNA-X boasts all of the same core functionality of the existing PNA series, such as advanced connectivity via LAN, USB and GPIB; an easy to use Windows®-based open architecture; an embedded help system;

- a frequency converter measurement application (FCA); automatic port extensions; and an optional ECal feature for precision, single connection electronic calibration. It also offers a host of new features, which include:
- Improved source performance that provides higher output power and low harmonics to simplify setup by reducing the need for external amplifiers and filters. A receiver compression spec of 0.1 dB at +12 dBm improves accuracy at high power levels, while high stability reduces the number of calibrations, thereby saving time and increasing measurement confidence.
- An internal second source for convenient setup and fast, fixed-IF converter tests, and for amplifier tests such as intermodulation distortion. Using the integrated second source is typically about thirty times faster than using an external source, providing exceptional test throughput. The PNA-X is the only two-port network analyzer available with an internal second source. With a four-port analyzer, the second source can be used to make match-corrected conversion gain measurements as well as match measurements of all three DUT ports (see Figure 1).
- The PNA-X is the most configurable network analyzer with the highest number of RF access points, built-in combiner and internal pulse modulators, and generators for flexible, single connection measurements. It is the only network analyzer with internal pulse modulators and generators for fast, simplified pulse measurements. The internal source-combining network eliminates the need to find and hook up external combin-



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Part Number	Typical 2 GHz				Typical 12 GHz			VDS	IDSS	
	Performance				Performance			(Vdc)	(mA)	
FPD1500DFN FPD750DFN FPD750SOT343 FPD6836SOT343	Gain (dB) 18 20 18 20	P-1 (dBm) 27 24 20 20	IP3 (dBm) 42 38 38 32	NF (dB) 1.2 0.3 0.3	Gain (dB) 7* 11.5* 8* 9*	P-1 (dBm) 27 24 20 19	IP3 (dBm) 40 38 38 32	NF (dB) N/A N/A N/A 1.2	5 5 3.3 3	465 230 230 105

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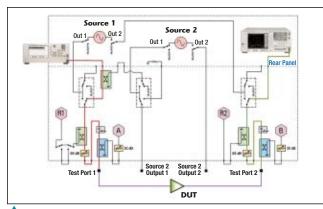
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▲ Fig. 3 An example of a digitally modulated source and a vector signal analyzer switched in to measure ACPR, EVM and CCDF.

ers, thereby simplifying measurement setup (see *Figure 2*).

The PNA-X also provides internal switches for connecting the DUT to external instruments, such as a digitally modulated signal generator and a signal analyzer (see *Figure 3*). The internal switches allow quick and efficient measurement transitions between Sparameters, IMD and many other measurements. They also enable alternate measurement paths, re-routing of

signal paths and the addition of amplifiers, filters and attenuators to optimize system setup. The internal pulse modulators and generators enable a simple and fast setup and increase measurement speed by eliminating GPIB control of external pulse generators.

• The improved user interface features a large, touch-

screen controlled front-panel display and an improved front-panel-keypad layout. The large display makes it easy to read multiple measurements at the same time, while the touch screen enables easy operation without a mouse. Additionally, eight soft keys plus a user definable key and a new hard key layout further simplifies the network analyzer's operation.

Using Agilent's new PNA-X network analyzer, today's engineers now

TABLE I **N5242A PNA-X PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS** 10 MHz to 26.5 GHz Frequency range > 130 dB at 24 GHz Dynamic range Trace noise (@ < 0.0006 dB at 22.5 GHz 1 kHz IF BW) > +16 dBm at 24 GHz Output power < -60 dBc at 24 GHz Source harmonics 0.1 dB receiver $> +12~\mathrm{dBm}$ at 20 GHz compression Power sweep > 40 dB at 24 GHz range (ALĈ)

have the flexibility and performance they demand. R&D engineers are better able to solve design challenges faster and with less iteration, while manufacturing engineers can realize increased throughput and yield, as well as reduced test costs. *Table 1* lists some of the PNA-X network analyzer's key performance characteristics.

CONCLUSION

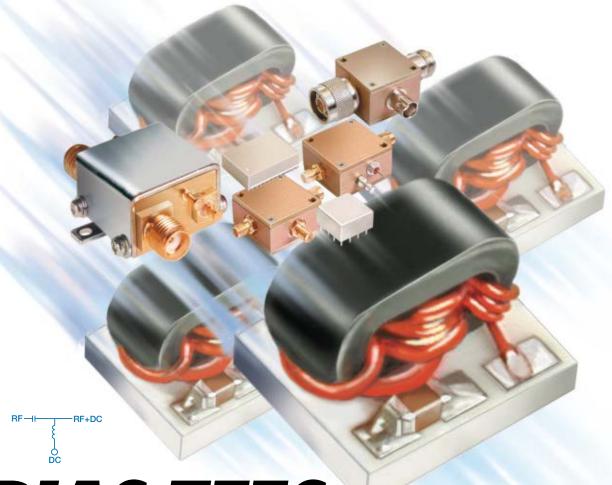
Agilent's new PNA-X premier-performance network analyzer is an integrated solution that reduces setup time and the time to make a variety of measurements, while also delivering an exceptionally high level of accuracy compared to existing network analyzers currently on the market. Its ease-of-use and flexibility now enables engineers to measure a broad range of high performance, leadingedge components, including amplifiers, mixers and converters, via a single connection. Such features make Agilent's new PNA-X network analyzer the ideal choice for addressing the challenges facing today's R&D and manufacturing managers and engineers developing and manufacturing RF and microwave frequency components for the A/D, satellite, broadband wireless access and wireless communications industries. Additional information may be obtained at www.agilent.com/find/pna-x.

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TODT. ETOO, Actua	1 012C .10 X.1	o , 0.0. 1 alc	1,012,4		Qty.1-9
JEBT-4R2G	10-4200	0.6	40	1.10	39.95
JEBT-4R2GW	0.1-4200	0.6	40	1.10	59.95
PBTC-1G	10-1000	0.3	33	1.10	25.95
PBTC-3G	10-3000	0.3	30	1.13	35.95
PBTC-1GW	0.1-1000	0.3	33	1.10	35.95
PBTC-3GW	0.1-3000	0.3	30	1.13	46.95
ZFBT-4R2G	10-4200	0.6	40	1.13	59.95
ZFBT-6G	10-6000	0.6	40	1.13	79.95
ZFBT-4R2GW	0.1-4200	0.6	40	1.13	79.95
ZFBT-6GW	0.1-6000	0.6	40	1.13	89.95
ZFBT-4R2G-FT	10-4200	0.6	N/A	1.13	59.95
ZFBT-6G-FT	10-6000	0.6	N/A	1.13	79.95
ZFBT-4R2GW-FT	0.1-4200	0.6	N/A	1.13	79.95
ZFBT-6GW-FT	0.1-6000	0.6	N/A	1.13	89.95
ZNBT-60-1W	2.5-6000	0.6	45	1.10	82.95
ZX85-12G+ ZX85: U.S. Patent 6,	0.2-12000 790,049.	0.6	N/A	1.20	99.95

Note: Isolation dB applies to DC to (RF) and DC to (RF+DC) ports.





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A SOFTWARE PACKAGE FOR ELECTROMAGNETIC DESIGN OPTIMIZATION

omputer simulation is essential for the rapid design of efficient RF and microwave components. Not only can 'what if?' questions be posed and answered—sometimes in seconds—but once a viable design concept has been identified it can be optimized to achieve cost and performance targets.

To facilitate this, parametric modeling has been introduced as a standard feature in the latest release of Vector Fields' Concerto electromagnetic design package, Series 6. This feature is further supported by enhanced optimization tools specifically aimed at the type of objective functions required for RF and microwave systems.

In this article, two applications are discussed to highlight the way in which the new software can speed virtual prototyping: anten-

na diversity and coaxial connector design. The Finite Difference Time Domain method is used for these examples, but Series 6 also includes the options of Finite Element and Method of Moment analysis methods that operate from the same model, providing designers with choices of solver to

speed certain simulations, such as cavity modeling or antenna installed performance.

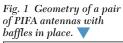
OPTIMIZING ANTENNA DIVERSITY

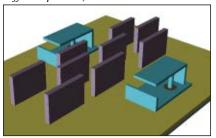
Minimizing coupling between elements of an antenna array intended to provide spatial or polarization diversity provides a topical demonstration of the new tools. Increasingly in wireless applications, multiple antennas are being used to improve performance. However, this depends on the antennas performing independently, and simply moving the antennas apart to improve isolation is not an option in most cases.

In the example design consisting of a pair of planar inverted-F antennas (PIFA) sited in close proximity (see *Figure 1*), the individual antenna dimensions have been optimized for 5 GHz operation. This structure was selected to achieve a small size without using a high dielectric constant material, to make it less sensitive to material and temperature variations.

The initial design of the PIFA antennas was created using Concerto's built-in modeler. Most elements are simple shapes, and can be easily drawn with the aid of a new sketching facility

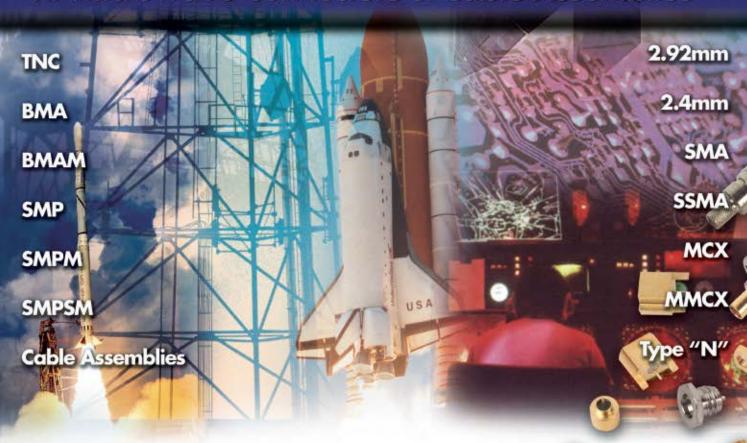
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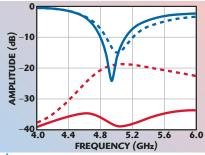
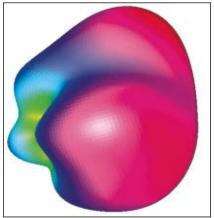


Fig. 2 Return loss (blue) and interelement coupling (red) for a pair of PIFA antennas with (solid) and without (dotted) periodic baffles.



📤 Fig. 3 Final 3D radiation pattern for a PIFA antenna.

that allows primitives to be created using only a mouse, for speed.

In this case the PIFA antenna had been built previously and stored as a library item. The antenna component was imported and copied to make the pair, before a baffle structure was created using the modeler to minimize antenna coupling.

After the initial design had been created, for flexibility of optimization, key dimensions were then redefined as parameters rather than fixed values. This was achieved by simply going back through the recorded list of actions, selecting the relevant drawing operation and changing any value(s) to Model Dimension(s). Once this change was made, the subsequent actions were then automatically re-run to create the new completed model.

An initial solution was run using the new Adaptive Meshing option. The mesh was refined until the user's specified accuracy was achieved. The mesh can also be refined manually by adding extra constraints on cell size anywhere within the model.

A periodic structure of metal baffles was then inserted to minimize the cou-

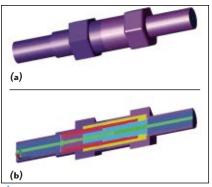


Fig. 4 Geometry of a coaxial connector; (a) 3D view and (b) cut-away view.

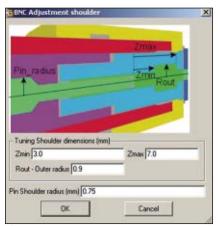


Fig. 5 Dialog screen to set parameter values when reading connector macro file.

pling between the antennas. This acts as a filter suppressing the propagation of energy between the PIFA elements. The separation and length of the metal baffles were then set as parameters, which were varied to tune the filter.

In this example the Objective Function was defined to be the minimization of S_{21} . The parameters were given initial values as well as a range of values that each could take (that is, constraints based on maximum possible limits, and to ensure they did not overlap).

The Optimizer Tool was able to automatically find the 'best' solution, reducing the coupling by 20 dB, while maintaining good radiation pattern characteristics. The return loss and inter-element coupling are shown in Figure 2, both with and without the baffles in place. The radiation pattern of the design is shown in *Figure* 3.

Figure 2 also shows that by adding the periodic structure, the antenna has become slightly detuned. Depending on the design criteria, it may be necessary to include a subsequent optimization to retune the antenna to achieve the required performance.

COAXIAL DEVICE DESIGN

Simulation and optimization of coaxial connectors provides another good example of the features of Series 6. A new entry-level version of the software called Concerto AS (axisymmetric) for coaxial device design can be used to simulate complex structures in just a few seconds. Combining this module with Concerto's optimization tools makes it possible to achieve RF performance targets in minutes.

Concerto AS has a 2D Finite Difference Time Domain solver specifically aimed at coaxial device analysis. The functionality of the tool is tailored around this objective, resulting in an inexpensive product for automating the design of devices such as coaxial connectors, as the following example illustrates.

Concerto AS includes full parametric modeling facilities plus optimization options. For flexibility, models are initially constructed using the same 3D geometric modeler as the full version of the software. This provides a simple upgrade path should a user wish to analyze the effects of non-axisymmetric manufacturing tolerances, for example, or would like to optimize full 3D devices.

As an example, a coaxial connector (shown in Figure 4) has been created using a macro. By running the macro within the modeler, the various parameters are prompted (see **Figure 5**), after which the model is created. This allows manual design studies to be performed quickly and

Creation of the macro is straightforward, and is usually achieved by first building the model using the 3D modeler facilities, and saving the list of commands into a file. This can immediately be used as a macro file, and all the commands can be replayed by loading the file into the modeler. The macro file can be further edited by the user to add commands or controls, if the application is likely to occur routinely.

The parameters are defined as described earlier, but this time are used within the macro file as a way to prompt the user for values each time the macro is run. In this way, it takes little or no expertise to run a whole series of solutions just by giving the appropriate values.

Again, the user can employ the Optimization Tool to automate the



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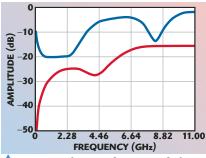


Fig. 6 S_{11} for coaxial connector before (blue) and after (red) optimization.

process of finding the best solution within a given range of parameter values. After having created the initial model, the simulator is launched and the Optimizer Tool selected, thus taking advantage of the new facility offered by Series 6 to set design goals for several parameters simultaneously. The Objective Function is defined (in this case minimizing S_{11} over the 0.1 to 11 GHz frequency range), and the four variables are all allowed to

change, each with a different range of allowed values. The initial and final plots of S₁₁ are shown in *Figure 6*.

The 2D simulation approach used means that each solution is extremely fast, taking typically four seconds for each optimization step in this particular example. This means that optimizing a number of variables is perfectly feasible (compared with the time that might be required for a 3D simulation). A wide variable space can also be searched to get an optimal solution. After this is found, a few final optimization steps with the inclusion of small 3D features can then be performed to obtain the best solution—even for 3D structures.

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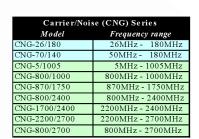
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CONCLUSION

With Concerto Series 6, new features make the creation and optimization of real structures both practical and fast. A new sketching facility, context sensitive menus, and the ability to store and re-load library items (including those created in other CAD systems) all help to speed the model creation process, and makes it particularly easy for designers who routinely create variations of similar products, such as antennas. For full 3D structures, parameterization combined with automatic, multi-goal optimization, allow users to reduce costly design iteration cycles, and achieve the optimal solution much faster. In addition, for large analyses, sophisticated Pause, Freeze and Resume functions provide users with control over their PC.

Also, a new choice of solvers—all working from the same model—provides the best tool for each application. This choice extends to a new 2D version of the FDTD solver aimed at axisymmetric devices such as coaxial connectors, providing an upgradeable entry point to advanced electromagnetic virtual prototyping that can create and optimize designs in a matter of minutes.

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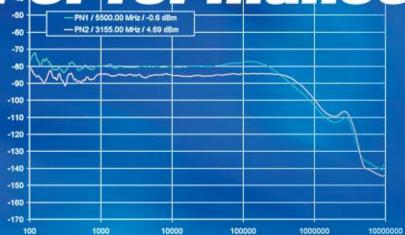
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CELLULAR-BAND RF VECTOR SIGNAL GENERATOR LAUNCHES NEW PRICE AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

or some time now, test and measurement (T&M) industry leaders have produced exceptional RF vector signal generators (VSG) with wide frequency coverage, superb specifications and a rich feature set. These fine instruments can truly be used for just about any conceivable application... as long as you have the budget.

In the exploding cellular and wireless markets, the full power and flexibility of the traditional VSG is often underutilized. The exclusive use of digital modulation renders AM, FM, ΦM, pulse and simultaneous modulation modes largely superfluous. In addition, the majority of the VSG frequency range goes unused, as engineers tend to generate signals only within their device's FCC-assigned frequency bands. Many customers are being forced into buying much more instrument than necessary, just to get the specific features and performance they really need. precision-Wave Corp. is changing all that with the launch of its high performance, low cost line of RF vector signal generators.

Priced at \$11,500 US, precisionWave's internally modulated model p1511A creates EDGE signals with an average rms EVM typically below 0.8 percent. This performance is achieved in part by low phase noise, typically less than -100 dBc/Hz at 20 kHz offset for a 1 GHz signal.

While *Figure 1* reveals that the p1511A's phase noise performance is not quite as good as the performance of a \$42,000 VSG, both signals are well within the allowable spectral mask for an EDGE signal. Without compromising signal quality, the cost savings are significant.

Throughout the instrument's 800 to 1000 MHz and 1700 to 2200 MHz frequency range, available output power is –100 to +20 dBm, with less than –80 dBc spurious. Harmonics are less than –50 dBc in the low band and below –40 dBc in the high band.

PRECISIONWAVE CORP. Colorado Springs, CO





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The P-Series is a measurement tool you can count on to thread your way through today's electronics. Look into all their full capabilities at www.agilent.com/find/powermeter.





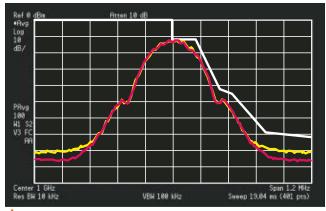


Fig. 1 The p1511A's EDGE signal (yellow) and a competing higher priced instrument's signal (magenta).

Waveform Memory

Q
Waveform Memory

Q
Waveform Memory

DAC

x1, x2, x4
or x8 over-sampling

Clock Generator

Clock Generator

▲ Fig. 2 The p1511A's internal digital modulation system is simple yet powerful.

Well-suited for bench-top and ATE applications, the instrument has frequency switching speeds better than 15 ms to within 100 Hz of the requested frequency. Output power switching is a very fast 2.5 ms.

The instrument's internal I/Q generator is accessible in an open-system manner, and can be loaded with simple three-column ASCII files created from a variety of commercial applications, as well as from user-written software. A growing set of common waveforms can be downloaded for only \$250 each from precisionWave's web site.

In addition, precisionWave can generate custom waveforms quickly and inexpensively, especially considering the steep learning curve to create waveforms from scratch. Letting precisionWave develop specific waveforms is far more economical to using one of the many all-capable, but often difficult-to-understand waveform development applications.

The p1511A's internal I/Q generator produces any digitally modulated signal within the cellular bands. The 1 MSample memory depth for I and Q can be over-sampled from 1x to 64x greatly increasing the effective memory depth. The variable sampling rate can be made to match the symbol rate of any modulation standard. *Figure 2* shows the instrument's internal digital modulation system.

The p1511A's active matrix TFT LCD display is crisp and bright, with wide horizontal and vertical viewing angles. Instrument control is easy and intuitive through a touch-panel or optionally connected keyboard and mouse.

A unique (patent-pending) spectrum analyzer display reflects VSG settings and waveform content, assuring selection of the desired waveform without tying up an expensive spectrum analyzer.

An internal web server provides efficient browser access to the instrument, with remote desktop access to the instrument also available. TCP/IP over LAN remotely links the instrument to precisionWave-supplied, third-party or user-developed client software.

INDUSTRY STANDARDS

Strict use of industry standard technologies and components was vital in achieving the instrument's "low cost" market attribute. Candidates for p1511A architectural elements were drawn not only from "T&M industry standards," but from the much broader set of "PC industry standards."

Use of standards also improves user-friendliness, particularly when instruments are not in day-to-day use. The instant-familiarity of Figure 3 was drawn from popular industry standard software examples, meaning that the front panel was not only inexpensive to develop and debug, but also easy to use. The design is ultimately flexible as well; users can run precisionWave's front panel to control their instrument remotely with the same front panel as on the instrument itself. They can even replace its front panel with their own design if they choose.

Industry standard hardware and software components and technologies leveraged massive industry momentum into the instrument, and its follow-on roadmap. Plummeting prices, accelerating performance, new and innovative features, and protection from obsolescence benefited the instrument design and customers alike. PC boards and RF modules also took on standard form-factor and standard USB or PCI connectivity (see *Figure 4*).

The industry standard Microsoft Windows operating system was chosen for its familiarity to users, its rapidly advancing feature set and the opportunity it provides for user customization of look-and-feel. It further enables a cadre of VSG-related applications to be installed on the VSG it-

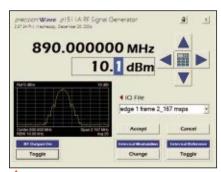
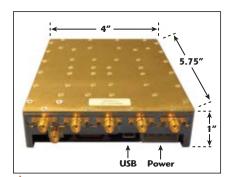


Fig. 3 The p1511A is simple to control and operate.



▲ Fig. 4 Dimensioned exactly as a 3.5" PC hard drive, RF modules have excellent shielding and can be mounted wherever a hard drive can be placed.

10MHz to 65GHz Components



Directional Couplers



Power Dividers



90°/180° Hybrids



Antenna Beamformers



QPSK Modulators

Achieving Perfection



self. Standard interconnection between computing networks and precisionWave instrumentation allow familiar printing, backup, file transfer, device and software use, remote control and remote access features now in customer daily use patterns.

Modular software designs, and those that leverage industry standards such as TCP/IP, object-oriented design, client/server models, hardware abstraction layers, internal web servers and the like, are advantageous in reducing R&D costs, improving quality and decreasing time-to-market

Modular hardware designs are similarly beneficial, and enable precisionWave's "building block" strategy for quickly and economically constructing new or variant instruments. They also contribute to instrument serviceability, upgradeability and extensibility, and play a significant role in cost containment, through re-use, component volume purchasing, and inventory optimization and management.

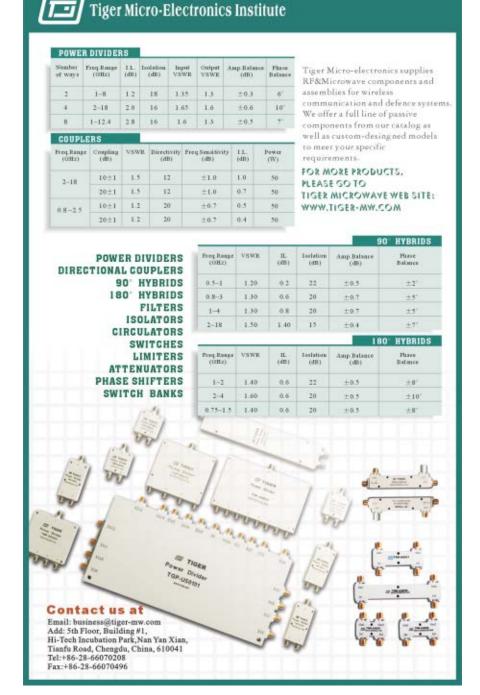
CONCLUSION

For many markets and customers, most RF vector signal generators simply have too many features and too much performance. They are far more expensive than they need to be. Customers do not need each of their instruments to have the exceptional performance and feature sets offered by many manufacturers today, and they are tired of paying for the oversupply.

With its recently launched RF vector signal generator line and future RF instrumentation roadmap, precisionWave Corp. is on a refreshing new trajectory—rethinking test and measurement, bringing the right performance, the right features and the right price to customers who just do not need it all.

precisionWave Corp., Colorado Springs, CO (866) 386-6798, www.precisionwave.com.

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S3W2	S3W5	N3W5	3	±0.40
S4W2	S4W5	N4W5	4	±0.40
S5W2	S5W5	N5W5	5	±0.40
S6W2	S6W5	N6W5	6	±0.40
S7W2	S7W5	N7W5	7	-0.4, +0.9
S8W2	S8W5	N8W5	8	±0.60
S9W2	S9W5	N9W5	9	-0.4, +0.8
S10W2	S10W5	N10W5	10	±0.60
S12W2	S12W5	N12W5	12	±0.60
S15W2	S15W5	N15W5	15	±0.60
S20W2	S20W5	N20W5	20	-0.5, +0.8
S30W2	S30W5	N30W5	30	±0.85
S40W2	S40W5	N40W5	40	-0.5, +1.5

*At 25°C includes frequency and power variations.



To order Attenuators as RoHS, add + to base model No. Example: BW-S1W2+ Adapters available as RoHS, see web site.





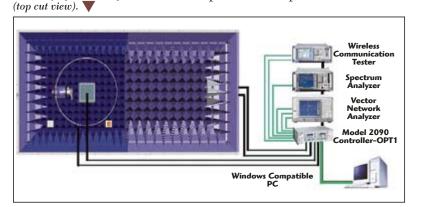
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A SELF-CONTAINED, PORTABLE ANTENNA MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

TS-Lindgren pioneered the over-the-air (OTA) performance testing market, designing and building the first CTIA Authorized Test Lab (CATL) for mobile station over-the-air antenna performance testing. Since then, the company has designed and built test chambers that have performed tests at some of the largest and best-known manufacturers of mobile wireless products. ETS-Lindgren's efficient and accurate test systems have contributed to the successful determination of transmit and receive characteristics under controlled conditions. This, in turn, has supported device makers in their quest to bring their products to market quickly and reliably.

Fig. 1 The AMS-8050 For a wireless technology to be successful in wireless performance system the marketplace, it must provide the end user



with an acceptable and reliable level of performance. The physical functionality of the wireless device is key to the device's ability to "talk" to a network and vice versa. If the devices at either end of the link cannot "hear" each other, then communication breaks down. The now famous quantitative test "can you hear me now?" is an inefficient way to determine OTA performance of wireless devices. Network operators and designers, wireless device makers and antenna makers need more effective tools to qualify devices earlier in design sequence.

To address the needs of the pre-compliance wireless device OTA performance test market, ETS-Lindgren recently introduced the new AMS-8050 Antenna Measurement System. The AMS-8050 is a practical solution when building space is a limitation as it is a self-contained test lab for making efficient, over-theair performance measurements of small wireless devices and mobile handsets. This lab is built on a movable chassis so the entire system may be transported between different test stations. The ability to transport the system and store all components within the cart makes it an ideal solution for multiple research and development groups. Figure 1 shows the AMS-8050 system's configuration.

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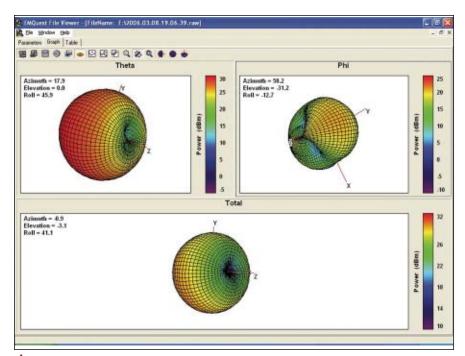
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▲ Fig. 2 Example of a 3D spherical antenna pattern from EMQuest EMQ-100 software.

Early experience by engineers using the AMS-8050 shows that when research and development or product development schedules are highly compressed, it is highly beneficial to have a dedicated, cost-effective, portable testing platform to more quickly assess the impact of design decisions and speed their design concept through the stage gates. Using a pre-compliance wireless performance test and measurement system in the design center yields higher confidence in initial designs to meet the accelerating schedule demands of the marketplace. Today's fast-paced wireless markets require device makers to know about their product's performance much earlier in the design process. Correcting designs on the fly has resulted in higher success rates at the time that full certification is required near the end of a design cycle (for example, higher first pass rates).

The AMS-8050 is small in size but big on operational throughput. It lets the user make fully automated 2D (polar) and 3D (spherical) antenna pattern measurements following measurement protocols that are consistent with the type used for compliance testing, yet in a compact, portable range. These pre-compliance data are analyzed and the measurement quantities such as total radiated power (TRP), effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP), total isotropic sensitiv-

ity (TIS), effective isotropic sensitivity (EIS), near-horizon partial radiated power (NHPRP) and near-horizon partial isotropic sensitivity (NHPIS) are generated by ETS-Lindgren's EMQuest™ EMQ-100 software. This premiere data acquisition and analysis software is the most widely used in CATL labs worldwide.

Wireless device manufacturers and network operators are interested in the total radiated power since this over-the-air test result is the only way to qualify the entire signal path of the wireless device. TRP data (shown graphically in *Figure 2*) provide key measures to wireless carriers that demonstrate that a wireless device meets its required performance criteria. In a manufacturing quality program TRP can be used to detect and reject manufacturing defects as well as to test mobile equipment for proper operation in repair centers. Similarly, the AMS-8050 can collect the data needed to calculate total isotropic sensitivity. TIS is an indicator of the lowest signal strength when a device is in receive mode (the ability of the device to "listen" to the network, for example). The use of TRP and TIS are needed to plan the layout of a network for efficient and cost-effective geographical coverage.

Since the AMS-8050 is a pre-compliance measurement tool principally used in R&D and design labs, it is important to know how well the system performs when compared to a full-size CTIA Authorized Test Lab chamber. The key reported benefit of the AMS-8050 is to provide the engineer with the confidence his or her design will fare well in compliance tests. In a comparison study of total isotropic sensitivity and total radiated power measurements taken in a fullsize compliance test environment and the AMS-8050 compact antenna lab, the results show a very high degree of agreement between the two systems. The comparison data supports the choice of the AMS-8050 for precompliance over-the-air performance testing of mobile handsets and small portable wireless devices. The data validates its importance as a key tool

- Design Validation
- Performance Measurement
- Pre-certification Testing
- Production Testing

CONCLUSION

A new portable self-contained antenna measurement system has been presented. Current owners of the AMS-8050 have found the measurement system ideal for wireless device pre-compliance performance testing, and have reported achieving faster time to market for their wireless handsets, reductions in product development cycle time, and savings in time and resources. They also enjoy the benefit of making it convenient for engineers to test performance without occupying a full compliance lab. As projects and priorities change, the AMS-8050 is a re-locatable measurement system without the encumbrance of a parent building installation. Additional information on the system and its advantages may be obtained by visiting www.ets-lindgren.com/8050.

ETS-Lindgren L.P., Cedar Park, TX (512) 531-6400.

RS No. 306

Visit www.mwjournal.com to read "Improving a Classic: The 200 MHz to 2 GHz Dual-ridged Horn Antenna," an exclusive white paper from Vicente Rodriguez of ETS-Lindgren.



A New Generation of Microwave Counters

raditionally frequency counters have fallen into two main categories—general-purpose counters/timers and microwave counters. The former typically measure frequency from parts of a hertz to 200 to 300 MHz and can display frequency, time interval and period. Some general-purpose counters also provide ratio, phase comparison and low frequency burst measurement capabilities. Microwave counters typically measure frequency from 10 Hz to the end of their specified upper frequency, which can be anywhere from 3 to over 100 GHz. Some microwave counters can also measure power, either internally at the coax connector, or through a separate input, using external power sensors. Traditional counter designs use one or more versions of direct, reciprocal (with or without interpolation), or heterodyne mixer counting methods. These methods all have a defined start and stop period, plus some dead time between measurements, during which calculation and interpolation is done. Then the measurement is read out, registers are cleared, and the instrument is prepared and reset for the next measurement.

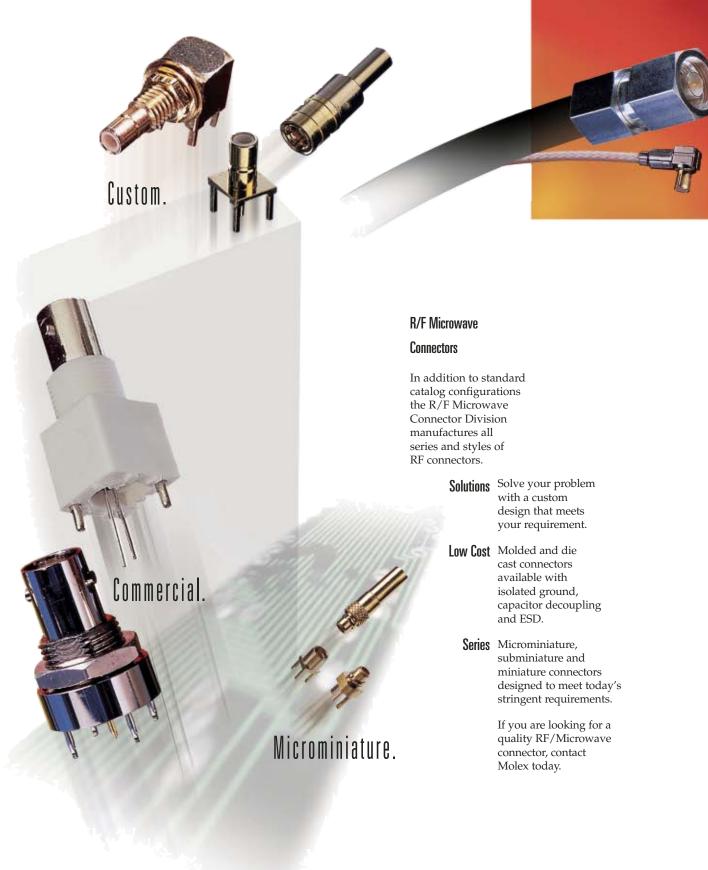
Such procedures are now a thing of the past with the new CNT-90XL microwave

counter, which is a fundamental design departure from both general-purpose and microwave counters. It incorporates a unique counter/timer/analyzer with a sophisticated microwave counter/power meter. This new generation of instrument is a 'zero dead-time' microwave counter that uses a graphic display to show numeric and statistical data of measurement results. The instrument can display measurement data in a statistical format, including a graphic display of trend line and histogram distributions, and a numeric format of mean, min/max, peak-to-peak, Allan Deviation and standard deviation of the frequency or power of a microwave signal.

THE DESIGN

The CNT-90XL uses a unique time stamping method of measurement that allows for continuous event counting (no dead time between counts). With time stamping, the input events and the clock cycles are continuously counted, without being reset or interrupted. At regular intervals, pacing intervals, the momentary contents of the event count register and the time

PENDULUM INSTRUMENTS AB Bromma, Sweden



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▲ Fig. 1 Small amount of AM on carrier shown on the CNT-90XL counter's front panel display.



Fig. 2 Numerical statistics of the AM signal shown in Figure 1.



Fig. 3 1 kHz FM with a 12 ppm modulation depth.

count register are transferred to memory. The read-out of the register contents is always synchronized to the input trigger, so it is the event trigger that is time stamped. Each stored time stamp is also interpolated 'on the fly' for improved resolution. The contents in the memory are thereafter post-processed.

Because the instrument can make and store hundreds of thousands of measurements per second without dead time, it can use a linear regression least squares line-fitting method to further improve measurement accuracy. The main advantage of linear regression is to reduce the influence of noise from the measurement process as well as superimposed random noise on the test signal, thus increasing frequency resolution.

The microwave input of the CNT-90XL uses a broadband hybrid superheterodyne sampling mixer with power measurement capability. Supporting circuitry (LO, synthesizer, etc.) delivers signal data to the counter for memory storage and display of both frequency and power. Once the microwave signal is acquired, which takes approximately 25 ms, measurements are made without dead time. Up to 250,000 measurements per second can be made and processed without dead time in the count chain. providing for advanced statistical analysis. The benefits of this kind of measurement process, which can be



▲ Fig. 4 Pulse modulated frequency.



▲ Fig. 5 Generator power steps with signal off-time.

applied to frequency as well as power, are numerous. Data on frequency and power stability over very short times can be analyzed, providing an insight into circuit function that is not available with other counters.

MEASUREMENT CHALLENGES

The instrument's design, fast measurement speed, and high resolution provide measurement and analysis of signals that could not be achieved previously. For example, short-term clock frequency variations over a given period of time (1 sec., 10 sec., 100 sec., etc.) are often expressed using Allan Variance, an estimate of the clock stability over a given period of time, from one averaging period to the next. Statistical Allan Deviation requires that there be no dead time between measured samples, with a minimum of 100 samples used for the calculation. Because of its fast zero dead-time measurement capability, the CNT-90XL can display Allan Deviation simultaneously with mean, min/max, peak-topeak and standard deviation. Both frequency and power stability can be measured and displayed.

An example of a very small amount of AM on a carrier is shown in *Figures 1* (graphically) and **2** (numerically) on the instrument's front panel display. Other examples of the ability of the CNT-90XL to capture and display challenging measurements are shown in *Figures 3* and **4**, while *Figure 5* shows the power steps from a generator (–30 to –5 dBm, in 5 dB steps), with a measurable off-time between power steps.

Real-world signals do not have constant stable frequencies or power, with modulated, frequency hopping, swept frequency or power, and burst signals being examples. Also, the concept of a mean frequency may be useless for these types of signals. The average frequency over 80-channels of WLAN using FHSS, or the average of several burst cycles containing chirp radar, is not meaningful.

Instead, the challenge is to closely follow and represent the actual frequency over time inside the burst, or alternatively, to see the statistical distribution of the WLAN channels. These types of signals require a very fast high resolution measurement and the new CNT-90XL meets these requirements.

Applications for this new counter include microwave link carrier calibration, satellite communication equipment testing, YIG and VCO testing, RF and microwave instrumentation calibration, and microwave frequency and power stability testing.

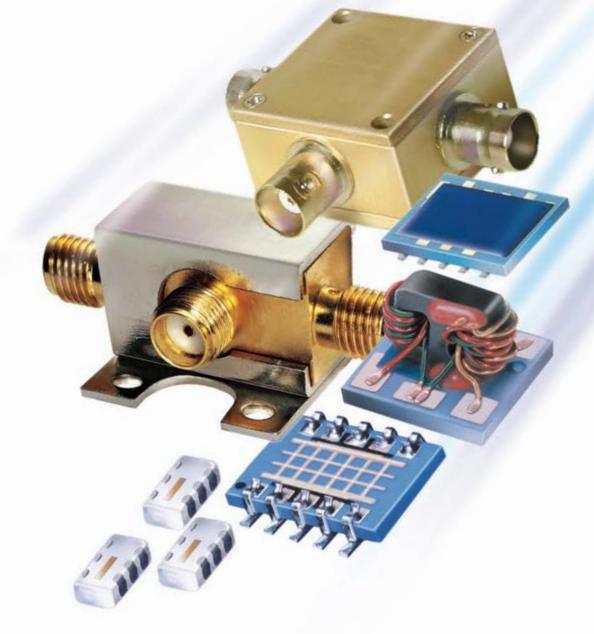
The CNT-90XL counter family includes four models that measure frequency from 0.001 Hz to 27, 40, 46 and 60 GHz (model dependant). The instruments feature 14 digits of numeric display, are capable of CW and burst measurement of frequency and power, and include both USB and GPIB connection as standard. Resolution is 12 digits/s (frequency), 0.01 dBm (power), 100 ps (time) and 0.001° (phase). Frequency measurement ranges from 0.001 Hz to the top of the instrument's range. Period measurements are available on A & B inputs (single or average) range from 3.3 ns to 1000 s, and 4 ns down to 17 ps (average) on the microwave input (model dependant). Ratio measurements between any two of the three inputs are included and power (dBm) on the microwave input is also provided.

CONCLUSION

The challenges of a fast-growing microwave product world and the applications provided by these new technologies are challenging test instrument manufacturers to keep pace with new test solutions to meet this changing environment. The CNT-90XL has answered the challenge.

Pendulum Instruments AB, Bromma, Sweden +46 8 598 51057; Pendulum Instruments Inc., Oakland, CA (510) 428-9488, www.pendulum-instruments.com.

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Directional/Bi-Directional

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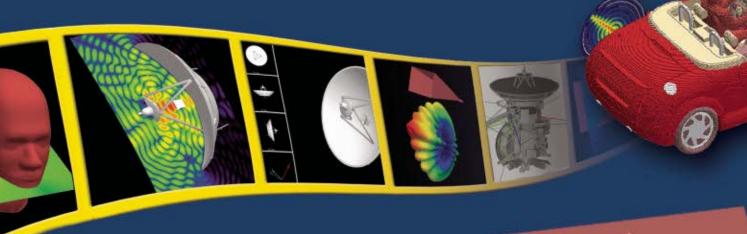
This comprehensive, versatile web site has recently added new product pull-down menus and RoHS-compliant component pages. The web site details full specifications for over 430 products, application notes, quality assurance and product support tools including Product Cross Reference, Parametric Search, PLL Phase Noise and Mixer Spur Chart Calculators, and expanded e-commerce. The company's new product selection guide, newsletter and CD can also be requested from the site.

Hittite Microwave Corp., 20 Alpha Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824

www.hittite.com

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Resistive Products

Providing design engineers with easily accessible specification product information, TT electronics IRC has enhanced its web site to include a comprehensive resource for customers of its entire line of resistive products. The IRC site also prominently features RoHS information from a link on the home page. Landing pages have been developed with direct links from the home page, which consolidate data sheets and pertinent information for specific product groups.

TT electronics, IRC Advanced Film Division, 4222 S. Staples Street, Corpus Christi, TX 78411

www.irctt.com



RF/Microwave Filters and Subsystems

The Lorch site features an updated look in displaying the company's RF and microwave filters, subsystems and RF products. The site provides complete product line information, as well as filters now available from stock for immediate delivery. Also featured is the Filter Select+Plus selection software for bandpass filters. Additionally, the site includes RoHS-compliant offerings and features the latest company news and catalog downloads.

Lorch Microwave, 1725 N. Salisbury Blvd., Salisbury, MD 21802

www.lorch.com



Passive Microwave Components

This web site provides links to the company's four business units. A globally recognized provider of passive microwave components, M2 Global also provides contract manufacturing services and lean manufacturing seminars. New to M2 Global is Trilogy Defense Services, a partnership with two other SBA businesses, providing a convenient source of diverse manufacturing capabilities for defense contractors.

M2 Global Technology Ltd., 5714 Epsilon, San Antonio, TX 78249

www.m2global.com



Component Search Tool

Yoni2 is a component search tool on the company's web site that searches millions of actual measured data points from thousands of models in the company's database. The search function allows a user to enter parametric specifications and then outputs results, which allows engineers to quickly match a component to an application. Yoni2 currently supports searches across amplifiers, directional couplers, frequency mixers, power splitters/combiners, RF transformers, voltage-controlled oscillators and filters.

Mini-Circuits, PO Box 350166, Brooklyn, NY 11235

www.minicircuits.com



Financial Insight

The RF to Light Index is a unique resource to the *Microwave Journal* web site that has been recently revamped. This resource provides extensive economic data covering 100 public companies operating in markets that include space and defense, communications services, network systems, RF semiconductors, RF components and F/O components. It includes 12 spreadsheets with charts that are updated weekly, providing financial insight into the microwave industry for investors and corporate managers.

Microwave Journal, 685 Canton Street, Norwood, MA 02062

www.mwjournal.com



Green World

The "Green Leader" web site contains information on the company's environmentally friendly specialty materials and related subjects. The company's environmentally friendly product lines include: high frequency laminates; flexible circuit materials; BISCO® silicones; PORON® urethanes; and DUREL® EL lamps and drivers. Letters of Compliance and flowchart examples to determine if equipment is within the scope of directives are also provided.

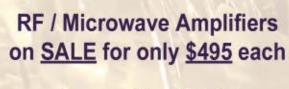
Rogers Corp., One Technology Drive, PO Box 188, Rogers, CT 06263

> www.rogersgreenworld.com



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Terms and Conditions: This sale applies only to amplifiers that are ordered between January 1, 2007 and March 31, 2007. The sale is only for amplifiers listed on the present PET web site. The sales price is for any listed amplifier that has 30 dB of gain or less and has a maximum operating frequency of 20 GHz. The ten piece minimum order requirement must be met. Up to three different models totaling ten pieces may be ordered and will still be considered to meet the minimum order requirement. The specifications shown are typical. If a specific guaranteed specification is required please specify this requirement at the time of ordering and additional charges may apply. PET reserves the right to change the contents of its web site and/or model availability at anytime without notice. Specifications are subject to change without notice





RF/Microwave Components and Systems

Spectrum Microwave is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Spectrum Control Inc. and produces a wide range of RF and microwave components and systems. The company's diverse product line includes RF and microwave filters, switchable filter banks, integrated microwave assemblies, amplifiers, mixers and oscillators.

Spectrum Microwave Inc., 2144 Franklin Drive N.E., Palm Bay, FL 32905

www.specwave.com



Infrastructure Products

This web site reflects the company's recently announced re-branding efforts as "STI." The extensive web site redesign features the company's high performance infrastructure products for wireless voice and data applications. The new look debuts the company's "STI" logo and refreshed sales focused content in an easy-to-navigate design.

Superconductor Technologies Inc. (STI), 460 Ward Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

www.suptech.com



3D Electromagnetic Field Simulation Software

This recently updated web site features the company's 3D electromagnetic (EM) field simulation software for high frequency applications. New additions to the site include: Web-based videos demonstrating the state-of-the-art 3D EM simulator CST MICROWAVE STUDIO* 2006, applications articles, user forum, technical support area and downloads.

CST of America® Inc., 10 Laurel Avenue, Suite 300, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

www.cst.com



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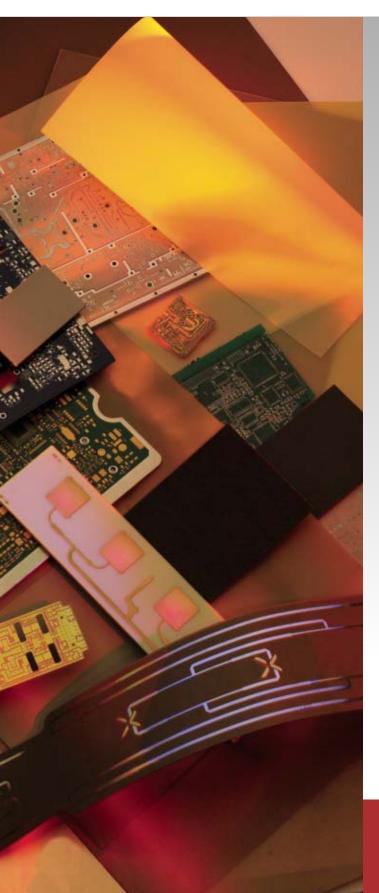
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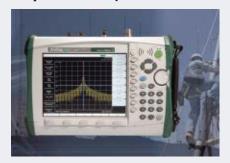




www.IMS2007.org

For further information, please contact Kristen Dednah at: kdednah@mwjournal.com

Spectrum Analyzer Trio



Three new models have been added to the MS272xB series of handheld spectrum analyzers. The MS2724B offers continuous frequency coverage from 9 kHz to 20 GHz while the MS2721B and MS2723B cover frequencies up to 7.1 and 13 GHz, respectively. The MS2724B exhibits low phase noise of typically -104 dBc/Hz at 10 kHz offset at 2 GHz, and 1 Hz to 3 MHz RBW, making it well suited for spectrum monitoring, security and intelligence needs, RF/microwave measurements, or cellular signal measurements. Both the MS2721B and MS2723B have similar high performance. All three utilize the Spectrum Master design, which combines high durability with lightweight, have a standard built-in AM/FM/SSB demodulator and built-in preamplifier, and are the first in the family to feature a quasi-peak detector and CISPR bandwidths for EMC precompliance testing.

Anritsu EMEA Ltd., Luton, UK 01582 433242, www.anritsu.com.

RS No. 216

Microwave/RF IC Design Suite

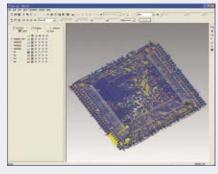


The new version 6.4 of the LINMIC Microwave and RF IC Design Suite has been released. LINMIC is a physics-based suite of integrated tools for the efficient EM-based design and layout of passive and active, single-layer and multi-layer, linear and nonlinear RF and microwave circuits. Version LIN-MIC 6.4 is more powerful for the design of circuits containing surface-mount RLC components (SMD-RLC). Advanced new models taking multiple resonances and up to two connections per pad into account, and a respective parameter extractor (SMDMOD) have been implemented for SMD-RLC components.

AC Microwave GmbH, Aachen, Germany +49 241-8793022, www.linmic.com.

RS No. 246

■ High Performance EDA Software



The Turbo Package AnalyzerTM (TPA) v5 introduces new automation, design flow and simulation capability needed for the extraction of the electrical characteristics of complex high performance ball-grid array (BGA) style packaging, including wirebond (WBBGA), flip-chip (FCBGA), chip-scale packages (CSP) and System in Packages (SiP). TPA v5 increases the capacity of the solver to address larger-sized packaging problems and introduces greater automation for generating and/or modifying 3D package layouts. TPA v5 introduces a new user interface that includes new 2D editing and 3D viewing capabilities, unlimited undo/redo capability, powerful new editing and automation features, such as geometry validation checking and support for VB scripting.

Ansoft Corp., Pittsburgh, PA (412) 261-3200, www.ansoft.com.

RS No. 217

9 kHz to 1.2 GHz Signal Generator

This lightweight 2U, 3.5" high signal generator offers a bandwidth of 9 kHz to 1.2 GHz and an



RF output range from -140 to +13dBm. The model SG1200 provides low carrier frequency with excel-

lent resolution and low harmonics. The SG1200 is ideally suited for RF immunity testing for both conducted and radiated immunity systems covering the requirements for MIL-STD-461D/E, DO-160D/E, IEC 61000-4-3, IEC 61000-4-6 and many other EMC test standards.

AR Worldwide RF/Microwave Instrumentation, Souderton, PA (215) 723-8181, www.ar-worldwide.com.

RS No. 218

■ WiMAX R&D Test Set

The RSA-IQWIMAX demodulation and analysis software is part of a comprehensive test set to find and solve WiMAX design problems. RSA-IQWIMAX software is a new application specific test tool for characterizing and troubleshooting WiMAX device designs utilizing a Tektronix RSA3408A real-time spectrum analyzer and is the result of a partnership between Tektronix and LitePoint. With RSA-IQWIMAX and the RSA3408A, engineering teams will be able to

more quickly detect, diagnose and resolve design issues improving time to market for WiMAX end-user products, including consumer electronics, computers and handheld devices.

Tektronix Inc.. Beaverton, OR (800) 833-9200, www.tektronix.com.

RS No. 224

■ Wideband Driver Amplifier

The model HMC-C038 is a GaAs MMIC distributed driver amplifier packaged in a minia-



ture, hermetic module with replaceable 2.92 mm connectors. Operating between 2 and 35 GHz, the HMC-

C038 provides 12 dB of gain, +29 dBm output IP3 and up to +18 dBm of output power at 1 dB gain compression. Gain flatness is excellent from 2 to 16 GHz at ±0.5 dB making the HMC-C038 ideal for test and measurement applications. The HMC-C038 also exhibits a mid-band noise figure of 4 dB and is specified for operation over the full -55° to +85°C temperature range.

Hittite Microwave Corp., Chelmsford, MA (978) 250-3343, www.hittite.com.

RS No. 219

Amplified Noise Source

The model NW3G-D-14 is a dual-in-line packaged amplified noise source that provides a



high level output DIP noise module covering 3 GHz. Extending to virtually all wireless frequency bands, this noise source

provides the user with broadband high levels of noise for PCB mounting. Offering broadband frequency coverage from 10 MHz to 3 GHz, the NW3G-D-14 features -10 dBm output power with noise flatness of ±2.5 dB or better. Standard operation is from +15 VDC with a 100 mA maximum current draw. The NW3G-D-14 is housed in an industry standard 14 pin DIP package. Utilizing small internal parts count, the NW3G-D-14 is economically priced and delivery is typically from stock.

Noisewave Corp., East Hanover, NJ (973) 386-1119, www.noisewave.com.

RS No. 220

■ Grandmaster Clock



The XLi IEEE 1588 Grandmaster Clock with GPS reference is designed for IEEE 1588 protocol test and measurement applications. IEEE 1588 protocol enables accurate synchronization over Ethernet LANs and offers users the ability to synchronize clocks to better than one hundred nanoseconds accuracy with only a network



connection. The XLi IEEE 1588 Grandmaster provides the precise time and is also equipped to physically measure how well that time is transferred through the network with precision down to five nanoseconds res-

Summetricom Inc..

San Jose, CA (800) 544-0233, www.symmttm.com.

RS No. 223

Wireless Vector Signal Generator

The model p1411A is a high performance RF vector signal generator that serves the 800 and 1700 MHz cellular bands and produces high ac-



curacy EDGE, GSM, IS-95, NADC, PHS, WCDMA and CW signals. The source includes an exclusive spectrum analyzer display along with an internal IQ waveform generator, and is available in bench-top or

ATE configurations. User-created IQ waveforms can generate other signal types, specify data content or create worst-case signal scenarios for development and test of RFIC, subassemblies or completed wireless products. Price: \$9990.00. Delivery: eight-week delivery ARO. precisionWave Corp.,

Colorado Springs, CO (719) 325-0504, www.precisionwave.com.

RS No. 221

Switch Matrix

This DC to 6 GHz multi-functional WiMAX custom matrix is compact and designed with instrumentation to the DUT ports that are synthesized to a



custom RF configuration. With a total of two DUT ports, six instrument ports and six auxiliary ports, this RF head-end switch matrix contains combiners, switches, programmable attenuators and required components for

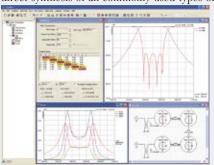
RF modulation. The industry standard 19-inch rack mounted switch matrix occupies 2 U of space. The six auxiliary ports aid in the calibration of six corresponding instrument ports and is controlled using a GPIB/IEEE-488.2 interface.

Renaissance Electronics Corp., Harvard, MA (978) 772-7774, www.rec-usa.com.

RS No. 222

Filter Synthesis and Design Software

FilSynth is a precision microwave filter design software that features direct synthesis of all commonly used types of passive filters with es-



sentially no limitations. Transmission zeros can be placed freely within the stopband. For a bandpass filter, N+2 type coupling matrix is generated so that maximum transmission zeros can be realized by using source/load coupling. Together with synthesis function, optimization, analysis

and power handling functions make FilSynth a powerful filter design software.

FilResearch Inc.,

Fairfax, VA, www.filresearch.com.

RS No. 247



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COMPONENTS

Broadband SP5T Switch

The model SWN-1170-5DR is a reflective broadband single-pole five-throw switch with



integral TTL driver. This switch operates in a frequency range from 1 to 18 GHz with low insertion loss of 3.25 dB maximum, an isolation of 60 dB minimum and a

VSWR of 2.0 maximum. The switching speed is only 100 ns maximum while the RF power handling is +20 dBm operating and 1 W survival. Size: $1.25" \times 1.25" \times 0.70$ ".

American Microwave Corp., Frederick, MD (301) 662-4700, www.americanmicrowavecorp.com.

RS No. 225

■ 50 Ω Fixed Attenuators

The model 354-129-XXX is a 50 Ω fixed attenuator series. These 1 W units are available in



standard BNC male/BNC female configurations (other gender, connector types and impedances are avail-

able). Model 354-129-XXX is rated DC to 2500 MHz, 1 to 40 dB in 1 dB value increments and 1.40 maximum VSWR. Attenuation accuracy is ± 0.5 dB maximum for 1 to 10 dB values, ± 0.75 dB maximum for 11 to 20 dB values and ± 1 dB maximum for 21 to 40 dB values. Delivery: from stock to one week ARO (up to 1000 pieces).

BroadWave Technologies Inc., Franklin, IN (317) 346-6101, www.broadwavetech.com.

RS No. 226

90° Hybrid Coupler



The model IPP-2033 is a high power, 3 dB, 90° hybrid coupler that operates in a frequency range from 900 to 2500 MHz. This model combines two signals of up to 150 W CW of total output power. The 3 dB hybrid is produced in a miniature drop-in style package size of 1.3" \times 0.25" \times 0.2" with solder tab connections. Insertion loss is less than 0.3 dB, phase balance is less than \pm 5°, VSWR is less than 1.30, ampli-

tude balance is less than ± 0.90 dB, and there is greater than 18 dB of isolation. Delivery: stock to four weeks.

Innovative Power Products Inc., Holbrook, NY (631) 563-0088, www.innovativepp.com.

RS No. 252

Interference Notch Filter

The model WSN-00256 is a 941 MHz pager interference notch filter that mitigates signal



interference caused by co-location of paging and cellular systems in buildings and businesses of all types. This custom notch fil-

ter is highly selective with 45 dB minimum rejection from 940 to 943 MHz and is temperature stabilized from 0° to 50°C. The 941 MHz notch filter maximizes performance trade-offs between sharp-shape factors and band-edge insertion losses. Size: $15" \times 8" \times 5"$.

K&L Microwave Inc., Salisbury, MD (410) 749-2424, www.klmicrowave.com.

RS No. 227

RF Distribution Assembly

The model RFD-00001 is an RF distribution assembly used in military airborne signal pro-



cessing applications. This assembly operates in a frequency range from 2 to 700 MHz, offers an insertion loss of 3.5 dB, and is phase and amplitude tracked from 2 to 700 MHz.

Lorch Microwave, Salisbury, MD (410) 860-5100, www.lorch.com.

RS No. 228

■ PIN Diode Switch Drivers

These PIN diode switch drivers are designed for use in applications where GaAs or high



speed Si PIN diodes are utilized. External negative supply voltages may be as high as –18 V. Inputs are compatible with standard logic families. The switch

drivers contain internal spiking and decoupling capacitors. MSD7800 switch drivers are assembled on FR-4 circuit boards. All components are conformal coated and meet RoHS lead-free requirements. Packaged switch drivers are available upon request.

MDT Corp., Westford, MA (978) 692-7800, www.mdtcorp.com.

RS No. 229

■ Coaxial Load Terminations

This family of 1, 2, 5, 10, 35, 50 and 100 W 7/16 DIN-Male coaxial loads are designed for



next generation equipment deployments. These loads offer rugged construction and excellent performance (VSWR 1.10) across all wireless bands from DC to 6 GHz, which

makes them ideal for base station and RF/microwave lab applications. These products are made in the US and are available from stock.

MECA Electronics, Denville, NJ (973) 625-0661, www.e-meca.com.

RS No. 230

■ SPDT Absorptive Switches

Models HSWA2-30DR+ are SPDT absorptive switches with an internal CMOS control driver



that delivers performance by providing high isolation, low insertion loss and high input IP3 over the entire DC to 3000 MHz band.

Operating from a single positive 3 V supply voltage, these RoHS-compliant switches are totally immune to latch-up so they always work. Incorporate the company's unique design-simultaneous switch-off of RF1 and RF2, and provide super low DC power consumption, essential for today's portable battery operated wireless devices. These switches are great solutions for base station infrastructure, CATV, DBS, MMDS, Wireless WLAN and band switching. In stock. Price: from \$1.29 (1000). *Mini-Circuits*,

Brooklyn, NY (718) 934-4500, www.minicircuits.com.

RS No. 231

Ku-band Communication Upconverter



The 9900 series communication upconverter operates in a frequency range from 13.75 to 14.8 GHz and provides L-band monitor output, which is ideal for ENG/SNG and video broadcasting applications. It enables the operator to monitor the uplink signal using an L-band receiver or spectrum analyzer. A strong feature set of monitor and control functions supports powerful local and remote control. Features include: control of frequency, attenuation and 64 memory locations for each converter where various setups can be stored and recalled.

MITEQ Inc., Hauppauge, NY (631) 436-7400, www.miteq.com.

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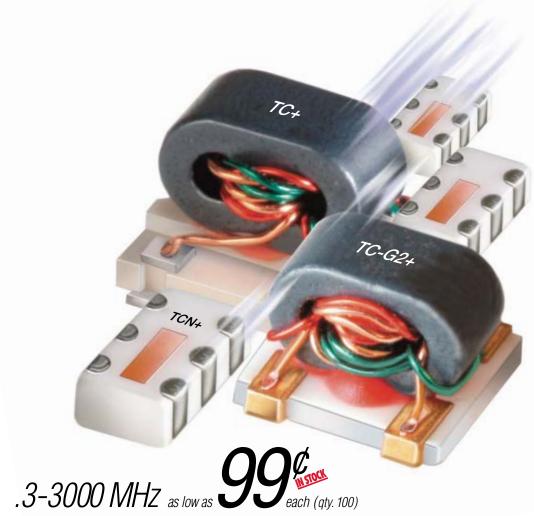


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377 Rev L

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5, 12 and 26.5 VDC. The RF311 is designed for use in attenuator and other RF circuits. Features include high resistance to electrostatic discharge (ESD), a metal enclosure for EMI shielding, ground pin option to improve case grounding and high isolation between control and signal paths. The relay is RoHS compliant. Price: \$32.22 each (500). Lead time for delivery is 14 weeks.

Teledyne Relays, Hawthorne, CA (800) 284-7007, www.teledynerelays.com.

RS No. 254

Variable Attenuators



Solid-state Variable Attenuators from 10Mhz to 19Ghz. Current Controlled, Linearized Voltage Controlled, or Linearized Digital Controlled.

Product Line:

- Solid State Variable Attenuators
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- DC-Blocks & Bias Tee's

Universal Microwave



Components Corporation

5702-D General Washington Drive Alexandria, Virginia 22312 Tel: (703) 642-6332, Fax: (703) 642-2568 Email: umcc @ umcc111.com

www.umcc111.com

■ Triplexer/Diplexer Assembly

This triplexer/diplexer assembly is designed to meet a variety of applications including mili-



tary, commercial and space. Typical features include: UHF/VHF frequency band up to 3000 MHz, low insertion loss of < 1 dB, VSWR of

1.3, and 50 Ω port VSWR 1.20 for both frequency ranges. Custom designs and package options are available (SMT, GPO, GPPO, SMA interfaces).

Networks International Corp., Overland Park, KS (913) 685-3400, www.nickc.com.

RS No. 233

■ Threshold Detector

The model TD-30T-SHS-218-30DBAMP options DAC, DS, is an ultra-high speed, high



sensitivity threshold detector designed for broadband applications in the 2 to 18 GHz frequency range. This model offers an eight-bit

digital control to adjust the threshold level and has TTL output. The power supply is ± 12 V. Size: $2.5" \times 2" \times 0.5"$.

Planar Monolithics Industries Inc., Frederick, MD (301) 631-1579, www.planarmonolithicsindustries.com.

RS No. 234

High Power Directional Couplers

The P/N C40-105-481/4N is a 40 dB dual directional coupler that operates in a frequency



range from 100 to 500 MHz. This coupler offers a coupling flatness of ±0.75 dB across the band and VSWR of 1.15. Insertion loss and directivi-

ty are respectively 0.2 dB and 20 dB and maximum input power is 500 W. Type N female connectors are utilized on the input and output ports and SMA female connectors on the coupled ports. Size: $3" \times 2" \times 1.5"$.

Pulsar Microwave Corp., Clifton, NJ (973) 779-6262, www.pulsarmicrowave.com.

RS No. 253

■ High Power Compact Diplexer

The part number 2DP-925/1575-S11 is an L-band diplexer. This unit offers passbands of



905 to 925 and 1450 to 1700 while maintaining loss of less than 0.3 dB. This unit can withstand power of 60 W CW, has channel-to-channel iso-

lation of at least 30 dB and maintains a VSWR of 1.5 or better.

Reactel Inc., Gaithersburg, MD (301) 519-3660, www.reactel.com.

RS No. 235

■ Two-way Power Dividers/Combiners

These custom high power two-way dividers/combiners are in-phase "Wilkinson" type de-



signs with excellent electrical performance within the band of ±12 percent of any center frequency between 750 to 2400 MHz.

These devices can be used as dividers or combiners with 50 W CW per channel for failsafe applications, where typically one output is, for example, the loss of one element in an antenna array. As a divider, it can handle up to 200 W assuming a load VSWR of 1.2 or better.

RLC Electronics Inc., Mount Kisco, NY (914) 241-1334, www.rlcelectronics.com.

RS No. 236

■ TNC and N Connectors



These 18 GHz TNC and N jacks are now available with the same 1/2-inch square mounting footprint as SMA. The connectors are field-serviceable for 0.015", 0.018", 0.020" and 0.036" diameter accessories. These jacks present a typical VSWR of 1.10 to 18 GHz and precision stainless steel housings. The connectors offer high power with 165°C maximum operating temperature and meet RoHS, DFARS requirements.

Southwest Microwave Inc., Tempe, AZ (480) 783-0201, www.southwestmicrowave.com.

RS No. 237

■ Tower Top Filter

The model CFB5-899 filter features a design that provides high "Q" and stable temperature



This filter provides an excellent building block for compact diplexers and multiplexers with a passband of 896 to 902 MHz. The unit is a solution

for tower top amplifier applications that require a compact mechanical and rugged environmental package. Isolation is specified at 90 dB at $f_{\rm c}$ ±37 MHz and the insertion loss is 1 dB. Size: $1.90"\times3.063"\times5.25"$ with SMA female connectors.

Trilithic Inc., Indianapolis, IN (317) 895-3600, www.trilithic.com.

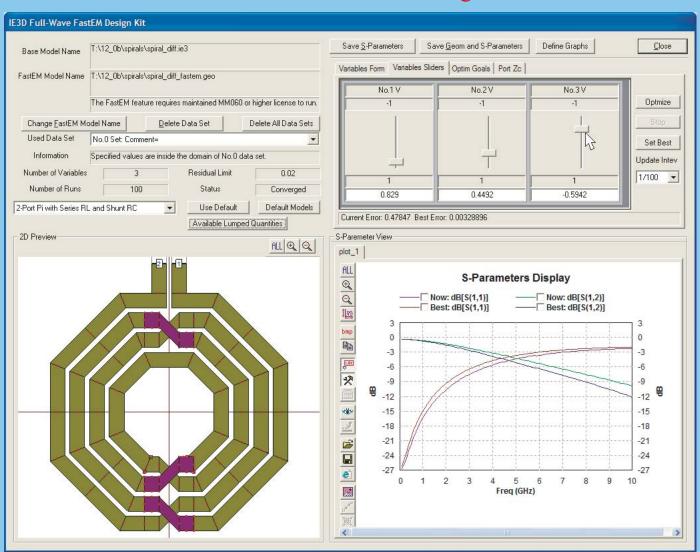
RS No. 238



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NFW PRODUCTS

■ SMA Plug Termination

The model 2003-6112-01 is a compact, lightweight, 50 Ω , SMA plug coaxial termination.



Product highlights include excellent VSWR to 18 GHz and compact size measures 0.312" diameter \times 0.34" long. This product is constructed

with a gold plated passivated stainless steel body and passivated stainless steel coupling nut. This product is ideal for test and measurement applications as well as system use requiring long-term performance and low cost. Price: starting under \$10 (Qty 1-9).

XMA Corp., Manchester, NH (603) 222-2256, www.xmacorp.com.

RS No. 239

CLASSIFIED

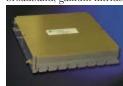
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> Contact David Dane at Davidd@uniquesys.com

AMPLIFIERS

■ GaN Broadband Power **Amplifier**

The model SSPA 0.8-2.5-200 is a high power, broadband, gallium nitride (GaN) RF amplifier



that operates in a frequency range from 0.8 to 2.5 GHz. This PA is ideal for broadband military platforms as well

as commercial applications because it is robust and offers high power over a multi-octave bandwidth. This amplifier operates with a base plate temperature of 85°C with no degradation in the MTBF for the GaN devices inside. It is packaged in a modular housing that is approximately $8" \times 8" \times 1.5"$.

Aethercomm Inc., San Marcos, CA (760) 598-4340, www.aethercomm.com.

RS No. 240

High Power Amplifiers

The model AMP0.1G2.5-20-35P is a broadband maximally flat high power amplifier that



operates in a frequency range from 100 MHz to 2.5 GHz. This amplifier family features 23 dB gain with gain

flatness better than ±1.5 dB. The amplifier outputs at least 2 W of power. Current draw is 600 mA from +24 V. Connectors are SMA (f) and delivery is typically from stock. Other models are available that feature additional gain, different input voltages and frequency ranges.

Amplical Corp., Verona, NJ (201) 919-2088, www.amplical.com.

RS No. 241

Solid-state Power Amplifier

The model BM2719-80 is a Class AB linear amplifier that operates over the full 20 to 1000



MHz frequency range with output power of 80 W. This amplifier is compact (6.4" × $3.4" \times 1.06"$) and weighs only 1

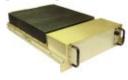
pound. The model features a solid-state design and offers wideband operation. Model BM2719-80 is compact and lightweight and designed for the military environment.

Comtech PST, Melville, NY (631) 777-8900, www.comtechpst.com.

RS No. 242

High Power Amplifiers

These compact, LDMOS-based, linear high power amplifiers (HPA) are designed for



L- and S-band applications for digital radio and video broadcasting. The HPA is capable of operating with DVB-T,

XM, Sirius, STiMi and T-DMB waveforms. The HPA output power is rated at 300 W at 30 dB shoulder for all of the above waveforms. It is capable of handling multiple channels of COFDM signals. These HPAs are designed to operate in both indoor and outdoor environments. The HPA system includes 220 V power supply, complete remote control, self-monitoring and protection, and high performance carbon fins heat sink.

Unique Broadband Systems Ltd., Ontario, Canada (905) 669-8533. www.uniquesys.com.

RS No. 243

ANTENNA

■ Ground Data Terminal Antenna

This Ground Data Terminal (GDT) antenna is in a Ku-band configuration to support current



and future Tacti-Common cal Data Link requirements. The new Ku-band GDT is a followon system to the company's S/Cband GDT used for the Shadow® 200 Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (TUAS). The US Army has

indicated that all future systems that provide command, control and telemetry reception should be delivered with a Ku-band Tactical Common Data Link (TCDL) capability. In operation, the Ground Data Terminal communicates directly with the TUAS, gathers data from onboard sensors over the area of interest, and transmits the data to the ground terminal for processing and dissemination. Featuring a four foot reflector, this GDT design offers high gain performance (+41 dBic, minimum) and is a low weight system (< 150 lbs.).

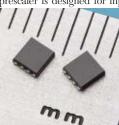
TECOM Industries Inc., Thousand Oaks, CA (805) 267-0100, www.tecom-ind.com.

RS No. 244

INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

SiGe Prescaler

The model UPB1514TU SiGe divide-by-8 prescaler is designed for input frequencies of 8



to 16 GHz and delivers typical output power of -5 dBm at 1 to 2 GHz. Fabricated using NEC's 50 GHz UHS2 silicon bipolar process, the UPB1514TU is ideal for up and

is ideal for up and down conversion applications in Ku-band satellite and terrestrial communications. The UPB-1514TU prescaler delivers excellent performance and is designed to serve as a low cost alternative to GaAs devices. Size: $2.2 \times 2.0 \times 0.5$ mm TU package. Price: from \$2.71 in 10K quantities. California Eastern Laboratories (NEC),

Santa Clara, CA, www.cel.com.

RS No. 245

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SOURCES

Microwave Pulse Source



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H6 Systems Inc., Nashua, NH (603) 880-4190, www.h6systems.com.

RS No. 255

X-band Synthesizer



This high performance synthesizer operates over the X-band SATCOM range of 6.410 to 7.545 GHz and can be customized to meet step size requirements from 1 kHz down to 1

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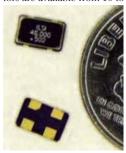
Hz. It features outstanding spectral purity and low phase noise of -77 dBc at 100 Hz offsets and -125 dBc at 1 MHz offsets. The X-band synthesizer is ideal for harsh-environment defense applications where a combination of low noise, wide bandwidth and very small step size are essential. The base model is based on Endwave's proprietary YIG oscillators. Applications include: field portable X-band SATCOM terminals, control links for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and tri-band converters.

Endwave Defense Systems, Sunnyvale, CA (408) 522-3180, www.endwave.com.

RS No. 248

Spread Spectrum Oscillator

The ISM72 series of spread spectrum oscillators are available from 10 to 80 MHz. Its output



level is HC-MOS, with 50 percent ±10 percent duty cycle, and rise/fall times of 7 ns maximum. Stabilities are as low as 25 ppm over a temperature range of 0° to 70°C. It features a tri-state function with enable/disable time

of 100 ms maximum. Supply voltage is 3.3 VDC. Lead free (RoHS) ceramic package measures $3.2\times5\times1.1$ mm. Price: \$2.39 each (1K pcs.). Delivery: 8 to 10 weeks ARO.

ILSI America, Reno, NV (775) 851-8880, www.ilsiamerica.com.

RS No. 256

Frequency Synthesizer



The WaveCor 2.50 dual frequency synthesizer is the latest addition to the WaveCor line of high performance DDS-based frequency synthesizers and features two independent microwave synthesizers in a single rack-mount enclosure. Each high performance synthesizer operates over a frequency range from 300 MHz to 2.5 GHz. At 1.2 GHz, the WaveCor 2.50 dual provides phase noise levels of –140 dBc/Hz at a 10 kHz offset and typical spurious levels of –70 dBc. Switching speeds are less than 300 ns maximum when tuning to any operating frequency. The WaveCor 2.50 dual's high reliability and performance are available in a 5U rack-mount chassis.

ITT Microwave Systems – AES Division, Lowell, MA (978) 441-0200, www.ittmicrowave.com.

RS No. 249

AT-Cut Crystal

The NX8045GB series is a commercially available 4 MHz thickness shear vibration mode



(AT-cut) SMD crystal unit. The low frequency operation keeps the power consumption low (drive level 50 µW) and can be applied with existing IC

designs. It is available in a frequency range from 4 to 40 MHz with a frequency tolerance of ± 30 ppm at an ambient temperature of $\pm 25^{\circ}$ C. The NX8045GB is ideal for automotive applications with an operating temperature range of $\pm 40^{\circ}$ to $\pm 125^{\circ}$ C while delivering superior environmental performance including high heat, vibration and impact resistance. Size: $8 \times 4.5 \times 1.8$ mm package.

NDK (Nihon Dempa Kogyo Co. Ltd.), Belvidere, IL (800) 635-9825, www.ndk.com.

RS No. 257

S-band Voltage-controlled Oscillator

The model V614ME26-LF is a voltage-controlled oscillator that operates in a frequency



range from 1900 to 2100 MHz. This product offers a low phase noise performance of –98 dBc/Hz at 10 kHz offset from the carrier. The typical tuning sensitivity of this

product is 62 MHz/V and the harmonic suppression is -15 dBc while delivering an O/P power of 4 ± 2 dBm over the extended operating temperature range of -40° to 85° C. It covers 200 MHz within 8 VDC. Size: $0.50''\times0.50''\times0.22''$. Price: \$18.95/VCO (5 pcs min). Delivery: stock to four weeks.

Z-Communications Inc., San Diego, CA (858) 621-2700, www.zcomm.com.

RS No. 250

SUBSYSTEM

Two-channel Radiometer

The model RR89-1 is a two-channel radiometer front-end that is configured with two or-



thogonal receive channels covering 88 to 90 GHz input. A single 89 GHz Gunn oscillator drives the LO for the mixers

in both channels. Using a noise generator, approximately 120 K excess noise temperature is injected into the mixer at each channel through a 20 dB crossguide coupler. 20 dB of isolation is achieved between the coupler and mixer using an isolator. The IF output spans 40 to 1000 MHz with 50 dB of gain and a DSB noise figure of 6.5 dB typical, 7.5 dB maximum.

Spacek Labs Inc., Santa Barbara, CA (805) 564-4404, www.spaceklabs.com.

RS No. 251

MICRO-ADS Visit http://mwj.hotims.com/11714-(RS#)



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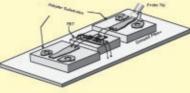
R.C. Hansen

These three subject areas (chapters) are related by narrow bandwidth and matching problems. Includes basics on fundamental limitations and Fano's matching; extensive design on loaded antennas; patches with magnetic substrates. A section covers antennas with clever physics but bad numbers. Another treats pathological (nut house) antennas. Design data and capabilities for superdirective antennas are given. Three important principles that realigned superconducting antennas are explained. Each chapter has an extensive bibliography. A seminal reference in today's wireless and Wi-Fi

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RS 110





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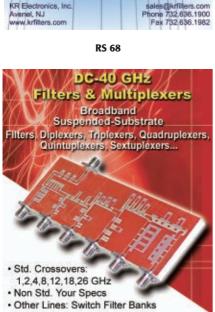


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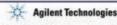
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RS No. 200

DESIGNER'S GUIDE

The 12th edition Designer's Guide catalog for 2007 includes full specifications for 482 components, 91 new RFIC and MMIC prod-



uct data sheets, quality/reliability, application and packaging/layout information. New for 2007 the two volume catalog format now includes: Volume 1: Amplifiers, Control Devices & Power Detectors and Volume 2: Data Converters, Frequency Generation, Mixers & Modulators. To request a 2007 catalog two volume set, visit www.hittite.com and select the "Submit Inquiry" button.

Hittite Microwave Corp., Chelmsford, MA (978) 250-3343, www.hittite.com.

RS No. 205

PARAMETRIC TEST HANDBOOK

The Parallel Test Technology: The New Paradigm for Parametric Testing is a semiconductor parametric test handbook. This 60page handbook offers an over-



view of the emerging test technique known as parallel parametric testing, a strategy for waferlevel parametric testing that uses concurrent execution of multiple tests on multiple scribe line test structures.

Keithley Instruments Inc., Cleveland, OH (800) 688-9951, www.keithley.com.

RS No. 201

NEW LITERATURE

SHORT FORM CATALOG

This recently released microwave and millimeter-wave conversion products short-form catalog features a sampling of the company's latest mixers, images, rejection mixers, modulators, multipliers and cus-



tom products. There are also sections discussing quality assurance, manufacturing flow diagrams, MITEQ's Space Heritage and options available to the customer.

MITEQ Inc.,

Hauppauge, NY (631) 436-7400, www.miteq.com.

RS No. 202

PRODUCT BROCHURE

This brochure has been updated to reflect the expansion of the extra-durable Storm Flex™ miniature cable line to include a larger, 0.160" diameter cable that is a high strength flexible replacement for



RG-402 semi-rigid cable. Mechanical, electrical product specifications, competitive analysis graphs for VSWR, phase, insertion loss vs. flexure, applications, and complete ordering information are also included.

Storm Products-Microwave, Woodridge, IL (630) 754-3300, www.stormproducts.com/microwave.

RS No. 203

SELECTION GUIDE

The switches selection guide features 20 families of coaxial switches and relays in a tabular format. The guide, designed to help engineers quickly choose a



product, now features schematic drawings for all switches and relays. The 24-page digest provides detailed information about the switches and relays, which span the range from DC to 26.5 GHz and cover SPDT (single-pole, double-throw) up to SP8T and transfer switches.

Teledyne Relays, Hawthorne, CA (800) 284-7007, www.teledynerelays.com.

RS No. 204



TRANSFORMERS

Features

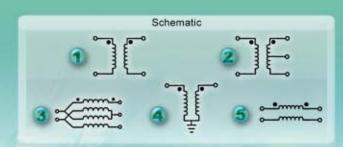
- >Low Cost
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- Good Amplitude / Phase Unbalance
- > Rugged Welded Construction
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Application:

- Impedance Matching
- Phase Shifting/Splitting
- Balance to Unbalance Transformation

Model #	Z Ratio (50:Z)	Frequency (MHz)	Schematic
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TM1-0	1:1	0.3 - 1000	•
TM1-1	1:1	0.4 - 500	2
TM1-2	1:1	50 - 1000	2
TM1-6	1:1	5 - 3000	5
TM1.5-2	1:1.5	0.5 - 550	1
TM2-1	1:2	1 - 600	2
TM4-0	1:4	0.2 - 350	2)
TM4-1	1:4	10 - 1000	3
TM4-4	1:4	100 - 2500	3
TM2-GT	2:1	5 - 1500	4
TM4-GT	4:1	5 - 1000	4
TM8-GT	8:1	5 - 1000	4





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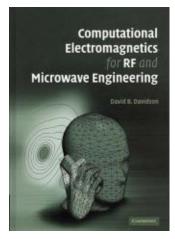






Computational Electromagnetics for RF and Microwave Engineering

David B. Davidson
Cambridge University Press • 430 pages; \$80, £47
ISBN: 0-521-83859-2

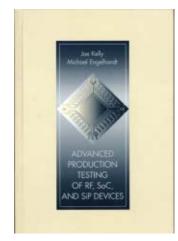


To order this book, contact:
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(845) 353-7500

This book is designed to serve as an introduction to computational electromagnetics for RF applications. It comprises essentially three parts. The first part, Chapters 2 and 3, deals with the finite difference time domain (FDTD) method, in one and (primarily) two dimensions, respectively. Chapter 2 uses a simple transmission line problem to introduce many of the basic ideas of the FDTD method. Chapter 3 goes on to extend these ideas to two dimensions and considers a number of the issues raised when handling radiation and scattering in free space, in particular the use of absorbing boundary conditions. The second part, Chapters 4 to 8, deals with the method of moments (MoM). Here, the five chapters largely alternate theoretical developments with practical applications. Chapters 4 and 5 form a unit, first introducing MoM theory for thin-wire antennas and then applying it using both a commercial

and a public domain code. Chapter 6, on modeling surfaces (and also volumes) using the MoM, is largely self-contained. The material in Chapter 6 on the hybrid MoM/PO, as well as on high performance computing and fast methods can be omitted without interrupting the flow of the book. Chapters 7 and 8 form a further unit on the theory and application of the Sommerfeld mixed potential integral equation approach to modeling stratified media (of which microstrip antennas are the most encountered application). The third and final part, Chapters 9 and 10, is devoted to the finite element method (FEM). Chapter 9 goes directly into two-dimensional vector element FEM theory; it is also used to illustrate the solution of an eigenvalue problem. The material in the last chapter, Chapter 10, is primarily to sensitize readers to more advanced formulations and applications (in this case, of the FEM).

Advanced Production Testing of RF, SoC and SiP Devices



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Joe Kelly and Michael Engelhardt Artech House • 321 pages; \$99, £60 ISBN: 1-58053-709-X

This book is a follow-up to *Production*Testing of RF and System-on-a-Chip Devices for Wireless Communications (Artech House, 2004). Like the previous publication, it is intended for a wide variety of audiences, including SoC applications engineers, engineering managers, product engineers and students, although other disciplines can benefit as well. Chapter 1 is an overview of the concepts presented in the book. Its content is designed to enable a semi-technical reader to gain knowledge about the topics that are presented in depth further on. Chapters 2 to 5 present many different aspects of production measurements and also provide enough background to build the reader's knowledge base to a level of competence needed to implement these tests in a production environment as well as on bench top instruments to perform correlation, including RF receivers, digitizers,

AWGs and digital subsystems. Chapter 6 describes the many aspects of the equipment that is used in both ATE test systems and rack and stack instrumentation. Chapter 7 discusses the topic of test costs and how recent changes in industrial models have impacted costs. Because a production measurement is only as good as the calibration of the test hardware, Chapter 8 describes how calibration is performed on each of the pieces of hardware that make up a test system. Additional emphasis on RF measurement calibration is also presented. Considered possibly the most important piece of the production testing setup, contactors are discussed in Chapter 9. Chapters 10 and 12 discuss handlers and prober interfaces to the test setup. An in-depth presentation of the requirements for developing and fabricating a load board to interconnect the DUT to the test system is found in Chapter 11.



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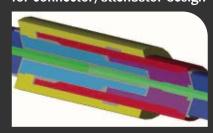
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		(0.1)		DESIGNE	R'S KITS
Model	Passband MHz	Stopband MHz (Loss >20 dB) Min.	Price \$ ea. Qty. 10	(5 of each K1 79,95	model) K2 9995
HFCN-650+ HFCN-740+ HFCN-880+ HFCN-1200+ HFCN-1300+	710-2490 780-2800 950-3200 1220-4600 1400-5000	480 550 640 910 930	1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99	•	•
HFCN-1320+ HFCN-1500+ HFCN-1600+ HFCN-1760+ HFCN-1810+	1400-5000 1600-5500 1650-5000 1900-5500 1950-4750	1060 1250 1290 1230 1480	1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99	•	•
HFCN-1910+ HFCN-2000+ HFCN-2100+ HFCN-2275+ HFCN-2700+	2000-5200 2260-6250 2200-6000 2450-7000 2650-6500	1400 1530 1530 1770 1800	1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99	:	•
▲ HFCN-2700A+ ▲ HFCN-3100+ ▲ HFCN-3500+ ▲ HFCN-3800+ ▲ HFCN-4400+	2900-8700 3400-9900 3900-9800 4250-10000 5000-10100		2.99 2.99 2.99 2.49 2.99		
▲ HFCN-4600+ ▲ HFCN-5050+ ▲ HFCN-5500+ ▲ HFCN-7150+ ▲ HFCN-8400+	5000-11000 5500-10000 6000-11500 7900-11000 9000-13000	4200 4500 6150	2.99 2.99 2.99 2.99 2.99		•
	To	otal number of u	inits in kit	40	50

HFCN Models: -3800+, -5500+, -8400+ Patent Pending

7 Designer's Kits Available (see table): Order kits by prefix (K1, K2, etc.) Followed by -LFCN+ or -HFCN+ Example: K1-LFCN+



LOW PASS FILTERS (LFCN)

	Passband	Stopband MHz	Price			of each m		
Model	MHz	(Loss >20 dB) Min.	\$ ea. Qty. 10	K1 9995	K2 11995	K3 109 95	K4 175 ⁹⁵	K5 129 ⁹⁵
LFCN-80+ LFCN-95+ LFCN-105+ LFCN-120+ LFCN-160+	DC-80 DC-95 DC-105 DC-120 DC-160	200 230 250 280 330	3.99 3.99 3.99 3.99 2.99			•		120
LFCN-180+ LFCN-190+ LFCN-225+ LFCN-320+ LFCN-400+	DC-180 DC-190 DC-225 DC-320 DC-400	370 400 460 560 660	2.99 2.99 2.99 2.99 2.99	:		•		
LFCN-490+ LFCN-530+ LFCN-575+ LFCN-630+ LFCN-800+	DC-490 DC-530 DC-575 DC-630 DC-800	800 820 900 1000 1400	2.99 2.99 2.99 2.99 1.99	•	•	•	•	
LFCN-900+ LFCN-1000+ LFCN-1200+ LFCN-1325+ LFCN-1400+	DC-850 DC-1000 DC-1200 DC-1325 DC-1400	1275 1550 1865 2100 2015	1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 2.99		:		•	
LFCN-1450+ LFCN-1500+ LFCN-1525+ LFCN-1575+ LFCN-1700+	DC-1450 DC-1500 DC-1525 DC-1575 DC-1700	2025 2100 2040 2175 2375	2.99 2.99 2.99 2.99 1.99		•		:	
LFCN-1800+ LFCN-2000+ LFCN-2250+ LFCN-2400+ LFCN-2500+	DC-1800 DC-2000 DC-2200 DC-2400 DC-2500	2425 3000 2900 3600 3675	2.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99		:		•	:
LFCN-2600+ LFCN-2750+ LFCN-2850+ LFCN-3000+ LFCN-3800+	DC-2600 DC-2750 DC-2800 DC-3000 DC-3900	3750 4000 4000 4550 6000	1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 2.99					•
LFCN-4400+ LFCN-5000+ LFCN-5500+ LFCN-5850+ LFCN-6000+ LFCN-6400+	DC-4400 DC-5000 DC-5500 DC-5850 DC-6000 DC-5400	6700 6850 7200 7600 8500 8300	2.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99 1.99		•		•	•
LFCN-6700+ LFCN-7200+	DC-6700 DC-7200 To	9300 9500 tal number of un	1.99 1.99 its in kit:	35	60	55	90	65 65

LFCN Models: U.S. Patent 6,943,646 except LFCN-800+, -1325+, -2000+ & -2400+.

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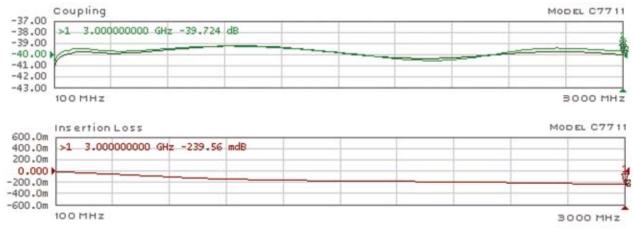
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	Туре	(MHz)	(Watts)	(dB)	(±dB)	Loss (dB)	(Mainline)	(dB)	(Inches)
C7734	Dual Directional	30-2500	100	43	±1.5	0.35	1.25:1	18	3.5 x 2.6 x 0.7
C7148	Bi Directional	60-600	200	10	±1.0	0.35	1.20:1	20	6.0 x 4.0 x 0.75
C7711	Dual Directional	100-3000	100	40	±1.0	0.35	1.25:1	18	3.0 x 2.2 x 0.7
C7783	Bi Directional	200-1000	200	20	±0.75	0.2	1.20:1	20	3.0 x 1.5 x 0.53
C6600	Bi Directional	200-2000	200	20	±1.2	0.25	1.25:1	18	4.0 x 2.0 x 0.72
C7152	Bi Directional	300-3000	100	20	±1.0	0.35	1.20:1	15	3.7 x 2.0 x 0.75
C7811	Dual Directional	500-2500	100	40	±0.5	0.2	1.25:1	20	3.0 x 2.0 x 0.6
C7753	Bi Directional	700-4200	100	20	±1.0	0.35	1.25:1	18	1.8 x 1.0 x 0.6

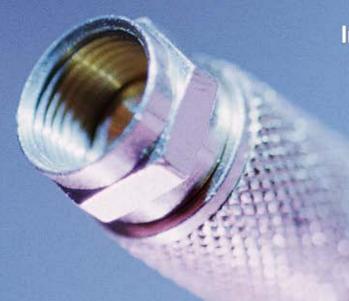
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Intermateability of SMA, 3.5 and 2.92 mm Connectors

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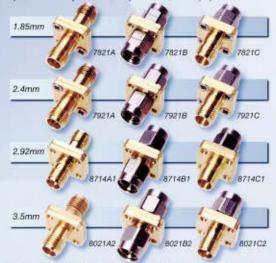
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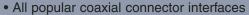
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2007 CONNECTOR, CABLE AND CABLE ASSEMBLY SURVEY

This is the fifth survey of connectors, cables and cable assemblies sponsored by Microwave Journal. We will continue to update it annually with continued industry support and participation.

e are very pleased to offer this updated survey of companies providing connectors, cables and cable assemblies. Seventy-seven companies responded to our request for information this year, which is an increase from the 74 companies in last year's survey. In addition, 10 of last year's participants have updated their information as well, so this survey represents the most comprehensive listing ever offered of companies providing RF and microwave cable and connector products.

There is clearly a large overlap of similar products being produced by the 77 companies included in the survey, particularly the standard connectors. However, careful examination of the information shows that virtually all of the companies have at least one unique, proprietary or patented product that addresses some niche market and which forms the core of their business, as well as customized products to meet specific requirements. These special products and services seem to be the principal reason for the diversity of suppliers. In addition, some companies specialize in different markets such as Hi-Rel, military and

base stations as opposed to low cost commercial and consumer. Thus, in reality, the overlap is not as great as it seems.

Every manufacturer has provided an address for its web site. Most of these sites contain either full catalog information or selected data sheets. We have also provided phone and e-mail points of contact for each company where available. In some cases, both foreign and domestic contacts have been provided.

I would like to thank the many people who responded to our request for information. Because of limited space, we were not able to use some detailed information that was sent in addition to the specific survey answers; however, we were able to use some of that information to expand on the brief answers to the questions. The data are presented in table format on the following pages. Readers are encouraged to use the web information and contact points to gain additional insight on the products, services and capabilities of a company of interest.

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COMPANY	STANDARD CONNECTOR TYPES	SPECIAL CONNECTORS	RAW CABLE MANUFACTURING	
Aeroflex/Weinschel	Planar Crown® and Planar Blind-mate® systems, which are compatible with N, TNC, GPC-7, 3.5 mm, 2.92 mm and 2.4 mm series	Planar Crown® and Planar Blind-mate® allow connector interfaces to be changed for custom applications or for damage replacement	Do not manufacture cable	
Aliner	MMCX, MCX, SSMB, SSMA, MC card, SMP, SMA, QMA, SMB, SMC, TNC, BNC, N	MMCX switch connector, MCII, SSMCX, board-to-board connectors, ACX board-to-board	Do not manufacture cable	
Amphenol RF	MMCX, AMC, MCX, QN, SMP, SMB, SMC, SMA, 1.0/2.3, QMA, FAKRA, BNC, TNC, Mini BNC, Twin BNC, Triax, UHF, Mini UHF, N, F, 7/16	SMP, AFI, QMA, FAKRA, AMC	Yes, please visit www.amphenol.com	
Anritsu	K series (2.92 mm), V series (1.85 mm), W1 Connector (1 mm)	Over 300 special or custom designed connectors	Do not manufacture cable	
Applied Engineering Products, a Radiall company	SMA, SMB, SMC, SLB, SSMB, SSMC, SSLB, SSMA, MCX, 75 Ω MCX, MMCX, 75 Ω Snap-on, 75 Ω Screw-on, BNC, TNC, N, adapters between series and over 100 styles of MIL-PRF-39012 QPL connectors	Water-proof and weather-tight, special leg configurations for PCBs, special plating and finishes, custom contact configurations, special cable types, connectors with internal functions like switches, unique captivation, reverse polarity, special testing	Do not manufacture cable	
Astrolab Inc.	N, SMA, SMP, SMPM, TNC, ATNC, 3.5 mm, 2.9 mm, 2.4 mm, 1.85 mm, BNC, 7 mm, 7/16, BMA, TK, SC, HN, M39029 coax contacts – in various forms such as straight, right angle, swept bend, bulkhead and flanged	SMA designs up to 27.5 GHz, SSMA designs up to 40 GHz, low IM space qualified TNC, multipaction resistant designs, Flouraloy dielectric, M39029 contacts up to 12 GHz, phase shifter/line stretchers up to 26.5 GHz, HF hermetically sealed	0.041 to 0.310 diameter from 70% VP to 82% VP, semi-rigid to highly flexible with capability up to 90 GHz	
Atlantic Microwave	SMA, SMP, SSMP, 2.9 mm, 2.4 mm, 1.85 mm, N, TNC, BNC, MCX, MMCX, SMB, SMC	Special body lengths, special PCB connections, moisture ingress protection, special cable types	Semi-rigid, copper, aluminum, tin-plated, reformable, flexible, composite, commercial RG-types, bulk and assemblies, telecommunications, Satcom, cellular, base station, industrial	
Aviel Electronics, Div. of RF Indus	low PI	ial designs for non-standard types such as hermetically M, polarized special interface for compliance with FCC nate, hermetic right angle, 45°, custom make to order o	C 15.203,	
Belden Inc.	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors	Mil-Spec RG type coax for high frequency applications as well as $50~\Omega$ antenna coax for wireless communications applications including base stations, wireless LANs and other in-building wireless applications	
BTC Electronics Inc.	BMB, BNC, C, G874, GHV, HN, LC/LT, MCX, MHV, MMCX, MQD, N, QDS, QMA, SC, SMA, SMB, SMC, TNC, TPS, TRB, TW34, TWBNC, UHF, 1.0/2.3, 7/16	Special connector configurations to customer's drawing	Do not manufacture cable	
Cable Experts Inc.	No standard connector products	No special connectors	Do not manufacture cable	
CE Precision Assemblies Inc.	600 r	Special designs for specific customer problems such as W version of the SMP connector. The company also be adiation hardened connectors, high temperature and h wer connectors as well as low IM and waveguide conne	ouilds igh	
Coax Co. Ltd.	SMA, SSMA, N, TNC, BNC	SMA and SSMA for 0.013" (0.33 mm) diameter cable	Semi-rigid from 0.013" to 0.379" and impedances from 7 to 122 Ω. Combinations of materials such as: niobium, cupronickel, stainless steel, beryllium copper, etc. PTFE, PFA, PE dielectric cables, triaxial cables, aluminum jacketed cables	
Compel Group	1.0/2.3 and 1.6/5.6 – 50 or 75 Ω, SMA, SMB, SMC, BMA, SMP, MMCX, MCX, N, 7/16, BT-43, DIN41612, PCMCIA, BNC, Metric 2.0 & 2.5, D-SUB, adapters, terminations and dust covers, singlemode and multimode optical connectors	Special designs are available using a wide variety of materials and processes	Do not manufacture cable but does re-sell under some circumstances	
Connectronics	All connector series from MMCX through 7/16 sizes, between series adapters, trin-ax/triax, coax contacts (arianc type), 50 Ω and 75 Ω connectors	Custom connectors, machined components and value added brazing/assembly work	Do not manufacture cable	
Corning Gilbert Inc.	GPO (DC to 26.5 GHz), GPPO (DC to 65 GHz), GMS (DC to 23 GHz)	Custom versions of the GPO, GPPO and GMS design for backplane mounting, waveguide launches and group mating configurations	ns Do not manufacture cable	
Delta Electronics Mfg. Corp.	N, 7/16, SMA, 27 GHz SMAs, SMK, SMP, MMCX/MCX TNC/BNC, L.0/2.3, MHV, C, HN, QDS, G874, YPS, TRB, LC/LT, Mil-PRF-30912 & Mil-PRF-55339	QDS, slide-on, BMA, pressmounts, Mini QDS, G874	4 Do not manufacture cable	
Deutsch Advanced Interconnect	DPP series of connectors in N and SMA configurations with push-pull coupling, 7/16, circular multi-pin blind mate, environmental power connectors, fiber optic	Custom connectors for special environmental interface,	es Do not manufacture cable	
Dynawave Inc.	SMA, SSMA, SMB, SMC, MCX, MMCX, BMA, BMA miniature, SMP, SMPM, SMPSM, SMT, 2.4 mm, 2.92 mm, 3.5 mm, 7 mm, N, TNC, SC, HN, BNC, 7/1	Custom designs for cables, field replaceable, PCB mount, edge mount, hermetic connectors and seals, tabbed contact, adapters	Semi-rigid and flexible as well as custom designs	
Electronika International Inc.	BNC, TNC, FME, SMB, SMC, UHF, 3.5 mm, SMA, N, MMCX, MCX, LC, GR874	Special testing and matching	Do not manufacture cable	
ESM Cable Corp.	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture cable	
EZ Form Cable Corp.	MCX, MMCX, BMA, SMA, SMB, SMC, N, TNC, BNC, SSMA, SSMB, 7/16, DSB	EZ Quick-Connect™ plng (SMA compatible), standard series to stripline and microstrip transitions standard series for low loss and custom cables	Semi-rigid cable from 0.020 to 0.325 inch in copper or aluminum at impedances from 25 to 100 Ω . Custom cables from special materials, flexible cable such as EZConformable in diameters from 0.034 to 0.250 inch at 50 and 75 Ω , EZFlex 401, 402 and 405 flex	
Flexco Microwave Inc.	LC, LT, GPO, BNC, EIA, HN, precision N, precision SMA, SC, SMC and TNC	Special connectors for use on cable assemblies such as GPPO, SSMA and ZMA types	Custom cable is manufactured for use in Flexco cable assemblies	

Cable Assemblies	Unique Products	Web site and Contact Information
Do not manufacture cable assemblies	US and international patents on both Planar Crown® and Planar Blind-Mate® systems	www.aeroflex-weinschel.com Technical: Jimmy Dholoo, Sales: Thomas Steidel, sales@aeroflex-weinschel.com
General purpose and military for RG178, RG174, RG316, Filotex, LMR, Belden, flexible, semi-rigid	Specials and cable assemblies	www.aliner.com.tw Technical: Victor Chou, victor@aliner.com.tw
Flexible, semi-rigid, conformable, harnesses, phased matched, time delay	AFI Interface to compensate for axial and radial misalignment, which is available in both 50 and 75 Ω	www.amphenolrf.com Technical: Owen Barthelmes 203-796-2133, obarthelmes@amphenolrf.co Sales: Greg Straiton 203-796-2079, gstraiton@amphenolrf.com
Cable assemblies with APC, N, K, V and W1 connectors, mostly semi-rigid. Test cables both armored, semi-rigid and flexible	The new W1 connector, which can be used up to $250^{\circ}\mathrm{C},$ VP series Blind Mate up to $65~\mathrm{GHz}$	www.us.anritsu.com 1-800-Anritsu
Flexible, conformable, semi-rigid, phase matched and delay lines	SLB/SA patented self aligning PCB to PCB system	www.aepconnectors.com, Technical: Joe Mastriano at jmastriano@aep.us, Sales: Dennis Flanders at dflanders@aepconnectors.com, General: sales@aepconnectors.com
Mini-bend flexible, convoluted semi-rigid for superconducting temperatures down to 4°K, high flexcables for gimbles and phase stable cables up to 60 GHz	Mini-bend cable assemblies, ever-flex cable and the Cobra-flex line	www.astrolab.com Mary Ceres 732-560-9570
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible, semi-rigid, phase stable, phase matched, high temperature	Ultra flexible high frequency, reformable, semi-rigid and flexible test cable are in stock	Joanna Bolton www.atlanticmicrowave.co.uk
Both standard and non-standard types, phase matched, semi-rigid, general purpose, commercial and military	Special fabrication for unique customer applications	www.avielelectronics.com Jack Kaufman 702-739-8155, avielconn@aol.com
Do not manufacture cable assemblies	Conformable™ coax for semi-flexible replacement of rigid-coax	www.belden.com Technical Support: 1-800-belden1
Do not manufacture cable assemblies	Special configurations and quick samples	www.btcelectronies.com Technical: Robert Barnett at rbarnett@btcelectronies.com, Sales: Audra Starling at astarling@btcelectronies.com, 800-526-282
A large array of RF cable assemblies	CXP1318FX series, low loss RG8/U assemblies	www.cablexperts.com – Marc Abramson, Chuck Abramson
A wide range of custom cable assemblies including build-to-print and custom standard and low loss assemblies from DC to 65 GHz with limited capability to 110 GHz. Cable assemblies are available from commercial grade to space qualified, radiation hardened	All products are unique to the individual customer's requirements. Many are not available for export without government permission	www.cepainc.com, Technical: Henry Richards 480-940-0740 x222, hrichards@cepainc.co Sales: Kathy Kennard x219, kkennard@cepainc.com
Semi-rigid, low temperature (cryogenies), superconducting, high temperature, medical, telecom, commercial, laboratory and test, electromagnetic probe	Small diameter cables using materials mentioned, polymide dielectric cable, semi-rigid probe cable using phosphor bronze or oxygen free copper. Soldering connector attachment on niobium and stainless steel is a unique technique	www.coax.co.jp/english/index.html Contacts: USA: Mike Cahill, Pete Alfano 978-456-9184 or 9186 info@responsemicrowave.com. Outside of USA: Satoshi Tanabe +81-15-572-3300, stanabe@coax.co.jp
Coaxial, multi-pin, fiber optic, semi-rigid, conformable, corrugated, flexible, multi-strand for commercial, military, laboratory and medical applications	Most comprehensive line of 1.0/2.3 connectors, adapters and cable assemblies. Patented plastic flange 7/16 (available in pms colors)	www.compel.it or www.responsemicrowave.com Contact: Peter Alfano 978-458-9186 or 9184 info@responsemicrowave.com
Do not make cable assemblies	One of the largest "private label" manufacturers specializing in custom-designed, obsolete and/or hard to find connectors. All products manufactured in the USA.	www.connectronicsinc.com Technical: John Barnes at johnb@connectronicsinc.com Sales: Michael Brewer at sales@connectronicsinc.com Phone: 812-526-8801; Fax: 812-526-9333
Laboratory and test, general purpose, semi-rigid, flexible	The GPO and GPPO push-on interconnects were created by Gilbert and are patented	www.corning.com/corninggilbert Technical and Customer Service (US and Canada): 800-651-8869 (International): (01)623-845-5613, push-info@corning.com
Do not make cable assemblies	Heli-grip, QDS, mini QDS, G874	www.deltarf.com Corinne Rose (Application Specialist), crose@deltarf.com and Terry Hannan, thannan@deltarf.com
Laboratory and test for push-pull N and SMA, assemblies to customer specs, test jumper cables with DPP on both ends	DPP series is unique as it does not require a special receptacle	www.deutschai.com Chief Engineer is Bryan Harrington, Customer Service Manager is Clyde Farren, Sales & Marketing is Ted Linder 909-791-2600, Fax: 909-791-2611
Instrumentation, laboratory and test, semi-rigid, formable, flexible, delay lines, phase stable, phase matched, low IM, high power, rigid	Internal R&D	www.dynawave.com Brian Nothum 978-469-0555, bnothum@dynawave.com
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible, semi-flexible, phase matched sets	Quick delivery on flexible specials	www.electronikainc.com Contact: Rick Modi at modi@electronikainc.com
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible, rigid, semi-rigid, phase stable, phase matched, high temperature	Specializing in RF and high frequency	www.esmcablecorp.com Greg Garno or David Doo at 209-892-3347
Custom cable assemblies using all of the EZ Form cables	EZ Quick-Connect™ is patented	www.ezform.com Technical: Tom Ricard at tricard@ezform.com Sales: Jeff Buccitti at jbuccitti@ezform.com
Cable assemblies using Flexco cable for commercial, test and military with emphasis on assemblies with very low phase and amplitude changes during flexure. See next column.	Flexco's cable assemblies are unique due to a combination of connectors and special cables with a wide range of jackets, braids and protective armoring. These are extremely rugged, while providing excellent phase and amplitude stability	www.flexcomw.com Bill Bright, Larry Cagno and Dan Beene at 908-850-5800 or dbeene@flexcomw.com

COMPANY	STANDARD CONNECTOR TYPES	SPECIAL CONNECTORS	RAW CABLE MANUFACTURING
Florida RF Labs Inc.	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture cable
Florida RS Technology	SMA, TNC and N with special strain relief	Special SMAs in plug, jack and bulkhead	Do not manufacture cable
Gigalane Co. Ltd.	2.4 mm, 2.92 mm, SMA, high performance SMA, SMB, MCX, MMCX, N, GPO	Customer specific designs are available	RG cable types, semi-rigid and special types
Harbour Industries	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors 2	0 types of MIL-C-17 QPL approved RG cables, SB strip braid, CN
narbour moustries	Do not manufacture connectors	con	nmunication network, LL low loss, SS spiral strip, SC sureform, HPF
			erformance foam, HIS high strength, TRX triaxial, LN low noise, plenum
Haverhill Cable and Manufactu	Do not manufacture standard connectors	0.141 and 0.086" low loss male connectors available	semi-rigid, bare and tin plated copper, tin plated aluminum ultra-hand formable, low loss available in most sizes, flexible coax
HoSung Technics Co. Ltd.	MMCX, MCX, SMA, SMB, SMC, BNC, TNC, N, 7/16 DIN, adap	oters Special products as requested	Do not manufacture cable
Huber + Suhner	1.0/2.3, 7/16, BMA, BNC, BNO, BNT,	Custom MMBX, SUHNER QUICK-FIT,	Standard RG types (58, 174, etc.), low loss RF cables,
	MCX, MHV, MMBX, MMCX, N, PC2.4, PC3.5, PC7, QLA, QMA, QN, SHV, SK, SMA,	ARC series for automotive applications, quick lock connectors	high temperature and flame-retardant, low noise for test applications, triaxial, twisted pair,
	precision SMA, SMB, SMC, SMS, TNC, adapters	and adapters, phase trimmers	multiple cables in the same jacket, radiation hardened
IMS Connector Systems GmbH	SMA, SMB, SMC, SMS, SSMB nano, SMP, SMM, MMCX, MCX, coaxial inserts DIN 41612,	QLS (quick lock, alternative to SMA connectors) SnapN (backwards compatible with N connectors),	Do not manufacture cable
	coaxial inserts sub-D, high power inserts, FME, BNC, TNC, N		
	7/16, 1.6/5.6, SMBA (FAKRA Std.), antenna switches		
Ingun Pruefmittelbau	Spring-loaded test probes for test and measurement applications, contact solutions for MCX, BMA, MMCX, SMA	Customized designs for all connectors are available on request	Do not manufacture cable, but do distribute it
	SMD, BMC, SMC, TNC, FAKFRA	1	
Insulated Wire Inc.	SMA, TNC, N, SC, 1.85 mm,		Over 150 types ranging in size from 0.050 to 0.500" with impedances
	2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, 3.5 mm, 7 mm	multi-pin contacts, custom flange mounts, special interface connectors	from 10 to $125~\Omega$. A wide variety of outer braids, shields and jacket materials. Multiple cables in common jackets and
		<u> </u>	armored types as well as semi-rigid and reflex cables
Isotec	SMA, SSMA, SMB, SMZ, SSMB, SMC, SSMC, BNC, TNC,	Slide-on, waterproof, special leg or board,	Do not manufacture cable
	MCX, MMCX, N, 7/16 DIN, field replaceable SMA, reverse polarity and reverse thread, adapters	cable types	
Jyebao Co.	SMA, K, SMB, SSMB, SMP, FME, 7/16, SMC,	Custom designs can be made	Semi-rigid and flexible, 0.034, 0.047, 0.085
	MMCX, MCX, BNC, TNC, N, HN, C, SC, SHV, MHV, plus reverse polarity versions		and 0.141" with various platings
Vines Electronics	10 KV, 20 KV, 7-16, BNC, C, HN, K-loc, MHV, N, RCA, SC,	Custom designs for outtomer requirements	Do not manufacture coble
Kings Electronics	SHV, SMA, SMZ, TNC, UHF, MDB, SDB, Twin BNC,	Custom designs for customer requirements and unique applications	Do not manufacture cable
	TRB, TRT, Tri-Loc HDTV camera connectors, audio jacks and jackfields, audio patch plugs, video jacks and		
	jackfields, video patch plugs and patch cord assemblies		
M/A-COM (Tyco)		MTNC - A multipactor free variant of TNC for high pow	
	SMB, SMC, TR, TNC, BNC, GPO, GPPO, MCX, OSSP, OSP, MMCX, ETNC, N, 7 mm, SC, C, 7/16 IEC,	space applications, size 8 and 12 contacts for low loss, low VSWR, high frequency performance	a variety of materials. Military airborne, space satellite, mobile mast, general lab, gimble, lightweight
	HN, LC, LT, MLT, 7/8 EIA, 1 5/8 EIA (types N, TNC and 7/16 IEC available with low PIM), 3 1/8 EIA	for MIL-C-87104 and MIL-T-81490 in standard MIL-C-38999 housings, SL family of connectors	military, commercial aircraft, kapton and halogen free. Custom designs available.
Maury Microwave	1.85, 2.4, 2.92, 3.5, QT3.5, 7 mm, MPC8, N, TNC, BNC,	3, ,	<u> </u>
maury microwave	HN, SC, C, LCP/OSP, 14 mm, 7-16, precision	configurations, improved LCP/OSP for high repeatabili	
	and high precision grades, 75 Ω N and BNC		
MegaPhase Inc.	Do not manufacture connectors	Special adapters for test applications	GrooveTube™ coaxial cable but do not sell raw cable
		r	
Meggitt Safety Systems	SMA, TNC, ETCN, N, 2.4, 2.92, 3.5, GPO, SMP, SC	Custom high frequency e.g. 50 GHz 2.9 mm, special	
		military e.g. multiport, extreme environment e.g. non- magnetic, high temperature e.g. special alloy	-
Micro-Coax Inc.	Manufacture connectors to support	Special connectors for multi-paction sensitive	Semi-rigid, aluminum jacketed, hand-formable-tin
	in-house cable assembly business only	applications and low PIM requirements	dipped, low loss and ultra-low loss flexible,
			miniature low loss, ultralight flexible
Micro-Mode Inc.	MSMA compatible to SMA 2.92, MBMB compatible to BMB, MMSP compatible	Special applications with interface to SSMA, BMA, 2.4 SMC and TNC as well as customer interfaces	4, Do not manufacture cable
	to SMP, MSSP compatible to MSMP, MSSS TM MM4S, TNC, SMA, SSMA, 2.92, 2.4, SMP, SMPM		
Missorback I /Divides		Special SMAs for Love 1 0.0478 1:	Do not manufacture while has de dies de cere
Microstock Inc. (Distributor)	SMA, SMB, SMC, MCX, MMCX, MMBX, 3.5 mm, 2.9 mm, 2.4 mm, 1.85 mm, BMA, QMA, SHV, MHV,		Do not manufacture cable, but do distribute it
	N, 7/16, 1.0/2.3, 1.6/5.6, 4.1/9.5, TNC, BNC, UHF, plus between series adapters	special SMA for 25 Ω 0.090 diam. cables such as UT-90-25 and UT-90-25-TP	
Microwave Distributors	SMA, SMB, SMC, CMS, SSMA, SSMB, SSMC,	Specials and custom products	Semi-rigid (SNAKE and hand-formable)
Co. (Midisco)	MMCX, N, UHF, C, HN, 7/16 and others	with reasonable minimum lot sizes	(Ultra-Flex) as well as distribution
			of cable from other manufacturers
Midwest Microwave, Emerson Network Power	SMA, SSMA, SMM, BNC, TNC, TNC-A, N, BMA, QPL, 7 mm, 3.5 mm, SC, HN, SMB, SMC,	Engineering and design support for specials with our sister division, Johnson Components	Do not manufacture cable
Connectivity Solutions	2.9 mm, BSAs and in-series adapters	See See See See See See See See Se	
Mini-Circuits	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture cable

Cable Assemblies	Unique Products	Web site and Contact Information
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible, semi-rigid, hand formable, phase stable, phase matched, high temperature, space level and custom	Lab-Flex™ cables DC to 46 GHz with 2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, 3.5 mm SMA, precision type N & TNC as well as low cost assemblies for specific frequency ranges with 40% lower loss and shielding greater than 90 dB	www.rflabs.com Jim Walker 772-286-9300 or jwalker@rflabs.com
40 GHz test cables, low loss assemblies, semi-rigid configurations, Flex cables both standard and armored, sizes from 0.019 to 2 inches in diameter	Many of our assemblies are made on patented production equipment	www.flrst.com Technical: Tim Spacek & Al Ragl, Sales: Sandy Struthers, 772-221-8188
Low loss assemblies up to 40 GHz, semi-rigid and semi-flexible types, RG types	VEREND high performance and launch connector	www.gigalane.com Richard Song at sales@gigalane.com
Source of cable for many cable assembly houses	Many of the specialty cables incorporate proprietary materials and processes	www.harbourind.com John D. Palasciano at jpalasciano@harbourind.com
Semi-rigid and flexible cable assemblies, phase matched, custom bending available, special low loss assemblies available, custom designed delay lines	EZ Bend II, tin plated aluminum, ultra-light ultra formable semi-rigid	www.haverhillcable.com Sales: joshk@haverhillcable.com; susank@haverhillcable.com Technical: tomk@haverhillcable.com Phone: 978-372-6386; Fax: 978-374-5943
Flexible, semi-rigid and jumper cables	Quick delivery on specials within one week	www.hstcns.com – Anthony Ham at 82-32-683-8007 x216
Flexible RF, form stable, semi-rigid, hand formable, flexible MW	MMBX board-to-board, Sucoflex, TM LSFH (low smoke halogen free), enviroflex cables, low noise cables, triaxial, twisted pair (up to $100~\Omega$)	www.hubersuhner.com Local sales offices in 60 countries
Semi-rigid, semi-flexible, flexible, corrugated, coilcord, GPS cable, GSM cable, FAKRA cable	Press-fit and press-in as well as MIM manufacturing technology, miniature antenna switches and quick lock connectors	www.imses.com Sales: Chris Hoy (UK) 0044/2392 75 00 11 sales@imses.com
Do not manufacture cable assemblies, but do distribute them	Benefit from our unique solution, which builds up a perfect unit and covers the complete measurement section from the UUT through to the test system	www.ingun.com Local sales offices in over 35 countries
Low loss cable assemblies up to 65 GHz, general purpose and laboratory, medical and military applications	Proprietary dielectric of laminated, expanded or full density PTFE. Dielectric constant can be tailored anywhere from 1.3 to 2.0. Patented connector design for full captivation on large cables up to 18 GHz	www.iw-microwave.com Cable assemblies: 203-791-1999 or iwsales@iw.com Raw cable: 631-981-7424 or iw-microwave.com
Flexible, semi-rigid, semi-flex, corrugated UFL cable general purpose, commercial, phase matched, delay lines		www.isoconnector.com Edward Lee at 408-351-3450, isotec@unitel.com.kr
RG types, Japanese types, semi-rigid, handbendable, low loss, phase matched	Almost the only manufacturer of semi-rigid cable in Southeast Asia. Standard connectors are stocked and can be shipped within one week	www.jyebao.com.tw Jyebao Sales – pol-heyns@jyebao.com.tw
Video patch cord assemblies and custom cable assemblies for special applications such as high voltage test lab	Several patented designs including the industry leading Tri-Loc camera connectors	www.KingsElectronics.com Technical: 803-909-5086 or SUPPORT@KingsElectronics.com Sales: 803-909-5500 or KINGSINFO@KingsElecronics.com
Laboratory, general purpose, airborne EW, phase stable, phase and amplitude matched, small diameter, radiation resistant, cable sets with interchangeable ends and replaceable heads, high shock for launch vehicles, space qualified	All products designed and produced in-house	www.macom.com, Technical: Ray Schwartz at 978-442-5487 schwartz@tycoelectronics.com. Sales (Americas): 800-366-2266, (Europe, Middle East, Africa): 44 (1908) 574200, (Asia/Pacific): 81-44-844-8296
Semi-rigid assemblies in general purpose type N as well as precision 2.4 mm, 3.5 mm, SMA, 7 mm, and N in 0.25, 0.141 and 0.085" diameter cables. Test port adapters and between series adapters as well as test cable kits	Quick test connectors and assemblies	www.maurymw.com/mmc_catalog/mmccatalog.htm Technical: Brian Wolf at bwolf@maurymw.com Domestic Sales: Shawna Johnson at sjohnson@maurymw.com Int'l Sales: Anita Luther at aluther@maurymw.com
Flexible and semi-rigid assemblies for test and system cable applications from 2 to 65 GHz. There are five product lines for test and measurement and eight product lines for system and general purpose cables	GrooveTube™ is unique to MegaPhase	www.megaphase.com Technical: Bob Fisher at 570-424-8400, bfisher@megaphase.co Sales: Joe Carbonara at 570-424-8400, sales@megaphase.com
Semi-rigid silicon dioxide dielectric cables and assemblies – phase stable from near OK to 2400 F, phase matched, high temperature, harsh environments and precision configured assemblies	Meggitt is the only company to produce space qualified ${\rm SiO_2}$ cables and assemblies	www.stablecable.com Cyril Berg at 805-584-4100, cberg@safetysystem.com
Test, general purpose, flexible, semi-rigid, phase stable, phase matched, high temperature, low loss, ultralight, space qualified	Flexible Ultralight UTiFLEX cable assemblies using DuPont's ARACON™ metal clad fibers	www.micro-coax.com Sales: Bruce Ash at 610-495-4225 Technical: John Lewis at 610-495-4326
Flexible, semi-rigid and rigid phase matched assemblies	$\rm MSSS^{TM}$ series, which is 20% smaller than MSMP and 40% smaller than SMP. Over 500,000 parts produced	www.micromode.com Technical: Mark Perry 619-449-3844 x25, mperry@micromode.co Sales: Brian Peckham 619-449-3844 x46, brian@micromode.co
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible RG, semi-rigid formed to specification, phase stable, low loss rigid assemblies	No unique products	www.microstock-inc.com Technical contact: Dr. Bob Schafer, Sales: Scott Frobese, micrstok@ix.netcom.com, 215-699-0355
Standard RG cables, LMR,™ semi-rigid, ultra-flex, and phase stable assemblies	Unique configurations and combinations supported by a large inventory	www.microwavedistributors/idisco.net Technical: John Summerville, Sales: Mark Laurenti, instock@microwavedistributors.com
Test and measurement, general purpose, mil/aero applications, low loss, std. RG-type patch cords, semi-rigid and semi-flex, phase matched, delay lines	Flexform I and Flexform II are proprietary cable designs plus low loss and ultra low loss cables	www.midwest-microwave.com; www.emersonnetworkpower.com Contact: Ruth Fawson, 813-920-0170, ruth.fawson@emersonnetworkpower.com
Flexform I & II, production test cable assemblies featuring Emerson Network Power Johnson Brand Quick-Disconnect SMA		

COMPANY	Standard Connector Types	SPECIAL CONNECTORS	RAW CABLE MANUFACTURING	
Molex Inc.	MMCX, MCX, SMB, SMA, SMA field replaceable, SMP, 2.92, BNC, TNC, F, FAKRA, N, 7/16, between series adapters	Catalog derivative for special requirements such as: solderless edge mount, 45 degree SMB plugs, MCX custom coaxial headers	Do not manufacture cable	
New and Forever	Low cost standard RF connectors	No specials	Semi rigid in sizes from 0.047" through 0.250" in both copper and aluminum with various plating, center conductors and sedances. Hand-formable, tin soaked in sizes from 0.047" to 0.250". Custom semi-rigid	
Palco Connector	BMA, MNC, HN, MCX, MMCZ, N, SMA, SMB, SMC, SM SSMA, SSMB, TNC, full range of size 8 and size 12 coax con		Do not manufacture cable	
Radiall	BNC, BMA, coaxipack 2, coaxi-kit, DIN 1.02/2.3, DIN 1.6/ DTF, FME, FAKRA II, HN, mini UHF, microswitch, MC-C. MCX, MMCX, N, 7/16, PR, SMA, SSMA, SMB, SSMB, SM SMP, SMP commercial, SMB carlock, triax, twinax, TNC, UHF, USC	ARD, MiniQuick, non-magnetic MC, connectors, IMP, UMP, SNB lock	Low loss and ultra low loss raw cable	
RF Industries Inc.	RF Connector Division offers: BNC, 7/16 DIN, FME, F, N, SMA, SMB, mini SMB, TNC, UHF and mini UHF	Aviel Division designs and manufactures custom RF connectors including standard and custom interfaces, hermetically sealed, blind mate, special PCB footprint, miniature mating and non-magnetic	Do not manufacture cable	
RF TEC Mfg. Inc.	sp	Snap-on/Push-on Slide-on adapters for SMA, K adapters Push-on N adapters, special thin center pin SMA panel me plug and receptacle, reverse polarity SMA receptacle wit ecial flange, 18 mm connectors, torque reinforced screwed n for N and BNC receptacles, 1° long body 75 Ω SMB recep N bulkhead jack for 1.32 mm double shield coax	ount th center	
Rhophase Microwave Ltd.	No standard connector products	Custom connectors for special applications such as SMA 10 Ω for a laser application	Do not manufacture cable but are UK agents for Insulated Wire Inc., Harbour Industries Corp. and Haverhill Cable and Manufacturing Corp.	
Rosenberger Hochfrequenztechnik GmbH & Co. and Rosenberger of North America	No standard connector products	SMCC for surface-mount, custom products on request	Do not manufacture cable	
SGMC Microwave	1.85 mm, 2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, 3.5 mm, PGM, SSMA, SMA, SMB, SMC, SMM, TNC, N, 7 mm, ASSMA	Custom designs are available on request, including 1.0 mm (DC-110 GHz), 2.9 spark plug over 1-1/2" long, special straight and angle flange mounts, PCB mounts in many series	Do not manufacture cable	
Sabritec Inc.	SCX, Micro-D, SMP, SMPM, high frequency D-sub size 8 coax contacts	Custom designs are available on request	Do not manufacture cable	
San-tron Inc.	N, 7/16, SMA, BNC, TNC, C, HN, LC, MHV, SC, SHV, UHF, 1.0/2.3 3.5 mm, 2.92 mm, SMP and within and between series adapters	Extended insulators and contacts, custom flanges, custom cable sizes, custom designs based on standard interface designs	Do not manufacture cable	
Semflex Inc.	MCX, SMA, BMA, 3.5 mm, 2.9 mm, 2.4 mm, 1.85 mm, BNC, TNC, ETNC, N, 7 mm, SC, HN, 7/16 DIN, 7/8 EIA, 1 3/8 EIA, 1 5/8 EIA	High power/high temperature, environmental sealed, custom interfaces, push-on, blind-mate, phase trimmers	High performance 50 Ω , low loss, high power, low density PTFE dielectrics, RG cable types, communications cable, custom cable	
Sources East	SMA, SMB, SMC, SMK, SMP, SMZ, SSMA, SSMB, MC MMCX, BMA, BNC, TNC, N, 7-16 (L29), CCWX, DSB, DSD, ISMA, 2.92, SMB-75, SSMB-75, SMC-75, MCX-75, SMZ-75, SAA-75, TNC-75, BNC-75, reverse polarity SMA, MCX, TNC and BNC	X, Special connectors from modified standards with special pin length, shape or termination. Special housings and finishes	Do not manufacture cable	
Southwest Microwave Inc.	SMA, enhanced high temperature SMA, N, TNC, SSMA, OPS/BMA, 2.92 mm, 2.4 mm, 1.85 mm, adapters between series, end-launch adapters, field replaceable accessories, new SSMA to 40 GHz and SSMA-to-2.4 mm adapters to 50 GHz	Custom designs are available on request. Waveguide launchers, mechanical switch connectors, special flanges, longer lengths, custom probes, 50% of shipments are non-catalog specials	Do not manufacture cable	
Special Hermetic Products	Hermetic SMP (MIL-STD-348)	Modified SMPs for special interface mounting	Do not manufacture cable	
Spectrum Elektrotechnik GmbH		SPM (Spectrum power miniature), push-ons for 7/16, N, TNC, SMA and SMA reverse sex, SBX (Spectrum blind-mate X), SBY (Spectrum sub sub miniature push-on) phase adjustable connectors. New mitred angle airline connectors and adapters (MA2-line) to 63 GHz. New hermetically sealed connectors and adapters with venting holes for vacuum chamber test and space applications: N and TNC to 12.4 and 18 GHz and 2.9 mm to 40 GHz. High power adapters with venting h		
Spinner GmbH	7/16 (low PIM), N (low PIM), 4.1-9.5 (low PIM), TNC, BN N, HN, 1.6-5.6 EIA, between series adapters	IC, Custom 7/16 panel mount and EIA connectors with a coupling nut	Do not manufacture cable	
SRC Cables Inc.	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not make their own cable, custom designed cables are made for them	
SRI Connector Inc.	1.85 mm, 2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, 3.5 mm 7 mm, N, SMA, TNC, ZMA and between series adapters	Superites SMA right angle connectors with high performance, proprietary custom designs	Do not manufacture cable	
SSI Cable Corp.	Do not manufacture connectors	Stainless steel connectors made to their specifications and specials at customer request	0.093, 0.145, and 0.240" stainless steel cable in regular and low loss types as well as stainless steel jacket over copper outer conductor, PTFE or medium loss dielectric	

Cable Assemblies	Unique Products	Web site and Contact Information
Laboratory, test and general purpose applications using flexible, semi-rigid and triax cable	Solderless Edge Mount is a patented Molex design. Supplied in panels up to 30 BNC receptacles	www.molex.com Technical: Don Gould, Dwaine Robison Sales: Roger Kauffman 317-834-5600, rf@molex.com
Low loss, general purpose, flexible, semi rigid and hand-formable	No unique products	www.newandforever-usa.com On-line sales and service
Laboratory, test and general purpose in flexible, semi-rigid, omformable configurations. Phase stable, phase matched and delay lines	The PkZ contact is a patented design	www.palcoconnector.com Contact: Gregg Pollack at gpollack@palcoconnector.com Phone: 603-431-1414
Flexible RG, flexible low loss ECO friendly (zero halogen and sulphur), semi-rigid, handformable, corrugated (spiral and ringed), SHF ultra low loss for general purpose lab and test, outdoor and air frame or lightweight purposes	QMA and QN (quick lock formula), IMP, UMP, MMT and MMS are patented by Radiall	www.radiall.com Technical: info@radiall.com
General purpose flexible braided assemblies including high flexibility, low loss, plenum rated, fire retardant, rigid and semi-rigid	RF adapter kits for engineers and technicians, including the Unidapt universal adapter kit series. The Unidapt concept allows for the assembly of virtually any adapter combination using multiple interfaces on site for test and measurement applications	www.rfindustries.com Contact: rf@rfindustries.com or 800-233-1728, 858-549-6340
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible, semi-rigid, rigid, phase stable, phase matched, high temperature, 1.85 mm, 1.00 mm, push-on/snap-on	Snap-on and push-on SMA, push-on N up to 14 GHz, long sleeve thumbnut SMA, connectors for 1.32 mm and 0.8 mm cables for Hirose U.FL connectors and cable assemblies	www.rftec.com Contact: Kiyoshi Endo 770-251-2235 or k4st@rftec.com
Laboratory and test to 50 GHz, medical, defense, general purpose, flexible, semi-rigid, phase stable, phase matched	No unique products	www.rhophase.co.uk Technical: Byron Putt & Nick Lewis, Sales: Jodie Di-Orio & Bob Davis
Flexible, semi-flexible, semi-rigid, corrugated, UTIFLEX cable assemblies, test cables	SMCC-surface-mount coaxial connector is patented coax to planar technology	www.rosenberger.de Europe: Harry Rausch (+49 8684-180) info@rosenberger.d US: Rosenberger of North America: www.rosenbergerna.co Contact: Jihan Mohammed 717-290-5000 x231 jmohammed@rosenbergerna.com
Do not manufacture cable assemblies	Internally swept right angle bends in 2.4, 2.92 and SMA series, ASSMA series, which is intermediate with SSMA connectors up to 50 GHz and uses an air-dielectric interface. New 1.0 mm series extends the capability to 110 GHz	www.sgmcmicrowave.com President/Technical: Larry Herring Sales: Jim Riter Phone: 321-409-0509; Fax: 321-409-0510; Mobile: 973-224-4510
RG-316 flexible coax, RG-178 flexible coax, RG-405 semi-rigid, RG-402 semi-rigid, RG-58 flexible coax, SR.047 semi-rigid	SCX-Air dielectric interface	www.sabritec.com/catalogs/catalogdownload.htm Contact: Mike Carlson mearlson@sabritec.com
International provider of program specific cable assemblies	Reverse polarity types and unique 15 product line to meet FCC Part 15.203, customer focused factories for unique RF interconnect solutions	www.santron.com Technical: Fred Hull 978-356-1585, fred@santron.com, Sales: Chris Sanders, chris@santron.com
Test and measurement, phase or delay matched, semi-rigid and conformable, rigid air/dielectric electroform assemblies, custom splitters and power dividers, 1553 databus, custom harnesses and corrugated jumpers	High power KW series cable, lightweight RG+ series cable, rigid air dielectric electroform assemblies	www.semflex.com Technical: Robert Thiel Sales: Doug Hartje at doug.hartje@semflex.com
Flexible, semi-rigid, conformable, corrugated and other types	Wide variety with the ability to provide custom designs in small quantities	www.sourceseast.com Wayne Pittman at 408-374-1031, waynep@sourceseast.com
Semi-rigid and semi-flexible/conformable, field replaceable connectors, high-rel, high end for critical applications	All connectors are thermal tested, space qualified materials, high-rel, high temperature performance, lot control and material traceability, lead-free solder processing	www.southwestmicrowave.com Technical: Dusty Leavitt dusty@southwestmicrowave.com Bill Rosas, David Shaff 480-783-0201
Do not manufacture cable assemblies	Robust series for aluminum and kovar as well as other housing materials are covered by US patents or patents pending	www.shp-seals.com Technical: Jack Pollock jack@shp-seals.com Sales: Wendy Cheney wendy@shp-seals.com 603-654-2002, Fax: 603-654-2533
Flexible test and measurement, ruggedized, military, interconnect systems, power, commercial RG types, phase stable, hand formable, semi-rigid (0.034* to 0.50* diameter), radiation resistant, general purpose, new high power cable assemblies with vented connectors for vacuum test chamber and space applications	CNCA-700 cable cutting and stripping machine, push-on 7/16, N, SMA, TNC and SNX, SBY, SSPO and SPM are unique, new MA2-line and SA2-line angle air connectors, new hermetic glass beads	www.spectrum-et.com Peter Von Nordheim +49-89-3548-040 pvnordheim@compuserve.com
Corrugated cables for base stations and low IM test, braided general purpose, semi-rigid, phase stable, phase matched	Jumper cables for corrugated copper cables	www.spinner.de info@spinner.de
All types of cable assemblies	Proprietary coax types SRC-316, SRC-402SF & SRC-405SF	www.src-cables.com President: Dan Hirschnitz, dan@src-cables.com Sales Coordinator: Kathy Badger, kathy@src-cables.com
Do not make cable assemblies	Superite series	www.sriconnectorgage.com Mark Hiser 321-259-9688 hiser@sriconnectorgage.com
Semi-rigid (copper, stainless steel, aluminum), flexible, conformable, phase matched, delay lines, medium and low loss, wireless preps, wire harnesses, test, general purpose and cryogenic	Stainless steel cables are unique to SSI	www.ssicable.com Contacts: Bill Smith and Brek Sowers 360-426-5719, bsmith@ssicable.com

Company	STANDARD CONNECTOR TYPES	Special Connectors	RAW CABLE MANUFACTURING
Storm Products Inc.	SMA, TNC, N, precision N, 3.5 mm,	Custom designs for specific customer requirements	Semi-rigid, flexible, solid PTFE,
	2.4 mm, GPO, GPPO, GMS, 2.9 mm, 2.4 NMD		low loss low density PTFE, microporous and expanded PTFE, ePTFE tape and foil wrapping, flat and round wire braiding, textile braiding, low and high temperature extrusion, semi-rigid die sizing
SV Microwave Inc.	SMA, SSMA, BMA, BMMA, BMZ, BZ, ZMA, MCX, MMCX, SMP, SMPM, TNC, precision TNC, N, precision N, SMB, SMC, 1.85 mm, 2.4 mm, SVK, 2.92 mm, 3.5 mn 7 mm, C, SC, HN, 7-16, QDS, LC/LT, EIA, multi-contact assembli		Do not manufacture cable
Synergy Microwave	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture cable
Telegartner Inc.	BNC, TNC, UHF, mini-UHF, N, 7/16 DIN, 1.6/5.6 DIN, FME, SMA, SMB, SMC, SMS, SSMB, MCX, MMCX, ASMB	Custom designs as well as surge protectors (both gas for N and 7716, low PIM types, special connectors for corrugated and non-standard cables	and stub) Do not manufacture cable
Tensolite Inc.	SMA, SSMA, SMP, SSMP, SSMT BMA, 2.92 mm, 1.85 mm, MCX, MMCX, SMK, 1.85 mm, N, TNC, QBC, HDRFI, 7 mm, TK	HF connectors to 65 CHz, integrated connector block interface assemblies, TK connectors, QBC, HDRFI, custom angle designs	Mil-C-17, LLF series cable; 70%, 77%, 82% Vp
Thermax/CDT	Do not manufacture connectors	Do not manufacture connectors	MIL-C-17 cables, MaxForm hand formable, MaxFlex cables, high temperature, low loss cables with air expanded PTFE, seamless wrap PTFE tape dielectric cables
Times Microwave Systems	N, TNC, BNC, SMA, UHF, mini-UHF, 1.0/2.3 DIN, 7/16 DIN, 7/8 EIA, 7 mm, 3.5 mm, reverse polarity	Reverse polarity, self-locking, phase trimmed, non-solder (EZ)	Commercial, aerospace and shipboard high reliability RF & microwave
Trompeter Electronics Inc.	BNC, TNC, N (all 50 or 75 Ω), SMZ, F, mini-BNC (75 Ω), WECO and mini-WECO, TPS, TRB, TRT, TRS, TTM, TRC, TRN, TWBNC	Patching and distribution panels, custom designs, hermetic, radiation resistant, space rated to NASA Spec SP-R-022	Do not manufacture cable
TRU Corp.	2.4 mm, 2.92 mm, 3.5 mm, 7 mm, 7/16 DIN, MCX, MMCX, SMA, SMB, SMC, SMP, BMA, BMMA, BNC, N, TNC, ATNC, C, SC, HN, LC, LT, EIA, TRIAX	Custom high power/high voltage interfaces, polarized, environmental sealed, low PIM, precision adapters, swept high power right angle adapters	High performance, high power/temperature, flexible 50 Ω, low loss, low density PTFE dielectrics, RG cable types, cintru TM communication cable, general purpose RF/microwave
Vitelec Co.	BNC (50 & 75 Ω), insulated BNC, twin BNC, TNC, SMA, SMB, SMC, MCX, MMCX, N, N (high frequency), twinax, UHF, mini-UHF, FME, F, euro, adapters	Modifications of standard product as well as custom designs	Do not manufacture cable
Winchester Electronics	SMA, SMB, SMC, MCX, BNC, TNC, QMA, N, Combo D housings, size 8 contacts	$\begin{array}{c} \mbox{Quick Connect SMA}^{TM}, \mbox{Quick Connect N}^{TM}, \\ \mbox{customs to specifications} \end{array}$	Do not manufacture cable
W.L. Gore & Associates Inc.	7/16, N, TNC, TNCA, SMA, precision N, 7 mm, 3.5 mm, 2.92 mm, 2.4 mm, 1.85 mm, 1.0 mm, MCX, MMCX, BMA, BMMA, #8, #12, SMP, SMPM, adapters between series, blind mate adapters, PCB mount connectors	Special board mount footprints, custom cable connectors, replaceable interfaces	Broad capabilities including coaxial, RF/microwave, round, planar, ribbon, triaxial, and hybrid constructions, fiber optical, industrial, high flex

FREE online design tool for subscribers:

The Custom Cable Assembler

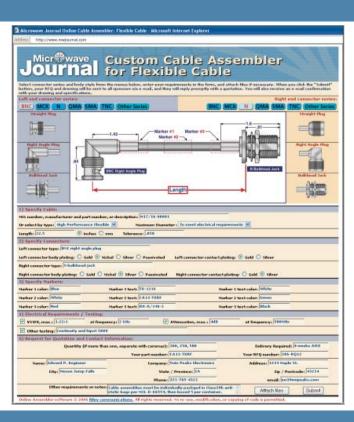
Design and specify flexible or semi-rigid cable assemblies online, and send your specs to multiple vendors for quotation.

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- The vendors get your form data and the drawing via e-mail, ensuring complete accuracy—you get a copy via e-mail as well.
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Cable Assemblies	Unique Products	Web site and Contact Information
Semi-rigid, flexible, general purpose, laboratory and test, military, communications, miniature low loss, phase stable, high-rel, thermal pre-conditioned	Phase Master® – exceptional phase stability with temperature, True Blue® – low loss with durability and value, Storm Flex™ – superior electrical performance, trouble free, durable, compact, Accu-Test® – calibration accuracy, repeatable phase measurement with flex	www.stormproducts.com/microwave Inside sales 888-347-8676
All types built to customer requirements	Custom blind-mate from DC-40 GHz multi blind-mate rack-and-panel types with reduced center-to-center dimensions, waterproof connectors (in both mated and unmated conditions)	www.svmicrowave.com Sales & Technical: 561-840-1800 sales@svmicrowave.com
General lab test high temperature DC-18 GHz flexible, semi-flexible and ultra-flex with SMA and Type N connectors	Specializes in RF/microwave and durable custom designs	www.synergymwave.com, Contact: Chi Man Shum 973-881-8800 x305, shum@synergymwave.com
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible, conformable, semi-rigid, low loss, high power corrugated, multi-core coax	SimFIX Plus $^{\rm TM}$ connectors and low PIM telealloy plating	www.telegartner.com Technical: Allen Ehredt Sales: Jim Ziebka 630-616-7600, sales@telegartner.com
Laboratory and test (Workhorse, Workhorse Plus, Workhorse Low Loss), general purpose (Mil-C flexible, BNC assembly), flexible (Q-flex, Q-flex Plus, 40 GHz flexible, 50 GHz flexible), rigid (copper tube), semi-rigid (0.035 to 0.250° copper and aluminum tube) phase stable and phase matched (flexible and semi-rigid)	QBC series for blind mating with standard series, Netflight [™] cables, UCCULITE [™] cables, Q-Flex [®] Semi-Flex [®] and Workhorse [®] cable assemblies, high density application cable assemblies such as HDSI [®] and HDSI-DP [®]	www.tensolite.com Contact: Mark Temple at mtemple@tensolite.com Phone: 866-282-4708 Fax: 562-494-0955
Do not manufacture cable assemblies	Thermax LTE expanded PTFE dielectric is proprietary as is seamless wrap PTFE dielectric and jackets	www.thermaxcdt.com Maria Neclerio 203-284-9610
Laboratory and test, general purpose, flexible, semi-rigid, phase stable, phase matched, high temperature	Miltech, blindmate, T-flex, stripflex, T-com, nu-trac, FlexRAD, testmate, phasetrack, LLSB, LSSB, and LMR cable and cable assemblies	www.timesmicrowave.com Technical: Joe Lanoue]lanoue@timesmicrowave.com Sales: Sue Reynolds sreynolds@timesmicrowave.com
1553 data buss and ground support, broadcast head-end patching, Teleo central office, medical MRI test, laboratory and test	Separable BNC connectors for PC mount, miniature normal-through patch jacks with true 75 Ω for HDTV performance	www.trompeter.com, Technical: Mark Borton 818-865-6534, mark.borton@trompeter.com, Sales: Dale Reed 818-865-6538, dale.reed@trompeter.com or sales@trompeter.com
High power/high voltage phase and amplitude matched, shipboard and aerospace, flexible, semi-rigid, corrugated and rigid line assemblies, general purpose, cintru™ broadband communication, customized cable/connector attachments	Quick-disconnect line (QD16, TM QDL, QDM, QDS, QRM, TM SQS TM), safety interlock interfaces, high temperature and frequency dielectric interfaces, solderless right angle cable attachments	www.trucorporation.com Brenda Wheeler, 978-532-0775
Semi-rigid, flexible (with or without data for telecoms, datacoms, wireless, test)	Gigaflex™ cable assemblies	www.vitelec.com.uk sales@vitelec.com.uk +44 (0) 1420 488661
General purpose, flexible, semi-rigid, phase matched, delay lines, wire harnesses	Quick Connect series for use with standard SMA and N jacks without compromising performance	www.winchesterelectronics.com Technical: Ron Ciecko 203-741-5484 Sales: Beth Beadle 203-741-5481
Flexible, laboratory and test, phase and amplitude stable, performance options through 110 GHz, ruggedized, general purpose, phase matched, high temperature, low loss, long length, high power, spaceflight, high density, airframe/vapor sealed	Performance to 110 GHz, precision test adapters, excellent phase and amplitude stability, low loss/long length assemblies, industry standard performance	www.gore.com/electronics 800-445-4673 or 302-292-5100 electronics.usa@wlgore.com





INTERMATEABILITY OF SMA, 3.5 MM AND 2.92 MM CONNECTORS

MA, 3.5 mm and 2.92 mm connectors make reliable, RF components and instrumentation possible. These seemingly mundane devices are the result of evolutionary and revolutionary design, covering a 40-year period and involving several corporations. In their present state, they represent highly evolved, well-defined interface systems.

It is not widely understood that these connector types are mechanically intermateable; meaning, SMA, 3.5 mm and 2.92 mm connectors, of good quality and in good condition, will inter-mate across connector families without damage. But what are the electrical ramifications of inter-mating of these connector types? Can they be used interchangeably without an appreciable difference in performance, that is, will a significant impedance discontinuity occur when mixing types? Were they intended to be inter-mated in the first place? To properly answer these questions calls for a brief examination of the history and motivations behind these connectors.

THE SMA CONNECTOR

The SMA connector first appeared in the late '50s as the "BRM," manufactured by the Bendix Scintilla Division. In the '60s it was popularized as the "OSM," manufactured by Omni Spectra. In 1968 it received the "SMA"

(Sub-miniature A) designation that we know today. The SMA connector uses a solid dielectric interface as opposed to an air dielectric. By definition, an air interface connector cannot have the designation "SMA." Performance is rated to 18 GHz, but higher frequency variants are available.

The SMA was designed as a miniaturized, economical connector for system application. It was never intended to be a precision connector for the laboratory. As it is only rated for 500 mate/de-mate operations, it was designed for use in semi-rigid cable assemblies and components not requiring frequent connect/disconnect.

THE 3.5 MM CONNECTOR

The 3.5 mm connector was the result of a joint venture in the early '70s between Hewlett Packard (now Aglient Technologies) and Amphenol. Hewlett Packard carried out the bulk of the development work and Amphenol manufactured the connector, dubbing it the "APC3.5" (Amphenol Precision Connector 3.5 mm). Hewlett Packard's design goals included the following:

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Strength, ruggedness, and reliability...supercharged! That's what you get when you choose Mini-Circuits ultra-flexible precision test cables. Engineered to be a workhorse for your day-to-day test operations, these triple shielded cable assemblies are qualified to at least 20,000 bends, employ an advanced strain relief system, and are equipped with passivated stainless steel connectors, so you can rely on them to flex, connect and disconnect over and over and over again! They're so rugged, each test cable is backed by our 6 month guarantee*! With low insertion loss and very good return loss, you can also rely on getting good performance over the wide DC-18 GHz band. Need them right away? Overnight shipment is available. So make Mini-Circuits your test cable connection! Mini-Circuits...we're redefining what VALUE is all about!

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Models	Type	(Ft.)	Midband	Midband	\$ ea.
Male to Male		. ,	Typ.	Typ.	Qty.(1-9)
CBL-1.5 FT-SMSM+	SMA	1.5	0.7	27	68.95
CBL-2FT-SMSM+	SMA	2	1.1	27	69.95
CBL-3FT-SMSM+	SMA	3	1.5	27	72.95
CBL-4FT-SMSM+	SMA	4	1.6	27	75.95
CBL-6FT-SMSM+	SMA	6	3.0	27	79.95
CBL-10FT-SMSM+	SMA	10	4.8	27	87.95
CBL-12FT-SMSM+	SMA	12	5.9	27	91.95
CBL-15FT-SMSM+	SMA	15	7.3	27	100.95
CBL-2FT-SMNM+	SMA to N-Type	2	1.1	27	99.95
CBL-3FT-SMNM+	SMA to N-Type	3	1.5	27	104.95
CBL-4FT-SMNM+ CBL-6FT-SMNM+	SMA to N-Type	4 6	1.6 3.0	27 27	112.95
CBL-0F1-SIVINIVI+ CBL-15FT-SMNM+	SMA to N-Type SMA to N-Type	15	7.3	27 27	114.95 156.95
	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *				
CBL-2FT-NMNM+	N-Type	2	1.1	27	102.95
CBL-3FT-NMNM+	N-Type	6	1.5	27	105.95
CBL-6FT-NMNM+ CBL-15FT-NMNM+	N-Type N-Type	15	3.0 7.3	27 27	112.95 164.95
CBL-13F1-NWINW+	N-Type	20	7.3 9.4	27	178.95
CBL-25FT-NMNM+	N-Type	25	11.7	27	199.95
Female to Male	14 Typo	20		21	100.00
	0144 5 +- 0144 1	4 0	4.5	07	00.05
CBL-3FT-SFSM+	SMA-F to SMA-N		1.5	27	93.95
CBL-2FT-SFNM+	SMA-F to N-M	2	1.1	27	119.95
CBL-3FT-SFNM+	SMA-F to N-M		1.5	27	124.95
CBL-6FT-SENM+	SMA-F to N-M	6	3.0	27	146 95

Frequency Range: DC-18 GHz, Impedance: 50 ohms



*Mini-Circuits will repair or replace your test cable at its option if the mo. connector attachment fails within six months of shipment. This guarantee GUARANTEE excludes cable or connector interface damage from misuse or abuse.





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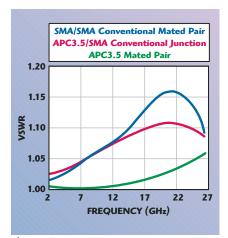
RF/IF MICROWAVE COMPONENTS

403 Rev I

- a durable interface that would extend the upper frequency capability of their devices to 26.5 GHz
- an interface allowing for thousands of repeatable connections, and one that would mate with popular SMA dimensions

The 3.5 mm connector is rated to 26.5 GHz, with a theoretical upper operating frequency of 34 GHz. It is specified to possess a minimum of 3000 mate/de-mate cycles per the IEEE P287/D3 standard (provisional).

The 3.5 mm connector was designed to be a precision interface for calibrated measurements of SMA-equipped devices—it was created as a test connector for the SMA. As a result, an SMA-to-3.5 mm interface produces better results electrically than an SMA-to-SMA interface. The



▲ Fig.1 A comparison of 3.5 mm, SMA and 3.5 mm-to-SMA mated interfaces (courtesy of Maury Microwave Inc.).

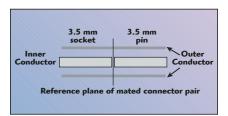
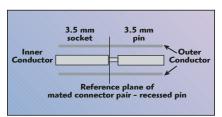


Fig. 2 Simplified cut-away diagram of a 3.5 mm mated pair.



▲ Fig. 3 Simplified cut-away diagram of a 3.5 mm connector pair displaying a gap at the reference plane.

reason is due to an air gap that is formed between the solid dielectric interfaces of a mated pair of SMA connectors, creating an impedance discontinuity (see *Figure 1*).

With this information, it can be seen that an SMA-to-3.5 mm mated interface, using good quality connectors, is an acceptable (and intended) practice where adverse electrical performance through 18 GHz should not be expected.

THE 2.92 MM CONNECTOR

The 2.92 mm geometry with an SMA mateable interface was developed to provide coaxial connector performance to 40 GHz. In the mid-70s, Maury Microwave introduced the MPC3 connector using the aforementioned 2.92 mm geometry. Without an abundance of available instrumentation operating at 40 GHz, it found little usage. In the early 1980s, Weinschel Engineering utilized this geometry in an engineering design under a Department of Defense (DoD) contract.

Simultaneously, Wiltron Co. began a program to produce instrumentation operating to 40 GHz, and would therefore use the 2.92 mm connector. The connector and instrumentation were introduced in 1983 by Wiltron (now Anritsu Corp.); the term "K-connector" was trademarked by Wiltron, making reference to the connector's frequency band of operation, the K-band. Intermateability with the SMA was not an original design objective for the 2.92 mm connector. The ability of these two connector types to inter-mate grew out of convenience; the 2.92 mm was based upon proven SMA geometry.

BASIC ASSUMPTIONS ESTABLISHED

Now that the basic relationship between these three connector types has been explained, characterizing the electrical performance of these connector types when inter-mated can be addressed. It has been established that a 3.5 mm-to-SMA mated interface is an acceptable and intended practice, per the 3.5 mm connector design. All that remains is to demonstrate the electrical performance of a 3.5 mm-to-2.92 mm mated interface and a 2.92 mm-to-SMA interface.

A FEW WORDS REGARDING WEAR

The premise of intermateability is predicated upon connectors that are in serviceable condition. Misaligned center contacts or contact heights out-of-spec, worn outer conductors—especially in SMA designs—invite damage and a reduction in performance. Mating interfaces must be inspected and cleaned regularly. Pin height gauges are not reserved for metrology-grade applications; they are a good idea for anyone working with these connector types in frequent mate/de-mate scenarios.

ELECTRICAL PERFORMANCE AT THE CONNECTOR INTERFACE

Across the SMA, 3.5 mm and 2.92 mm connector types, a governing factor in electrical and mechanical performance is center contact height—a measure of protrusion or recession of the center contact with respect to the connector reference plane. Depending upon whether the connector is a LPC (Laboratory Precision Connector)-based or GPC (General Precision Connector)based design, the center contact height has a prescribed allowable range; temperature and wear can impact variation within this range. Center contact height is a compromise between good mechanical performance, that is, non-destructive contact with its mating connector, and good electrical performance. But how does center contact height influence electrical performance?

A mated pair of 3.5 mm connectors is shown in *Figure 2* under ideal center contact height conditions. In other words, there is minimal gap or "zero gap" between the pin and socket center contact sections at the reference plane. Gap length is a direct result of contact height. This arrangement is considered ideal as it produces the smoothest impedance transition through the mated pair. However, it will not tolerate use over a range of temperatures; expansion at high temperatures may cause destructive mating to occur.

Figure 3 shows the same mated connector pair with the 3.5 mm pin in a recessed condition. In this exaggerated example, a gap is produced at the reference plane resulting in an inductive or high impedance section. The gap provides the necessary clear-



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▲ Fig. 4 The adapter/sliding load configuration (LPC grade 3.5 mm socket adapter indicated by red arrow).

ance for over-temperature use, but also introduces an impedance discontinuity. Although there are other areas of potential variation, connector center contact height variation plays a major role in defining interface electrical and mechanical performance. Goodquality 3.5 mm, 2.92 mm and SMA connectors—those whose interfaces are produced in accordance to the IEEE 287 (3.5 mm and 2.92 mm) and MIL-STD-348 (SMA) specifications—will have their critical dimensions constrained. These specifica-

tions/standards serve to support the practice of intermating these connector types. It is important to note that the IEEE 287 and MIL-STD-348 specifications address interface dimensions only; they do not touch upon design issues associated with a connector's "back end" or cable interface side. This issue is to be resolved by the manufacturer.

PERFORMANCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

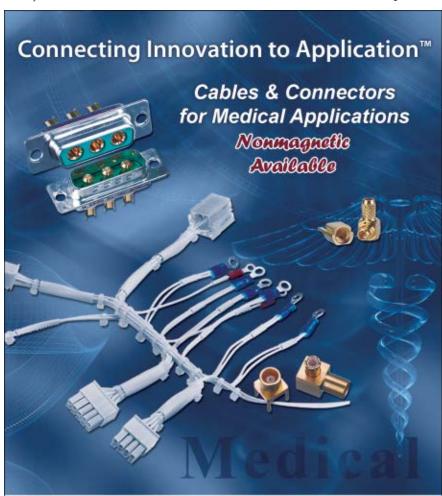
An experiment was devised to investigate the impact of center contact height (mated contact gap) variability on interface electrical performance within mixed mated pairs of connector types (3.5 mm-to-2.92 mm and 2.92 mm-to-SMA, for example).

To establish a reference, electrical performance vs. center contact height was examined using a mated pair of 3.5 mm connectors. Single-port VNA measurements through 26.5 GHz were made with LPC grade 3.5 mm connector adapters coupled to a 3.5 mm sliding load from an HP85052B 3.5 mm calibration kit. The adapter/sliding load arrangement is shown in *Figure 4*.

A sliding load was selected for two reasons: (1) it contains a sufficiently long $50~\Omega$ air line section that will facilitate gate placement for time domain gating operations used in the data analysis portion of the experiment; (2) the center contact height of the sliding load 3.5 mm interface is variable via an adjustment screw located at the rear of the sliding load. This allows for precise control of the gap between the 3.5 mm socket and 3.5 mm pin contacts when mated.

The experiment consists of the following steps:

- Using the mated pair of 3.5 mm connectors as an example, one end of the 3.5 mm LPC grade socket adapter was threaded into port 1 of the VNA
- Using a center contact height gauge, commonly called a pin height gauge, the sliding load interface-pin type was gauged and center contact height was adjusted to 0.0000 inches.
- The sliding load was then threaded onto the LPC 3.5 mm socket interface and tightened to the appropriate torque specification. The result is a 3.5 mm socket-to-pin mated interface





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- An S-parameter measurement was made of the 3.5 mm mated interface; the resulting S_{11} data was recorded for subsequent examination of the mated interface's VSWR and impedance. The sliding load was removed from the 3.5 mm socket interface and contact height was lowered by 0.001 inches, as measured with the contact height gauge
- Repeat Steps 3 and 4 up to a contact height of -0.005 inches; the negative sign indicates a recessed condition, i.e., a position below the connector reference plane

The above steps were repeated using a 2.92 mm-to-3.5 mm mated interface and an SMA-to-2.92 mm mated interface. In these instances, a sliding load equipped with a 2.92 mm pin type interface was used in place of the 3.5 mm sliding load. *Table 1* provides contact and dielectric height data (if applicable) for each mating socket interface type used in the experiment.

PERFORMANCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A rise in impedance occurs when terminating the mated interface pairs with a sliding load. This rise is due to a limitation inherent to the sliding load—the load's "cut-off frequency." The sliding load depicted in Figure 4 is recommended for use between 2.5 and 26.5 GHz. Below 1.8 GHz, the load displays an impedance of less than 50 Ω . At very low frequency, near DC, the sliding load is a short. This irregularity causes reflected impedance measurements to rise with time, and the VSWR to tend towards a value slightly above 1.00:1 as the frequency tends to zero (see **Appen**dix A). With this in mind, the impedance and VSWR data are accurate in that they faithfully portray the behavior of a mated pair interface under the noted load conditions.

VSWR: In all three mated interface combinations (3.5 mm-to-3.5 mm, 2.92 mm-to-3.5 mm and SMA-to-2.92 mm), the VSWR never exceeded 1.054:1 through 26.5 GHz, over the range of experimental center contact gaps. The 3.5 mm and 2.92 mm-to-3.5 mm mated interfaces produced very similar VSWR results over the range of gaps, having a nearly identical spread in maximum VSWR

values: 1.005:1 to 1.050:1 through 26.5 GHz. The SMA-to-2.92 mm mated interface produced a much tighter, but overall higher spread of maximum values: 1.038:1 to 1.054:1 through 26.5 GHz.

Impedance: Impedance was examined via a time domain step response. As expected, the mated interface impedance closely mirrored VSWR on all mated pair combinations. Out of the mated pair combinations tested, the 3.5 mm mated interface produced the most ideal response, having a nearly flat transition occurring at a contact gap of 0.12 mils (0.00012"). A close second in terms of ideal response was the 2.92 mm-to-3.5 mm mated interface, producing a similarly flat transition at a contact gap of 2.65 mils (0.00265"). In third place was the SMA-to-2.92 mm mated pair, providing its best impedance transition performance at a 1.50 mil (0.0015") contact gap. Additional details on the data collection and analysis appear in Appendix A.

In **Table 2**, the impedance values are corrected to 50 Ω to offset the

previously mentioned rise in impedance. The table summarizes performance when the termination consists of a broadband 50 Ω load as opposed to a sliding load.

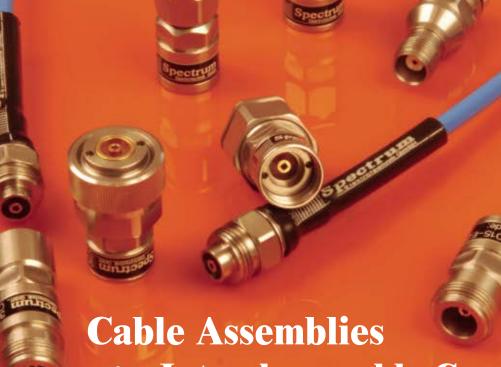
CONCLUSION

The experiment's purpose was to investigate the influence of center contact gap variations upon a mated pair's electrical performance; specifically, high frequency electrical performance. Gap variability was accomplished by varying the center contact height of one connector within the mated pair. By systematically changing the gap, real-life mated connector pair performance across mixed interface types was modeled. Although differences in performance were noted, no significant advantages or disadvantages in electrical performance were observed across the mixed interface mated pairs. In short, the inter-mixing of 3.5 mm, 2.92 mm and SMA interface types was not found to produce adverse performance and significantly different results when using connectors made by a reputable manufacturer.

TABLE I							
CONTACT HEIGHT AND DIELECTRIC HEIGHT							
Adapter Type	Manufacturer	Socket Contact Height*	Dielectric Height*				
3.5 mm LPC grade socket-to-socket	Agilent Technologies	-0.00012"	N/A				
2.92 mm GPC grade socket-to-socket	Agilent Technologies	-0.00065"	N/A				
SMA pin-to-socket	Suhner	-0.0015"	-0.0025"				
°negative sign indicates a recessed condition in relation to connector reference plane							

TABLE II IMPEDANCE VALUES		
3.5 mm	50.0 Ω	less than 0.1 Ω
2.92 mm-to-3.5 mm	50.0Ω	approximately $0.1~\Omega$
SMA-to-2.92 mm	50.1 Ω	0.2 Ω

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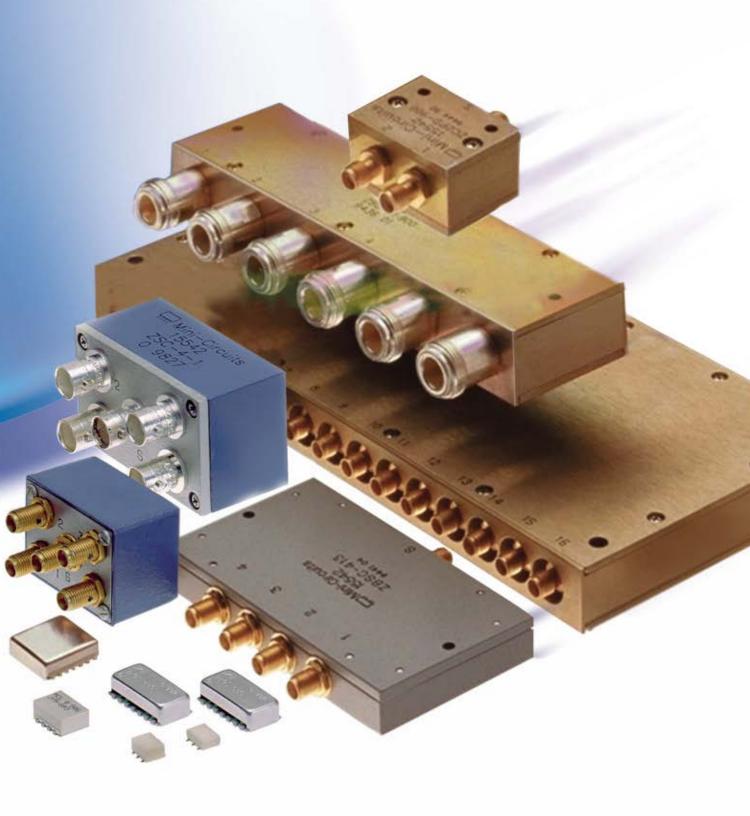


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The 3.5 mm and 2.92 mm-to-3.5 mm mated interfaces produced somewhat better results compared to the SMA-to-2.92 mm mated interface. However, these results are the product of tightly controlled contact heights; center contact heights on the order of -0.00012" are not the norm and are associated with costly, special purpose LPC connector types. The majority of applications employing

3.5 and 2.92 mm connectors utilize "test grade" versions of these connector types, that is, a grade of connector where center contact height is held at lower levels to accommodate frequent handling and use over temperature, thus wider mated center contact gaps will be encountered.

Test grade connectors can be made to comply with many of the IEEE 287 standards, but in specific areas, designers may choose to depart from these criteria for the sake of ease of manufacturing and/or cost concerns. In the end, the performance differences between these interface combinations are indeed very small even under controlled conditions. Under non-controlled conditions, such as those that prevail in all but the most demanding metrology applications, these differences become insignificant.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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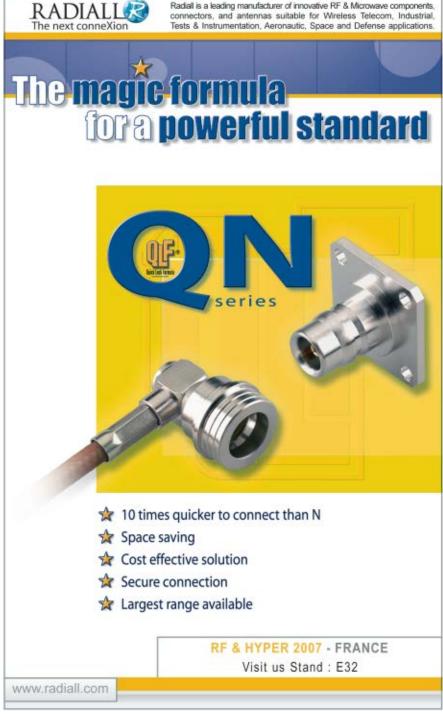
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Paul Pino received his BS degree in electrical engineering from the University of Delaware in 2000 after leaving a long career in the automotive industry. He joined W.L. Gore & Associates Inc. in 1999 and has worked with various groups including Gore's Signal

Integrity Lab, the Planar Cable Team, the Fiber Optic Transceiver Team and for the past four years the ATE Microwave Group.



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APPENDIX A

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF EXPERIMENT Test Equipment Information

 Network Analyzer: Hewlett Packard 8510, equipped with 8517 test set equipped with 2.4 mm pin port connections; operational frequency range: 0.045 to 50 GHz

• Calibration Kits: For 3.5 mm and 3.5-to-2.92 mm mated interfaces, Hewlett Packard, Model 85038 3.5 mm calibration kit. For the SMA-to-2.92 mm mated interface, Maury Microwave, Model 2.92 mm calibration kit. Contact height gauges from the Hewlett Packard kit were used to gauge 3.5 and 2.92 mm interfaces. For the SMA interfaces, gauges produced by Maury Microwave were used to check both dielectric and center contact height

• Test Conditions: Single-port, sliding load calibration; isolation omitted. Start frequency: 0.06625 GHz; stop frequency: 26.56625 GHz, 401 points. Averaging factor during calibration: 256 points; averaging factor during measurement: 125 points. No smoothing was used. A 2.4 (socket)-to-3.5 mm (pin) test port adapter from Agilent Technologies was used on port 1

• Laboratory Conditions: Controlled at 22°, 30 percent relative humidity. All test connections thoroughly inspected and cleaned with alcohol and allowed to dry before use. Test connections tighten to specification using appropriate torque wrench

Data Analysis

Single-port (S_{11}) measurements were made of each mixed mated interface pair. The subsequent S-parameter data was stored for retrieval and further examination using

GORE's proprietary software package NEAT (Network Experimentation and Analysis Tools). NEAT emulates the front-end functionality of a VNA. S-parameter data can be viewed in both the time and frequency domains. Time domain gating can be applied as well. For each mixed mated interface pair, a cos2x gate was used in order to remove transmission path artifacts before and after the mated-pair interface. Gates were placed on "flat" $50~\Omega$ sections of the time domain trace. Sufficient margin between the time domain gate and the feature under examination was used so as not to influence mated pair interface performance. Time domain gating was employed as a means to focus upon mixed mated interface performance and filter out all other transmission line effects.

TEST DATA: 3.5 MM-TO-3.5 MM MATED PAIR

Figure 5A displays the time domain gated impedance response of the 3.5 mm mated pair connection. The impedance is well controlled at a gap of 0.12 mils, then moves towards an inductive response at a gap of 5.12 mils. As the 3.5 mm pin contact is withdrawn from the 3.5 mm socket, the response is increasingly more inductive.

Figure 5B demonstrates the gated VSWR response of the 3.5 mm mated pair connection through 26.5 GHz. The best VSWR response, at 0.12 mils, agrees with the best impedance response indicated in Figure 5A.

TEST DATA: 2.92 MM-TO-3.5 MM MATED PAIR

Figure 6A displays the time domain gated impedance response of the 2.92 mm-to-

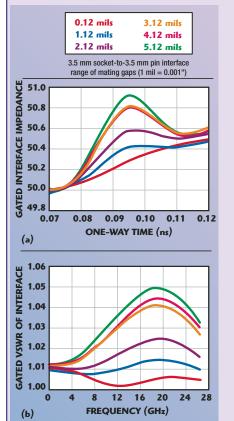
3.5 mm connection. The impedance starts off capacitive at nearly "zero gap," then moves towards an inductive response at a gap of 5.65 mils. The initial capacitance is due to the 3.5 mm's larger diameter center contact transitioning into the 2.92 mm smaller center contact.

Figure 6B illustrates gated VSWR performance over the range of various center contact gaps. Note that the best VSWR performance occurs at a center contact gap of 2.65 mils, which also produced the smallest impedance discontinuity as evidenced in Figure 6A.

TEST DATA: SMA-TO-2.92 MM MATED PAIR

Figure 7A displays the time domain gated impedance response of the SMA-to-2.92 mm connection. The initial impedance is inductive, then increases inductively as gap widens. The reason for this inductive behavior is transitioning from full density PTFE within the SMA to the air dielectric of the 2.92 mm interface.

Figure 7B illustrates gated VSWR performance over the range of the SMA-to-2.92 mm contact gaps. Note the best VSWR performance occurs at a minimum center contact gap of 1.50 mils, which also produced the smallest impedance discontinuity as evidenced in Figure 7A. The VSWR and impedance data tell us this particular interface is primarily inductive. By reducing the center contact gap, the interface is being compensated, going more and more capacitive to offset the interface's inductive tendency.



▲ Fig. 5 The time domain gated impedance response (a) and gated VSWR response (b) of the 3.5 mm mated pair.

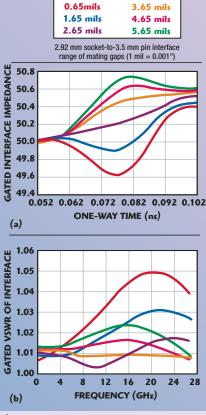
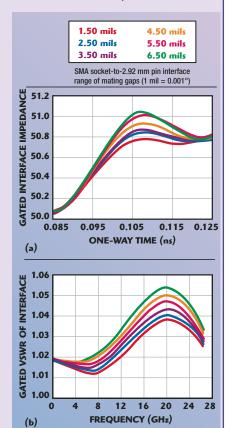


Fig. 6 The time domain gated impedance response (a) and gated VSWR response (b) of the 2.92 mm-to-3.5 mm connection.



▲ Fig. 7 The time domain gated impedance response (a) and gated VSWR response (b) of the SMA-to-2.92 mm connection.



PIN HEIGHT

The importance and role of RF coaxial connector pin height and its impact on electrical and mechanical performance.

he job of an RF coaxial cable is to transmit a signal from one point to another with as little signal or power loss over its length and to keep its signal isolated from or to the outside world. A coaxial cable's structure consists of three major components: a center conductor, a dielectric and an outer conductor. These three components are put together in a way to maximize the cable's performance over its intended frequency range for the desired application. A jacketing or covering is added to the cable to protect and seal the RF structure from outside elements and give the cable additional environmental or mechanical advantages.

A coaxial connector is used to attach the end of a coaxial cable to enable it to be connected to another cable or RF device. It also has a center conductor, a dielectric and an outer conductor. The center conductor of the connector is typically referred to as the contact. The portion of the connector that is intended to mate with another connector is called the mating interface. These connector interfaces typically come polarized in

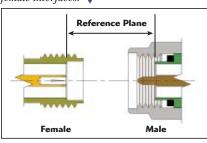
male and female configurations (see *Figure 1*). The RF coaxial connector's center conductor or contact is normally arranged into pin and socket configurations to facilitate positive electrical contact between the male and the female connector. The mating portion of the male contact that engages the mating female spring

fingered socket is referred to in the industry as the mating pin. It is the height or length of this pin and the position of the contacts within the connector's interface that this article addresses.

Pin heights are often taken for granted. We seldom think of its importance in traditional pin and socket configurations because they seldom fail in their application. RF connectors, particularly those used in microwave applications, require tightly toleranced interfaces to achieve the intended electrical and mechanical performance of the design. Most of a connector's interface dimensions are achieved through the tolerancing of the machined components that make up the interface. Setting and maintaining the pin height or the location of the pin requires that special attention be paid to correctly positioning it during the assembly of the connector components. Some connector designs require that the position of the center pin be set during attachment to the cable.

What is pin height? As mentioned earlier, most RF connector center contacts are designed to have a solid pin that inserts into a spring finger female contact or socket. In order to maintain the characteristic impedance and ensure electrical performance of the coaxial transmission line, most connector contacts incorporate a smaller diameter-mating pin

Fig. 1 Polarized male and female interfaces.



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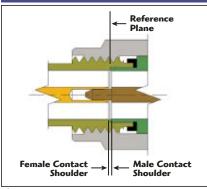
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▲ Fig. 2 Mated connectors making electrical contact at the connector reference planes.



▲ Fig. 3 Gauges used to measure connector interfaces.

with a shoulder on one of the mating interfaces. This contact shoulder is located within the connector at a point where the mating connector seats against it and is optimized in a way to minimize electrical reflections created by discontinuities between the two connector interfaces. Likewise, the face of the mating female or socket contact (which is also referred to as the shoulder) must also be located within the connector at a position that optimizes performance. This point where the two connectors come together is called the connector reference plane (see **Figure 2**).

The connector performs best when the shoulders of the male contacts are closest to the reference plane without going above it. The idea is to create the smallest gap possible between the two mating contact shoulders to minimize its impact on

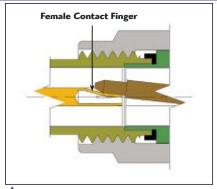


Fig. 4a Misaligned pin caught between insular and female contact fingers.

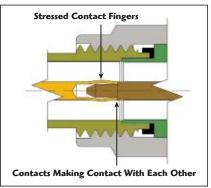


Fig. 4b Contact between connector contacts could break female contact fingers.

electrical performance. The size of the gap that can be tolerated is dependent on the intended operating frequency of the connector. Lower operating frequencies can tolerate larger gaps between the contacts without degrading electrical performance. However, coaxial connectors are designed to operate across broad frequency spectrums so the contact gap must be designed to perform with minimal electrical degradation at its highest operating frequency.

The pin height is measured from the connector's reference plane to the shoulder of the contact. High and low limits are characterized to ensure proper engagement length of the male pin with the mating connector's socket contact. The tip of the male pin also has a characterized taper to minimize mating forces on the female contact and to guarantee high mating cycles and long life.

Manufacturers control most of the pin's positioning and dimensioning through close tolerancing of the machined components associated with the connector's interface. However, close or tight tolerancing of the connector's interface components adds cost and seldom guarantees that the contact will be positioned to achieve optimal electrical and mechanical performance of the connector. Therefore, special attention needs to be given by the manufacturer to finetune the pin height and gap at the interface by resetting the contact's position during assembly to optimize performance. The responsibility of setting the contact into its optimal position may also be passed on to the end user if the connector is supplied with a loose contact to facilitate ease of cable termination.

More important than positioning the contact pin for optimal performance is positioning it to mate with any connector within its series (for example: SMA series, TNC series, N series, etc.), regardless of who manufactures the connector. For this reason, interface standards have been developed. There are a variety of industry, commercial and government standards in place that regulate interfaces dimensionally to guarantee intermateabilty between manufacturers' connectors. Government and/or industry standards govern most of the well-established connector interfaces on the market. However, newer products with uniquely designed interfaces may not yet be adopted by a standards group and have no governing standard. In these cases, the manufacturer that developed the unique interface is responsible for specifying and controlling the connector interface tolerances. Sometimes connector manufacturers will work together to develop a unique interface and together develop the interface standard for it. The QMA series interface was developed in this way.

Every connector series interface is unique with respect to other series interfaces. An SMA interface is uniquely different than a TNC interface, SMA and TNC interfaces are uniquely different to the N series interface, and so on. They all have different interface dimensions with respect to their size and the location of the contact's pin and shoulder position with respect to the connector's reference plane. Therefore, the gauging requirements for each interface are different. Most connector reference plans are located at some depth below the face of the connector (reference Figures 1 and 2). Special gauges are available for most well-established interfaces to make it

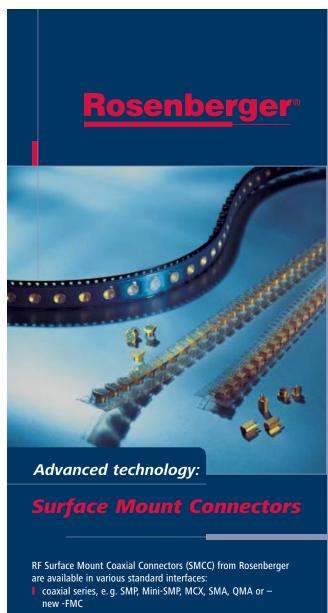
easy to measure the location of the contact from the reference plane. Nonetheless, it is possible to measure the contact location with a standard dial indicator depth gauge (see *Figure 3*). In the photograph the three smaller gauges are special interface gauges. The gauge mounted on the post is a standard dial indicator depth gauge. The importance of controlling pin height cannot be downplayed. The height of the pin cannot and should not be ignored. Problems result both mechanically and electrically if the pin is positioned too high (long) or too low (short) with respect to the interface as it is specified.

If the pin is too high or forward the pin could misalign during mating. The male pin could get caught between the insulator and the fingers of the female contact (see Figure 4a). This typically results in a broken female contact. Also, if the contact's pin position is too high, the contact's shoulder could end up above the connector's reference plane (based on the fixed length of the pin-to-shoulder dimension subjected by most connector specifications). If the contact shoulder ends up above the connector reference plane there is the potential that it will make contact with the mating contact and break the female contact fingers (see **Figure 4b**). These two conditions, the male pin getting wedged between the insulator and female contact, and the contact shoulders making contact with each other, have the potential to put enough force on the female contact finger to crack it. These cracks are internal to the connector and not visible to the end user. Cracks of this nature will ultimately lead to an intermittent signal, and an eventual catastrophic contact failure and kill signal integrity.

If the contact is positioned too low or short the contact could lose its contact with the mating female contact. This sometimes happens when blind mate connectors are positioned beyond their specified mounting tolerances. It can also happen in connectors that do not have captivated contacts. Non-captive contacts have the potential of being pulled back into the connector away from the mating connector by forces applied to it by the attached cable, thus shortening the mating pin height. Additionally, it leads to increased contact gaps between the mating contacts and contributes to higher than intended discontinuities in the connector interface and can degrade electrical performance from consequent high reflections. Power levels could be greatly reduced if the pin is positioned so far back that the mating contact fingers ride on the tapered section of the male pin (see **Figure 5**). Significantly reduced power handling will result if the contact fingers ride on the taper section of the male pin.

End users attaching connectors to cable also need to be aware of the effects of incorrect pin heights. Contacts of connectors that are designed to attach to cable can be supplied loose by the manufacturer or captured within the connector.

Loose contacts are generally supplied to simplify the connector design and facilitate ease of assembly to the cable's center conductor while keeping the pricing in line with the user's expectations. This means some degree of accuracy is left up to the assembler to ensure proper location of the contact with respect to the connector's reference plane. Loose contacts can be either soldered or crimped onto the cable's center conductor. They can be set



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into position by either sitting the contact directly on the cable core, using a dielectric spacer or shim, or positioning the contact with a shim that is later removed after attachment of the contact is achieved. The idea is to provide the proper electrical spacing to optimize the cable-to-connector termination electrically and provide the proper positioning for the contact at the connector's interface (see Figure 6).

Spring fingered center contact designs, most commonly made with heat treated beryllium copper, have greatly simplified the termination of connector contacts to cable center conductors. This design allows the cable's conductor to simply be pushed into the contact without the need to crimp or solder to maintain the electrical connection between the cable and the connector. The simplicity in cable termination comes from the

fact that the contact no longer needs to be supplied loose and can now be supplied captured within the contactor assembly. Therefore, the assembler does not have to deal with separately terminating the contact to the cable and does not need to worry about setting the contact's proper placement location with respect to the connector's interface. The key to this style of contact in providing a reliable connection lies mainly with the manufacturer properly machining, forming and heat treating the contacts to provide the needed tight fit onto the cable's center conductor. Be-

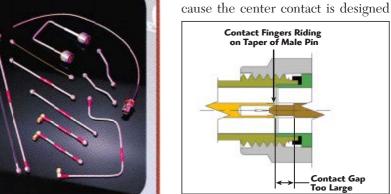


Fig. 5 Increased contact gaps lead to poor electrical performance.

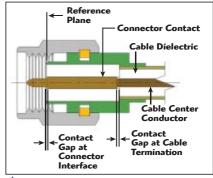


Fig. 6 Connector contact requires a specific gap at the mating interface and cable termination to optimize electrical performance.

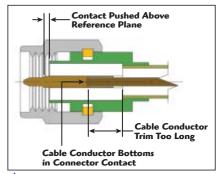
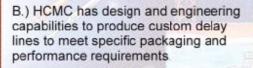


Fig. 7 Connector contact can be pushed above the reference plane by incorrectly trimmed cable center conductor.

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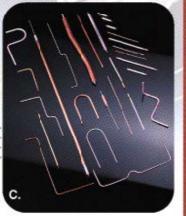
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to fit tightly, not only must the center conductor be trimmed to the proper length but also the end needs to be free of all burrs and slightly pointed at the end for proper fit. This part of the assembly to the cable is still left up to the end user and requires some attention to cable prep detail.

Regardless of the type of contact termination to cable, the correct length of cable center conductor must be exposed to accept the center contact. Exposure of too little cable center conductor could result in a weakened and compromised contact attachment for connectors supplied with loose contacts. Exposure of too much cable center conductor will cause the cable conductor to bottom inside the contact and not allow it to be positioned on the cable as intended. This results in pins that are positioned higher in the connector interface with respect to the reference

plane. The connector contact could be pushed so far forward that it ends up above the reference plane of the connector and potentially cause damage to the mating female socket as described earlier (see *Figure 7*).

There are a few connector designs that do not use the traditional pin/shoulder configuration in the mating interface. Although most contacts are attached to a cable's center conductor using methods such as sol-

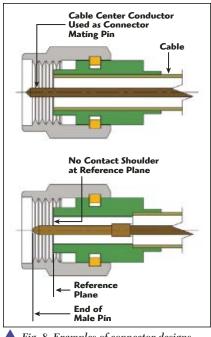


Fig. 8 Examples of connector designs without a contact shoulder.

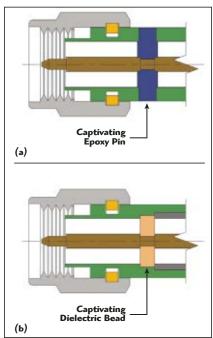


Fig. 9 Epoxy pin (a) and dielectric bead (b) used to captivate connector contact.



dered, crimped or a spring fingered socket, there are a couple of cases in some SMA, F and other connector series where the cable center conductor is actually used as the center contact mating pin of the connector. There are still other designs that use a separate contact but have no shoulder at the connector interface. In these designs, the mating pin diameter is carried straight into the transmission line section within the connector; thus, no shoulder exists at the connector reference plane (see *Figure 8*). In these cases, one still must be conscious of where the end of the male pin is located in relation to the reference plane even though there is no shoulder to worry about. This is because there is a limit to the amount of male pin that the mating female contact can accommodate.

Even after the contact is fixed to the cable center conductor and the connector secured, the position of the pin can still be moved from its set position. There are influences on the connector pin position other than those subjected by the connector manufacturer and end user during assembly to the cable. The connector pin or contact can be subjected to forces after assembly that influences the contact's position within the connector with respect to the connector's interface. High stresses can be subjected by cable flexure, pulling on the connector, and expansion and contraction of the connector and cable dielectrics over temperature that cause pin movement. These stresses build in compression or tension depending on the force applied, and push the contact forward or pull it backwards into the connector away from its optimally set position. When that

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happens, the contact could be moved beyond the design or specification limits of the connector interface resulting in one of the performance issues described earlier.

Most of these stresses can be overcome by incorporating some form of captivation into the connector design. The roll of captivation is to hold the contact into position within the connector under a predetermined load condition to prevent it from moving forward or backward with respect to the connector reference plan. Most connectors use Teflon® as a dielectric medium because of its good electrical characteristics and relative cost. However, Teflon is a soft material and may not be suitable to use as a reliable captivating material in high performance connectors or in environments where mechanical stresses could be high. For this reason, other types of materials and captivating schemes have been developed to hold the contact in its place.

There are many different types and ingenious captivation methods used to capture a contact within a connector. Epoxy pins and dielectric beads are the most common methods used to hold contacts in place under higher load applications.

An epoxy pin is a dielectric epoxy that is injected through a hole in the connector dielectric and around the contact and in some designs through a hole in the connector body. The epoxy cures into a hard plastic material that mechanically captures the components together (see *Figure 9*).

Dielectric beads use a short length of dielectric material having relatively high mechanical strength. These beads are typically machined or molded. The connector contact and body are configured in such a way that they capture the bead to prevent movement (see Figure 9). Some popular high strength bead materials that have relatively good dielectric properties are PEEK, Ultem, Torlon and Vespel.

The material and method used for captivating a connector center contact is typically selected based on a mechanical force requirement and a price-to-performance trade off.

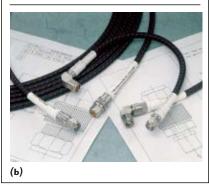
Other manufacturers of higher performance connectors and cable assemblies that design to meet the highest application requirements with respect to temperature, flexing and vibration while maintaining the highest electrical performance develop their own proprietary materials and captivation methods. This need for super performing connectors and cable assemblies has resulted in new generations of connector products. *Figure 10* shows some of the newest products developed by Times Microwave Systems to meet today's toughest application requirements.

The position of the pin is taken for granted because most users have never seen an application failure resulting from an improperly positioned or shifted contact pin. Even so, some engineers are haunted by system-related performance issues caused by a single RF connector within a system with a misaligned pin, broken contact or open circuit caused by an improperly positioned or shifted pin. For those, the importance of maintaining proper connector pin height will remain a critical performance issue.

There are many factors used to control the correct pin position within a connector interface. Manufacturers work to tighten tolerances on connector interfaces by tightly tolerancing components during manufacturing to achieve the desired electrical and mechanical performance of the mating pin. Special care is taken in setting the pin to the



(a)



▲ Fig. 10 Multi-port Interconnect Systems (a) and MILTECH Cable Assemblies (b) developed by Times Microwave Systems to meet today's tough application requirements.

optimal height during connector component assembly. Specifications have been created by standards and government committees to govern pin height on the most common connectors to guarantee intermateability within connector series. Additionally, there has been a myriad of captivations employed to limit or even prevent pin movement in the harshest environments. All these efforts demonstrate that pin height is being given the attention necessary to make it worry free for the end user.

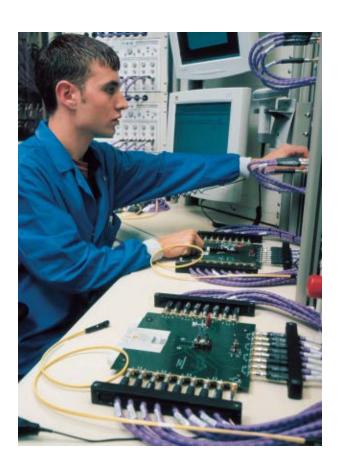
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David Critelli is a regional sales manager for Times Microwave Systems, responsible for all OEM sales in southern New York, northern New Jersey and most of New England. Before joining Times, he worked for AEP and Radiall Co., where he

was an engineering manager. He holds both a BS degree in computer science and an MBA degree and has over 25 years experience in the microwave cable and connector industry.

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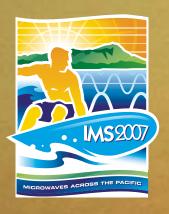
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A WATERPROOF QMA COAXIAL CONNECTOR

ive years ago Huber + Suhner developed a range of QMA coaxial connectors to replace the SMA connectors that had been traditionally used. Although they have been primarily used in the telecom market for radio base stations they have also been recognized widely in other market sectors. This wide acceptance instigated an investigation into the development of the QMA waterproof RF coaxial connector, prompted by the fact that there is no snap-on RF connector on the market that is water sealed.

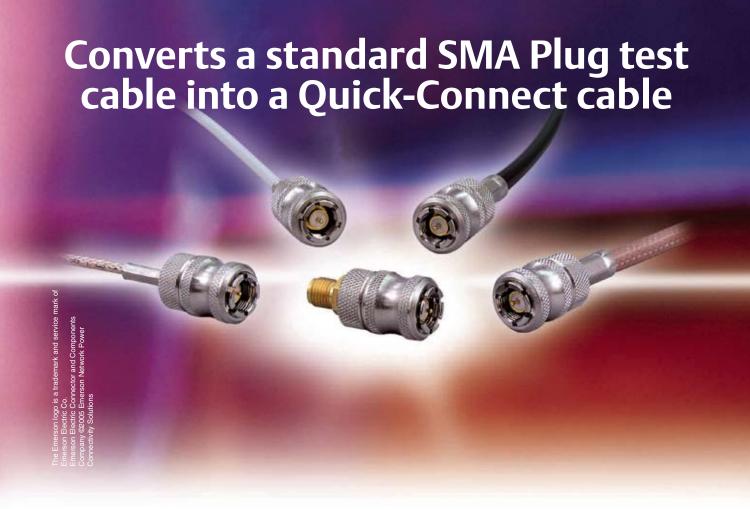
For such a product to be developed the main factor that needed to be addressed was the fact that normally these connectors incorporate a spring member, which makes it difficult to make it waterproof. The challenge was not only to overcome this inherent problem but also to develop a waterproof plug that is backwards compatible with a standard QMA female. However, it was not possible to just put an O-ring inside the existing QMA connector. This is because it has a spring mechanism that has spring fingers, which is a slotted part. This restricts the space so that there is no room to accommodate an O-ring seal.

A COMPLETE REDESIGN

To address this limitation Huber + Suhner came up with a new concept whereby they took the existing female and endeavored to design a new plug around it. However, this meant a complete redesign of the connector interface so that the spring fingers were repositioned differently inside the connector, while maintaining the same outer dimensions of the connector. It needed to be the same size to achieve the same centre line to centre line as the standard QMA. Several concepts were considered before finally settling on one that met all the design and applications criteria to produce a connector plug that is water sealed according to IP68.

The challenge in redesigning the QMA interface was to maintain or even exceed the proven performance parameters of the Quick Lock concept. A critical issue is the fact that the diameter of the male spring part, which snaps onto the female body, will enlarge a

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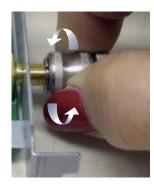
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certain amount under mechanical and/or thermal stress. This is the normal behavior of any spring material, and is related to material relaxation. This behaviour will have an impact on the contact force, which determines the transmission characteristics. Careful material selection and spring part layout ensures optimum connector performance under stress.

During the development phase the QMA connector underwent verification testing. Particularly important was environmental testing, which, in order to widen the applica-



▲ Fig. 1 The waterproof QMA connector terminated on a flexible cable.



Fig. 2 A standard QMA panel jack with O-ring seal.



▲ Fig. 3 Application with high density connector population including waterproof QMAs on the right.

tions, was conducted to military standards. Hence, a higher level of vibration tolerance was required.

The result of this development and testing is a waterproof version of the high density Quick-Lock connector that can be used for a multitude of RF applications. The waterproof QMA connector terminated on a flexible cable, featuring a crimped cable entry with heat shrink tube, is shown in Figure 1. With its outstanding features like IP68 ingress protection rating, its ability to be intermateable with a QLF® certified standard QMA jack (see *Figure 2*), having the same outline as a standard QMA, an enhanced temperature rating of +105°C and MIL vibration level, it will not only be applicable for the telecom market but also the defense and industrial sectors.

SPECIFICATIONS

From a specifications standpoint, the QMA interface exhibits its best transmission characteristics in the DC to 6 GHz range. Suitable applications include radio base stations and other radio equipment, especially where high density connector population is required, as shown in *Figure* 3. The interface's snap-lock mechanism makes it very fast and easy to mate and de-mate, with little force needed. The interface retention force is 60 N.

Advantages of fast mating and demating include reducing the user's total operating costs without loss of quality or functionality, while the replacement of the threaded coupling mechanism by the snap-lock mechanism increases the packing density as no torque wrench clearance is necessary. The QMA connector also allows 360° rotation in the mated position, which improves the flexibility during the installation of terminated cables.

Electrically the waterproof QMA connector has an impedance of $50~\Omega$, an interface frequency range of DC to 18 GHz, a minimum return loss of $-32~\mathrm{dB}$ at DC to 3 GHz and $-25~\mathrm{dB}$ at 3 to 6 GHz, and a minimum RF leakage of $-80~\mathrm{dB}$ at DC to 3 GHz and $-70~\mathrm{dB}$ at 3 to 6 GHz. Mechanically it has a minimum durability of $100~\mathrm{cycles}$ and a typical engagement/ disengagement force of $25~\mathrm{N/20}~\mathrm{N}$.

Environmentally the connector is RoHS compliant, has an operating

temperature of -40° to +105°C, and is moisture resistance to MIL-STD-202, method 106 F, thermal shock to MIL-STD-202, method 107, condition B, vibration to MIL-STD-202, method 204, condition D, shock to MIL-STD-202, method 213, condition I and corrosion to MIL-STD-202, method 101, condition B.

The watertight QMA product line currently includes straight and angular connectors for flexible and semirigid cables as well as terminations. However, as Huber + Suhner is the only company with such a design on the market, it is likely that it will talk to other partners in the QLF® Alliance and issue licenses for the product in order to ensure second sourcing possibility to its customers.

CONCLUSION

The new waterproof QMA coaxial connector may not look any different to a standard connector on the outside but has to be very different on the inside in order for it to be waterproof. It is not just a standard QMA connector with an additional O-ring seal either, as the interface has been completely redesigned. Consequently, the interface complies with the existing standards and is backwards compatible with an existing female QMA connector, so that customers with female connectors on their equipment can mate with the new waterproof QMA plug.

It has also been designed with users in mind who need fast and space saving connections in outdoor applications such as wireless communications and transmission systems, portable radio systems, air traffic control and monitoring systems, and assemblies for mobile radio base stations. The new QMA connector essentially supports all radio frequency connections.

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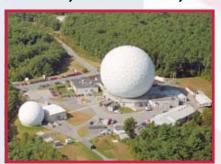
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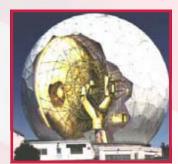
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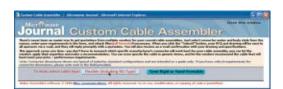
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Il businesses in an increasingly competitive market must continually look for ways to offer real value to their customers, particularly by building web sites that go beyond a simple presentation of product information. A web site built with customer benefit in mind will not just contain product information; it should provide extra services that streamline access to specific information, and provide productivity tools as well.

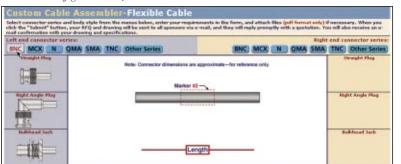
In order to provide such a productivity tool, *Microwave Journal (MWJ)* has unveiled a time-saving tool for its readers who need to solicit quotations from cable assembly manufacturers. The *Custom Cable Assembler* offers

MWJ readers the ability to visually assemble connectors to cable, type in mechanical and electrical specifications, and send the drawing and specs to multiple vendors with one mouse click. Unlike the majority of existing on-line tools, the *Custom Cable Assembler* works right in the web browser, with *no* software to download and *no* plug-ins required.

Using the Custom Cable Assembler is simple and intuitive. After choosing between flexible or semi-rigid cable, a window appears with a menu of six different commonly used connector series, with an option to specify any series that is not in the menu. Clicking on a series button (see Figure 1) presents a choice of three configurations in that series. Clicking on a configuration automatically adds it to the drawing in the central window, as shown in Figure 2. Repeating the process for the right-end connector produces a drawing with the length callout properly located for the configurations chosen (see Figure 3). All connector selections are "undoable"—to change a series or configuration, simply click on a different one.

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Fig. 1 Selecting connector series and configuration.





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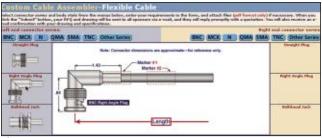


Fig. 2 Adding the selected connector.

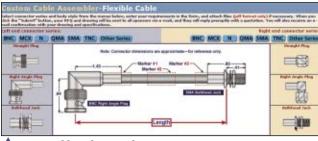


Fig. 3 Adding the second connector.

When a connector is chosen, the "connector type" text field in the form is automatically filled in. The form also allows the user to specify

length and tolerance, connector plating, marker color and text, electrical specifications and testing requirements, along with other RFQ information, as shown in *Figure 4*. Users also have the option to attach drawings if necessary, such as when specifying a semi-rigid cable assembly that requires bending to its final configuration.

Custom Cable Assembler users can even save time and research by specifying cable "generically" (see **Figure 5**), and letting the vendors recommend a specific cable type that will satisfy the user's requirements. This option is available for semi-rigid cables as well.

When the "Submit" button is clicked, the form information and the drawing are immediately emailed to all vendors for price and delivery quotation, and the form and drawing are e-mailed to the user as well. A confirmation page is automatically generated, giving the user the option to print the drawing and form, and to begin specifying another assembly.

There's never been an easier or more convenient way to specify cable assemblies and send the information to multiple vendors for quotation. A demo version of the tool may be accessed at www.onlineassembler.com/MWJdrawdemo/mwjdraw1.html for anyone wishing to sample the tool inactively. For additional information, visit www.onlineassembler.com. Now procuring custom cable assemblies is just a click away.

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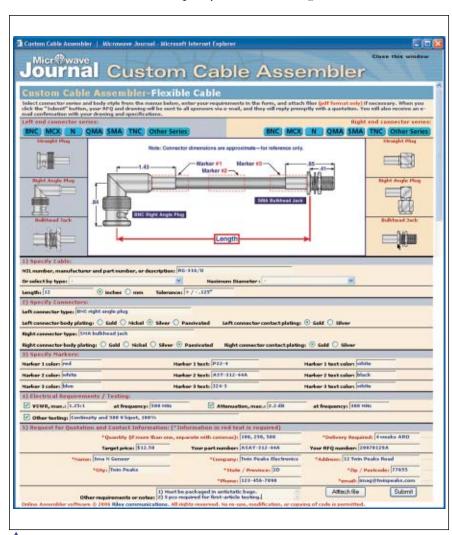


Fig. 4 Adding the remaining specifications.

HIL number, man Or select by types	efacturer and part number, or descriptions	Maximum Diameter :	l	
Or select by types		Maximum Diameter (
	RC-type flexible (single-braided shield)		To meet electrical requirements	
2) Specify Conn	RC-type flexible (double-braided shield) High Performance Flexible		.050 (1.3 mm) .073 (1.9 mm)	
	er BNC right angle plug	.100 (2.5 mm) .125 (3.2 mm)		
Left connector box	dy plating: O Gold O Nickel O Silver O I	Passivated Left connector	.150 (3.8 mm) .200 (5.1 mm)	
Right connector ty	per SMA bulkhead jack		.250 (6.4 mm) .360 (7.6 mm)	
Sight connector by	ody plating: O Gold O Nickel O Silver O	Passivated Right connects	.408 (10.2 mm) .508 (12.7 mm)	

Fig. 5 Specifying the cable generically.

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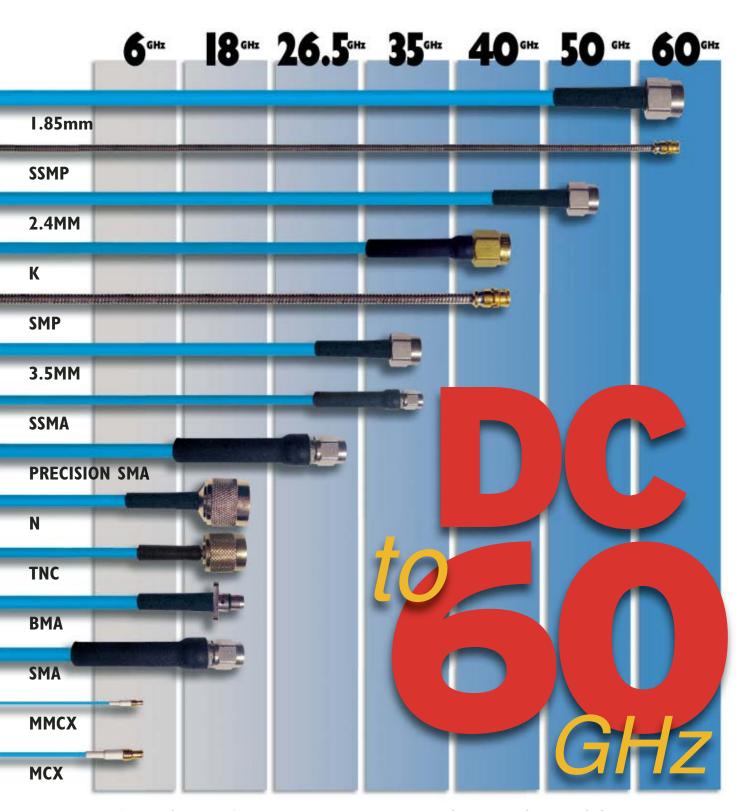
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