



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Linda Marcus, APR,
LFM Communications
714-974-6356
lmarcus@lfm-com.com

Analog Devices Joins RapidIO Open Standard Majority of DSP Suppliers Behind New Interconnect

December 18, 2001, San Francisco, Calif. – Analog Devices Inc. (ADI) has joined the RapidIO Trade Association, the organization announced today. The open standard interconnect technology is now backed by the companies that supply a majority of DSP semiconductors to the market and other leading communications vendors.

"RapidIO technology offers clear advantages in communications equipment, and communications is the largest market for DSP," said Will Strauss of DSP market watcher Forward Concepts. "Consequently, it's no surprise that companies commanding a 90 percent share of the DSP chip market would endorse RapidIO by joining the association," he said. RapidIO members include Analog Devices, Lucent Technologies, Motorola and Texas Instruments. Together these companies provide "the lion's share" of DSP chips to the market, according to Strauss.

The trade association is advancing the use of its open standard interconnect developed for communications, networking and embedded applications. The RapidIO specification defines how chips and boards communicate inside a system at transmission rates up to 64 gigabits per second (Gb/s).

Ericsson's General Manager Core Network Products Engineering, and a member of the RapidIO Steering Committee, Louis-Francois Pau said, "As a leading wireless infrastructure provider, we understand that a reliable, high-performance and compact interconnect is essential to the future of the communications industry, and especially for base stations and other network elements using DSP cores. We have been active in the RapidIO Trade Association since its founding because we believe the organization is making an important contribution in this effort. We are a major user of DSPs and now welcome the majority of DSP suppliers as members."

-- more --

Analog Devices' Wireless Infrastructure Group Product Line Director, Kevin Leary said, "ADI is expanding upon its leadership in multiprocessor DSP applications. We are pleased to join an organization that addresses important design issues such as scalability. RapidIO handles multiple processors extremely efficiently while providing the high levels of reliability that are required in data and transaction intensive DSP applications."

The association's member companies, including silicon manufacturers and equipment suppliers such as Ericsson, worked together for a year on the first version of the specification released in March 2001. As a result, the standard addresses the needs of system designers rather than a specific vendor. For example, the specification incorporates specific features, such as hardware error detection and recovery, that are essential in embedded and communications devices. It also provides a practical migration path from today's limited hierarchical buses to more powerful switch fabric interconnects.

About the RapidIO Trade Association

The RapidIO Trade Association is a non-profit organization formed to drive the adoption of an open standard, high-performance interconnect architecture. Since incorporating in June 2000, the association has grown to over 50 member companies worldwide. Membership provides early access to the specifications, the ability to propose changes to RapidIO standards, and the opportunity to actively participate in the adoption process. A complete list of member companies is available at the association Web site, www.RapidIO.org.

###

RapidIO and the RapidIO logo are trademarks and service marks of the RapidIO Trade Association. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.