



NEWS RELEASE

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RapidIO Interconnect Team Named Innovator of the Year

Industry Award Recognizes Efforts Behind Leading-Edge Technology, Trade Association

March 14, 2002, San Francisco, Calif. – The industry has spoken and honored the principle architects behind the RapidIO interconnect technology with the 2001 Innovator of the Year Award at *EDN Magazine's* annual ceremony on March 12. Dan Bouvier, Robert Frisch and Bryan Marietta, all original designers of the RapidIO specification, were recognized for their contributions in developing a switch-fabric interconnect that is expected to play an important role in the future of the embedded and communications markets.

The Innovation of the Year Awards are determined by an open nomination process that generated hundreds of candidates followed by industry-wide balloting through *EDN Magazine* and its Web site. *EDN* editor-in-chief Al Haun said of the winners, "The RapidIO Interconnect Specification, of which the members of the EDN Innovator of the Year team are the principal architects, is a catalyst for innovation throughout the industry. It is sure to spur broad-based growth in telecommunications equipment, storage subsystems, signal and image processing devices, and other embedded computing and communications systems."

The honored team sought to create a technology that addressed the specific needs of the embedded and communications markets for a highly reliable chip-to-chip and board-level switch fabric-based interconnect. As a result of their efforts, the initial architecture was donated to the industry with the formation of the RapidIO Trade Association almost two years ago. The trade association continued to develop the technology for a year before releasing the high-performance interconnect specification in March 2001.

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RapidIO Trade Association President Sam Fuller said, “Dan, Bryan and Robert demonstrated real innovation in the development of the RapidIO interconnect technology. The challenges of developing a switch-fabric based control plane technology that would support the requirements of high-performance distributed computing platforms should not be under-estimated. Every aspect of the system architecture needed to be reconsidered in the development of this technology to ensure that the requirements of both vendors and customers would be met. This award recognizes the founding leaders for their creativity, technical excellence and pure tenacity in bringing this important technology to the industry as an open standard.”

Dan Bouvier is the architecture manager for the Motorola Somerset Design Center and served as chair of the RapidIO Technical Working Group during the association’s first two years. Bryan Marietta also works for Motorola in the Somerset Design Center and served as co-architect and editor of the first specification. Robert Frisch is co-founder and vice president of Mercury Computer Systems where he is responsible for hardware architecture.

About the EDN Innovator Awards

The RapidIO team was selected from a field of hundreds of candidates nominated in the *EDN 2001 Innovation of the Year* competition. This exclusive awards program is dedicated to honoring outstanding engineering products in the electronics industry and is sponsored by *EDN*, the leading design magazine of the electronics industry published by Reed Business Information (formerly Cahners Business Information). Headquartered in Newton, Mass., *EDN* serves the vital information needs of design engineers and engineering managers worldwide. The *EDN* Worldwide franchise includes *EDN*, *EDN Europe*, *EDN Asia*, *EDN China*, *EDN Japan*, and *EDN Access*, the only full-content, EOEM publication web site.

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 45 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.

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