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ZILOG® Releases New 16 Bit MINI-Z® Module And 8 Solid State Relay Design Board

Latest in the Series of High-Performance Design Modules for Digital Power Management

Milpitas, CA, and Biel, Switzerland. March 30, 2011 – Zilog, a wholly owned subsidiary of IXYS Corporation (NASDAQ:IXYS) and a trusted supplier of application specific, embedded micro controller (MCU) system-on-chip (SoC) solutions for industrial, power management and consumer applications, today introduced its new Z16MiniZ28 Module.

The Z16MiniZ28 Module is a Dual Inline Pin "stamp" module designed for the customer in mind, to quickly develop prototypes, proofs of concept and products for power management. The Mini-Z Module, which features the 16-bit ZNEO CPU-based Z16F2810 MCU, is designed to be pin-compatible with the Parallax BS2 Series of stamp modules and with Basic Micro's Basic ATOM Pro 28-M module. This compatibility in the module's design allows engineers to utilize differing vendors' base boards which they may already possess in their development arsenal.

Complementing the Z16MiniZ28 Module is Zilog's new Solid State Relay (SSR) Design Board with 8 independent SSRs. This combination with the Mini-Z product family provides engineers a platform for developing prototypes and products ranging from power grid management, motor controls and HVAC controls to multi-power load control systems. Designed to capitalize on the advanced functionality of the Z16MiniZ28 Module, the Design Board exposes all of the Module's pins to add external functionality for even more creative power system projects.

The Design Board is compatible with other vendors' modules, such as the Basic Micro's ATOM Pro 28-M module and Parallax BS2 Series of Basic STAMP programming boards. Engineers can start with what they already have and add the Mini-Z Module later, when they need its extra features. The Design Board uses a USB-to-serial converter so that there is no longer any need to find a converter or a serial port. The Board is designed to be operated by either a 9V battery or an external power supply.

Features:

- Control up to 8 optically isolated solid state relays to drive devices
- USB serial communications: no more serial cables needed
- Operated by battery or external power
- Compatible with Parallax Basic STAMP programming boards, Basic Micro ATOM pro development boards and Zilog's series of Mini-Z modules

- Each pin is accessible to add functionality through breadboards and cables to additional boards

"The Z16MiniZ28 Module and SSR Project Board together are a complete package for bringing fast time-to-market solutions. Although they are designed to work together, both are flexible in design so they can be used independently in alternative designs," said Steve Darrough, Zilog's Director of Worldwide Marketing. "It is a combination of the products and capabilities that we have in the world of IXYS, which includes the Zilog MCUs, Clare's SSRs and IXYS' power semiconductors in one enabling board. It is the integration of digital control capabilities with power semiconductors. By bringing it to the market, we enable our customers to create new solutions to save energy and better digital power management, especially as it applies to the smart power grid."

Example applications include:

- 12/24 volt fans, actuators, solenoids and motor controls
- 12/24 volt HVAC control
- Control 12/24 volt architectural lighting
- Animated control system: up to 8 individual axis and props!
- Audio device control
- Pneumatic controls
- Battery charging and battery management

The Zilog Z16MiniZ28 Module and SSR Project Board are currently in production and are now available to ship to customers. The Z16MiniZ28 Module and Mini-Z SSR Project Board are available individually or as an Evaluation Kit and can be ordered from the IXYS Colorado Online Store.

About Zilog, Inc.

Zilog is a trusted supplier of application-specific, embedded system-on-chip (SoC) solutions for the industrial and consumer markets. From its roots as an award-winning architect in the microprocessor and microcontroller industry, Zilog has evolved its expertise beyond core silicon to include SoCs, single board computers, application specific software stacks and development tools that allow embedded designers quick time to market in areas such as energy management, monitoring and metering, motor control and motion detection. Zilog is an IXYS company. For more information, visit our websites at http://www.ixys.com, and http://www.zilog.com .

About IXYS Corporation

IXYS Corporation makes and markets technology-driven products to improve power conversion efficiency, generate solar and wind power and provide efficient motor control for industrial applications. IXYS offers a diversified product base that addresses worldwide needs for power control, electrical efficiency, renewable energy, telecommunications, medical devices, electronic displays and RF power.

Safe Harbor Statement