



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WINDOWS VISTA DRIVES DEMAND FOR AKUSTICA
MICROPHONES IN MOBILE COMPUTERS**

--Manufacturers set to deliver laptops, tablets with clearest voice input yet

Pittsburgh, PA—March 6, 2007—Akustica, the pioneer in on-chip acoustic systems, said today that new and natural human-machine interfaces in the Windows Vista operating system are beginning to drive user demand for high-quality voice input. Akustica's digital-microphone arrays are being integrated rapidly into laptop, convertible-tablet, and slate PCs, particularly by early adopters like Fujitsu and TabletKiosk. Akustica also anticipates that, in the coming months, other major PC manufacturers will announce Windows Vista-equipped laptops and Tablet PCs with Akustica digital microphones.

Until now, PC users have had to accept poor voice quality from their laptop's integrated microphone. But thanks to the new audio stack in Windows Vista and its focus on real-time communications and collaboration, laptop manufacturers have turned to new audio technology that can solve the problem of poor voice input quality in their platforms. The selection of the best microphone for integration is a critical component of this solution.

"A key quality of any audio recording comes from the moment you capture the original sound," said Dan Moore, Audience Marketing Manager for Microsoft Corporation. "Akustica's microphone technology combined with the audio infrastructure enhancements in Windows Vista help enable a better overall sound experience for everyday mobile and desktop PC customers."

When embedded into a mobile-computing device, Akustica microphones give users freedom to move about—untethered from the machine—without the sound degradation typical in a traditional PC microphone. What's more, users get high-quality input for dictation, Internet phone calls, real-time messaging, video conferencing, and voice control.

"Akustica and Microsoft have been working side-by-side for several years to promote the new audio features in Windows Vista. Our combined efforts are successfully transitioning the market from laptops that contain no microphones, to laptops and tablets that contain multiple microphones and leverage the new Windows Vista audio stack," says Jim Rock, chief executive officer of Akustica. "Our goal is to raise the bar and show users that life-like, vibrant voice quality from a laptop is possible using Akustica's technology."

About Akustica

Founded in 2001, Akustica, Inc. is a privately held company based in Pittsburgh, PA. Manufactured using their revolutionary Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) Microelectromechanical Systems (MEMS) technology, Akustica's Sensory Silicon™ products enable electronic devices to sense and respond to the world around them. By leveraging standard CMOS processes and MEMS technology, Akustica's acoustic system-on-chip solutions combine the functionality of transducers with microelectronics and software onto a single chip. Only Akustica's CMOS MEMS microphones—pioneered by Akustica chief technologist and co-founder Ken Gabriel, Ph.D., during his tenure at Carnegie Mellon University—enable single-chip solutions with arrays of transducers and integrated signal processing that disrupt both conventional microphone and speaker technologies. Smaller and more reliable than electret condenser microphones, Akustica's silicon microphones can be customized with advanced sound-capture features and noise-reduction capabilities. Akustica digital output microphones are now reaching the market in commercial volumes, helping to fulfill demand for improved voice input in a host of voice-enabled applications, from Internet telephony on notebooks to PC camera modules and mobile phones.

More information about Akustica can be obtained via Phone: (412) 390-1730, Fax (412)390-1737, Email: contact@akustica.com or Web: www.akustica.com

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