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Akustica Joins Development Alliance to Help Create New Digital Interface Standards for Mobile Devices

Enters the MIPI Alliance to support development of digital audio interface industry-standards for MEMS devices

Pittsburgh, PA, September 21, 2005 -- Akustica, Inc., a pioneer in acoustic system-on-chip solutions, today announced it has strengthened its commitment to the cell phone market by joining the Mobile Industry Processor Interface (MIPI) Alliance as an Adopter Member. Out of all the members from mobile device, semiconductor, software, peripheral, and IP suppliers; Akustica stands out as the only dedicated MEMS manufacturer on the list.

The Mobile Industry Processor Interface (MIPI) Alliance is an open membership organization that includes over 80 leading companies in the mobile industry that share the objective of defining and promoting open specifications for interfaces to mobile application processors. Through these specifications, the MIPI Alliance intends to speed deployment of new services to mobile users by establishing specifications for standard hardware and software interfaces to mobile application processors and encouraging the adoption of those standards throughout the industry value chain.

As voice quality performance becomes more important to consumers, the functionality and number of microphones in a handset are increasing. In a June 2005 survey by *PC World* magazine, readers ranked enhancements to the speaker and microphone as their #5 wish. Using multiple microphones and speakers can dramatically improve the sound quality of consumer electronic devices, but ultimately face integration hurdles. Akustica's patented CMOS MEMS technology helps overcome these hurdles with smaller footprints and lower package heights, better noise suppression, well-matched performance, and on-chip processing. According to Yole' Development, the silicon microphone market adoption from mobile phone suppliers has been very swift from 2004 up to the beginning of 2005. The overall market is forecasted to grow from 60+ million units in 2005 to more than 350 million units in 2008, representing a major part of the mobile phone total available market.

Dr. Ken Gabriel, co-founder and CTO of Akustica states, "Akustica is dedicated to improving voice quality in consumer electronic devices through the development of better microphones, algorithms, and multi-sensor products to help reduce background noise and allow the user's true voice be heard, regardless of the environment. New microphone and speaker products from Akustica will become as ubiquitous as cell phones with the adoption of an industry-standard digital audio interface."

"Standardization will accelerate the rate of industry innovation in a cost-effective way, benefiting component vendors, handset makers, and operators as well as consumers. The MIPI Alliance will influence our interface strategy on future CMOS MEMS products as we enable electronic devices to speak, hear, and feel the world around them," said James Rock, co-founder and CEO of Akustica.

(more)

About Akustica

Akustica, Inc. designs, develops, and markets proprietary silicon microphones, speakers and complete acoustic system-on-chip solutions. Through a revolutionary technology known as Sensory Silicon™, Akustica products enable cell phones, PDA's, and other electronic products to sense and respond to the world around them. Leveraging standard complementary metal oxide semiconductor (CMOS) processes and micro-electromechanical systems (MEMS) technology, Akustica fabricates acoustic membranes and other sensor structures in the same chip with analog and digital circuitry. To learn more about Akustica and its solutions, please visit www.akustica.com.

About The MIPI Alliance

The Mobile Industry Processor Interface (MIPI) Alliance is a collaboration of mobile industry leaders with the objective to define and promote open standards for interfaces to mobile application processors. Through these open standards, the MIPI Alliance intends to speed deployment of new services to mobile users by establishing specifications for standard hardware and software interfaces to mobile application processors and encouraging the adoption of those standards throughout the industry value chain. The MIPI Alliance is intended to complement existing standards bodies with a focus on microprocessors, peripherals and software interfaces.

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