Exar Adds High Performance 1:2 eSATA Port Multiplier Solution to Market Proven EXstor(tm) Storage Product Family

Device Offers Unparalleled Power, Performance and Data Integrity for Consumer and Industrial Applications

FREMONT, Calif., May 14 /PRNewswire/ -- Exar Corporation (Nasdaq: EXAR), a leading provider of high-performance, mixed-signal silicon solutions for the worldwide communications infrastructure expanded its EXstor SATA Port Multiplier family with the addition of the high performance 1:2 eSATA port multiplier device. This solution, as well as other members of the EXstor family, targets a wide variety of data storage environments including data management systems for consumer, industrial, and Small Medium Enterprise (SME) applications.

"The XRS10L120's superior analog capabilities coupled with innovative storage functions, proven PHY technology, and low Bill of Material (BOM) costs, make it ideal for power-sensitive consumer applications," said Sid Yenamandra, director of marketing, Network and Transmission Products. "The newest addition to the EXstor port multiplier family offers customers more design choices, and like earlier EXstor devices remains consistent with Exar's goal of providing storage solutions that exceed industry standards, and are easily integrated into a wide variety of storage environments."

Product Highlights

The XRS10L120 supports the latest Serial ATA II Port Multiplier specifications enabling up to two SATA Gen I and Gen II drives to be connected to a single SATA or SAS host bus adaptor. The device supports two eSATA ports which is ideal for Digital Video Recorder (DVR) applications and other consumer applications requiring a SATA host to support two ports -- one connecting to an internal drive and the other port connected to an external drive through eSATA. The device supports 3.0Gbps and 1.5Gbps data rates. In addition, the device also consumes less than 750mW and supports several power-down modes. The device supports multiple levels of programmable output swing as well as transmit/receive equalization. Also, the XRS10L120 supports Spread Spectrum Clocking (SSC) which lowers the system electromagnetic interference (EMI) and helps eliminate the need for a metal shield to block EMI. Additionally, the solution has a built-in self-test pattern generator and checker and line/internal loop back modes of operation plus many other diagnostic capabilities. The device also supports SATA compliant Out of Band (OOB) signaling -- detection, transmission and handshaking and control state machine with optional bypass modes.
EXstor Storage Devices Overview

The EXstor series improves the signal integrity, increases reliability and resolves bandwidth bottlenecks. Comprised of two additional solutions: the XRS10L140, a Serial ATA port multiplier which supports a single host to connect up to four SATA drives targeting next generation enterprise class disk array systems that use SATA mid-planes; also, the XRS10L240 device combines port selector and port multiplier functionality in a single integrated device enabling two SATA or SAS hosts to address up to four SATA drives. All the EXstor family of devices use PHY technology with adjustable equalization, pre-emphasis and amplitude settings for tuning high-speed long backplane implementations. The devices also support the complex Spread Spectrum clocking schemes to reduce EMI issues.

Packages, Prices, Availability and Additional Information

In 1,000 piece quantities for commercial temperatures the XRS10L120 is offered in a 100-pin LQFP package, and priced at mid-$5 per unit. Additional information on this product can be found at http://www.exar.com/product.php?ProdNumber=XRS10L120. Samples of these products are available now. Additional information on Exar's Storage products can be found at http://www.exar.com/area.php?areaID=14.

About Exar

Exar Corporation designs, develops and markets high-performance, analog and mixed-signal silicon solutions for a variety of markets including networking, serial communications, and storage. Leveraging its industry-proven analog design expertise and system-level knowledge, Exar delivers to customers a wide array of technology solutions for current as well as next generation products. The Company is based in Fremont, CA, had fiscal 2006 revenues of $67.0 million, and employs approximately 235 people worldwide. For more information about the Company visit: http://www.exar.com.

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