Exar Introduces Highest Density Aggregation Reference Design Platform - Orion™ Available for T1/E1 Transport over SONET/SDH Networks

Creates Unmatched Level of Integration for T1/E1 to SONET/SDH Transport Applications

Fremont, California, July 25, 2007 - Exar Corporation (Nasdaq: EXAR), a leading provider of high-performance, mixed-signal silicon solutions for the worldwide communications infrastructure added a modular reference design platform --Orion -- that delivers T1/E1 to SONET/SDH data transmission capabilities for metropolitan access networks. Encompassing several field-proven Exar devices, the platform can support up to 84 T1's or 63 E1's aggregated into OC-3/STM-1. It is optimized for applications such as add-drop multiplexers, multi-service provisioning platforms, optical and wireless transport, and routers.

"Cost and board space issues are holding back network equipment vendors from T1/E1 aggregation over SONET/SDH deployments; Exar's modular platform -- Orion-- was developed to eliminate these issues," said John Demiray, director T/E carrier and SONET/SDH products. "By leveraging the extraordinary capabilities of our high-density silicon solutions, OEMs can accelerate time-to-market implementation of their systems for a wide variety of design requirements."

Overview of Orion

Orion is a modular shelf that consists of several Exar devices: XRT86SH328 (Voyager) the industry's first Integrated 28-channel T1/E1 LIU/Framer with VT/TU Mapper and M13 Multiplexer, XRT86SH221 (Voyager-lite) the industry's first Integrated 21-channel E1 LIU/Framer with VT/TU Mapper, and the XRT91L30 Exar's single channel OC-3/OC-12 transceiver.

The platform's flexible system architecture enables the same shelf hardware to be used for either 84 T1's or 63 E1's aggregated into OC-3/STM-1, simply by interchanging the module that consists of three XRT86SH328s or three XRT86SH221s. The design platform (Orion) offers an unmatched high density solution converting T/E channels into VT1.5 or VT2 tributaries and directly mapping them into SONET/SDH STS3/STM1 data rate. The design uses a common telecom bus operating at 19.44MHz. For optical transmission, the STS3/STM1 telecom bus interface is coupled with Exar's XRT91L30 OC-12/OC-3 transceiver and an optical module.

Applications

When XRT86SH328 or XRT86SH221 is combined with Exar's other SONET/SDH devices into a multi-chip solution, they deliver a wide range of design options for Add/Drop Multiplexer and T1/E1 aggregation systems. In an Add/Drop Multiplexer application, systems using the Exar devices can support a 4-chip solution for up to 84 T1's or 63 E1's aggregated into OC-3/STM-1.

"The modular reference platform (Orion) enables Exar to offer customers a proven design methodology of integrating high density T1/E1 PDH tributaries into VT mapper aggregation for SONET/SDH applications," said Darren Pool, manager, applications engineering for Network and Transmission Products.

In addition to the shelf hardware, the reference design platform also includes hardware schematics, PCB layout guidelines, user guide, GUI, and software API documents. The device drivers and GUI required to support the Orion system on specific network configurations can be customized for specific customer applications.

Availability and Additional Information

Orion platform is now available for demonstration. Please contact Exar Sales for additional information. Additional information for Orion can be found at http://www.exar.com/product.php?ProdNumber=Orion and other Exar T1/E1products at http://www.exar.com/area.php?areaID=2

Additional information on this product can be found at http://www.exar.com/product.php?ProdNumber=XRT86SH221 and other Exar T1/E1products at http://www.exar.com/area.php?areaID=2.

Additional information on this product can be found at http://www.exar.com/product.php?ProdNumber=XRT86SH328 and other Exar T1/E1products at http://www.exar.com/area.php?areaID=2.

Additional information on this product can be found at http://www.exar.com/product.php?ProdNumber=XRT91L30 and other Exar T1/E1products at http://www.exar.com/area.php?areaID=2

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