



MEMSCAP AND TANNER EDA FIRST TO OFFER MULTI-PLATFORM MEMS DESIGN FLOW THROUGH EXCLUSIVE AGREEMENT

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SANTA CLARA, Calif., SPIE Conference - Grenoble-based MEMSCAP S.A., the leader in commercial design technology for micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS), today announced an agreement for exclusive distribution rights to Tanner Research's Windows NT-based MEMS design tool flow. The agreement enables MEMSCAP to target MEMS design teams at a multitude of smaller MEMS research and development companies, who tend to rely on PCs, as well as MEMSCAP's base of large electronics equipment manufacturers typically using UNIX workstations.

The agreement makes MEMSCAP the sole provider of MEMS computer-aided design tools and a MEMS design flow. Under the terms of the agreement, MEMSCAP will take over all marketing, tool design, tool maintenance and support for Tanner's MEMS Pro® tool suite. MEMSCAP will service the entire installed base of MEMS Pro customers and will immediately establish a customer support program for MEMS Pro users.

MEMS design work is increasing rapidly across a broad array of industries, with MEMS-based solutions emerging as the answer to technical challenges in the telecommunications, wireless, consumer electronics and biomedical markets. Companies seeking to enter the MEMS arena often lack the expertise and budgets required to develop in-house MEMS tools, preferring off-the-shelf suites that incorporate design intelligence in order to speed their devices to market.

"Tanner's expertise lies in its knowledge of analog/mixed-signal electronics and IC design," said Rod Morison, Vice President and General Manager, EDA Division, Tanner Research. "Outsourcing the marketing and maintenance of the MEMS Pro line to

a MEMS-specialized design partner frees us to focus more fully on core mixed-signal business opportunities built around our L-Edit Pro® and T-Spice Pro® IC design products. We've seen rapid growth in PC-based IC design that has led to Tanner's 12,000 physical design seats and 3000 customers. We expect to see similar rapid growth in MEMS design with MEMSCAP spearheading the effort."

The agreement is an additional step towards MEMSCAP's goal of broadening its business and technology base. In June the company launched a U.S. subsidiary in Research Triangle Park, N.C., establishing the first of several planned U.S. operations centers to tap into the burgeoning market for MEMS device development. It also secured major distribution agreements with Cybernet in Japan and Moasoft Corporation in Korea. The company already is the market leader for commercial MEMS design technologies in Europe, where its tools and semiconductor intellectual property solutions are deployed at such organizations as Bosch, SensoNor, Matra BAe Dynamics and the French Space Agency (CNES).

What are MEMS?

Micro-electro-mechanical systems are the next revolution in semiconductor technology. MEMS devices are true mechanical systems scaled down to the microscopic level, with entire systems occupying a space the size of a grain of sand. They employ many familiar elements such as gears, levers and springs, plus more exotic creations that take advantage of their extremely small scale. MEMSCAP has already developed a number of sophisticated devices for its customers, including inertial sensors, relays, varactors, an artificial retina capable of movement and contour detection, and an integrated camera using active pixel sensor technology.

MEMSCAP Products

MEMSCAP products include the VULCAIN® MEMS Engineering Kit, a fully integrated MEMS design solution enabling a continuous design flow from concept to physical verification; EDD® model generation tools; a wide range of MEMS professional design services for design teams and manufacturers; and a variety of foundry-specific libraries for major MEMS device foundries worldwide, including KANAGA®, the module for the MCNC/Cronos MEMS foundry. MEMSCAP also provides MEMS-based IP for

telecommunications applications, such as high-Q inductors, varactors, filters and relays/switches.

About Tanner EDA

Founded in 1988, Tanner EDA develops integrated circuit (IC) and micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) electronic design automation software. The company's comprehensive suite of tools covers full-custom layout editing, placement and routing, LVS and DRC verification, netlist extraction, packaging analysis, signal integrity and timing analysis, and mixed-signal simulation. The software boosts productivity with its intuitive interface, industry standard file formats, library and technology files, and its outstanding price-performance combination. The software is available on Windows NT/95/98 and Unix platforms. Tanner EDA is a division of Tanner Research, Inc., a privately held company, with offices in Pasadena and Sunnyvale, California. For more information, please visit the company's web site at www.tannereda.com.

About MEMSCAP

MEMSCAP is the leading worldwide provider of merchant semiconductor intellectual property (IP) solutions for high-performance integrated designs incorporating MEMS technology. MEMSCAP IP covers component libraries, design tools, design methodologies and related services that are used in conjunction with conventional EDA tools. The company's solutions enable system houses in wireless and optical communications and consumer electronics markets to reduce internal development costs and significantly accelerate product development cycles. MEMSCAP European headquarters are located at 50, Allée des Dauphins, 38330 St Ismier, France. The company's U.S. headquarters are based in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. For more information, please visit the company's web site at www.memscap.com. For more information contact:

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