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PCI-SIG® ANNOUNCES PCI EXPRESS™ “EXPRESSMODULE™”

Innovative Server I/O Module Brings Increased Reliability and Flexibility to the Enterprise

PORTLAND, Ore. – March 31, 2005 – The PCI-SIG®, the Special Interest Group responsible for PCI Express™ industry-standard I/O technology announced the availability of the PCI Express ExpressModule specification. This PCI Express companion specification defines hot-pluggable I/O modular form factors destined for server and workstation platforms. Products designed to the ExpressModule specification are expected to start arriving in the market by the end of 2005.

ExpressModule was formerly referred to as “Server I/O Module” or SIOM within the PCI-SIG. This new specification integrates features providing benefits to many datacenter and enterprise environments. ExpressModule offers IT professionals a standardized management interface for I/O expansion modules in servers and workstations, an integrated hot-plug feature at near non-hot-pluggable cost, and closed chassis, tool-less adapter installation and removal which will significantly reduce system downtime.

“The PCI Express ExpressModule is a significant step in expanding the flexibility and reliability of the PCI Express architecture for enterprise-class applications,” said Tony Pierce, chairman of the PCI-SIG. “I believe that IT managers are going to really appreciate the enhanced serviceability with no system down-time that ExpressModule I/O modules will offer.”

“Aside from the ExpressModule’s native hot-plug features, enterprise platforms will greatly benefit from the improved power, cooling, EMI handling, optimized I/O density and the performance scalability of this new and innovative I/O module,” said Ramin Neshati, chairman of the Serial Technology Communications Workgroup, the technical marketing team responsible for evangelizing PCI Express architecture.

Benefits of PCI-SIG Membership

PCI-SIG members can participate in the review of all PCI specifications before they are released to the industry. If you are interested in becoming a member, please visit the PCI-SIG Web site at www.pcisig.com/membership. PCI-SIG members develop and maintain PCI Express specifications and are actively involved in defining compliance criteria and checklists, as well as other technical enabling collateral.

As an additional and extremely valuable benefit of PCI-SIG membership, members are given the right to receive patent licenses from any other member of our organization with necessary claims

of patent embodied within our specifications. These licenses may be limited in scope to an implementation of a particular specification, but must be granted to all members on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms.

About the PCI-SIG

The PCI-SIG is the Special Interest Group that owns and manages PCI specifications as open industry standards. The organization defines and implements new industry standard I/O (Input/Output) specifications as the industry's local I/O needs evolve. The PCI Special Interest Group was formed in 1992, and the organization became a nonprofit corporation, officially named "PCI-SIG" in the year 2000. Currently, more than 900 industry-leading companies are active PCI-SIG members worldwide. The PCI-SIG's current directors are employed by the following PCI-SIG member companies: AMD, Broadcom, HP, IBM, Intel, LSI Logic, Microsoft, Phoenix Technologies, and Texas Instruments. For more information about the PCI-SIG, and PCI-SIG membership benefits, contact the PCI-SIG by phone, at (503) 291-2569 (within the United States), or by fax at (503) 297-1090, or visit the PCI-SIG Web site at <http://www.pcisig.com>.

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