Product news

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FTDI extends operating temperature of Vinculum embedded USB host controller

Electronica, Munich 11th November 2008 Future Technology Devices International (FTDI) announces the availability of an extended operating temperature version of its popular embedded USB host controller, Vinculum VNC1L. The device is now specified to operate over the temperature range of -40ºC to + 85º C. With this increased range of operating temperature the VNC1L is now suitable for use in a much wider range of consumer and industrial appliances. In particular, hand-held personal electronics devices such as personal media players, GPS navigation, cellular phones and digital cameras can benefit from VNC1L's embedded USB host capabilities.

FTDI's VNC1L provides USB host interface and data transfer, and supports the most popular device classes of mass storage, printer and human interface device (HID). HID class devices typically include keyboards and mice. When interfacing to Flash drives, VNC1L manages the file allocation table (FAT) structure by using a straightforward command set. The device has 8 and 32-bit custom processor cores, dual DMA controllers, 64k embedded flash and 4k internal SRAM memory. VNC1L features two independent USB 2.0 low/full speed, host/slave ports. These can be configured as either UART, serial peripheral interface (SPI) or parallel FIFO interfaces. VNC1L also has up to 28 general-purpose I/O (GPIO) pins available depending on configuration.

The VNC1L is configured via the UART interface using a choice of free, downloadable firmware – no external software control required.

The VNC1L operates from a single +3.3V supply with +5V tolerant inputs. The VNC1L has a low operational power requirement of 25mA and 2mA when in standby mode; making it perfect for portable battery-powered designs.

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About FTDI

Future Technology Devices International (FTDI) specialise in the design and supply of silicon and software solutions for the Universal Serial Bus (USB). FTDI offer a simple route to USB migration by combining easy to implement IC devices with proven, ready to use, royalty-free USB firmware and driver software. The company's single and multi-channel USB peripheral devices come with an easy to use UART or FIFO interface. These popular devices can be used in legacy USB to RS232/RS422 converter applications or to quickly interface an MCU, PLD, or FPGA to USB. A wide range of evaluation kits and modules are available to evaluate FTDI's silicon prior to design-in.

Vinculum is FTDI's brand name for a range of USB Host / Slave Controller ICs that provide easy implementation of USB host controller functionality within products, and utilise FTDI's tried and tested embedded firmware to significantly reduce development costs and time to market.

FTDI is a fabless semiconductor company with headquarters in Glasgow, UK, and has a research and development office in Singapore and regional offices in Oregon, USA, and Taipei, Taiwan. More information is available at http://www.ftdichip.com