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MARKET-LEADING PIGEON POINT SHELF MANAGER DELIVERS ADDITIONAL TEM-FRIENDLY FEATURES FOR ADVANCEDTCA

SCOTTS VALLEY, CA USA – December 2006 – Pigeon Point Systems, the leading supplier of shelf and board management solutions for AdvancedTCA[®], AdvancedMC[™] and MicroTCA[™], announces availability of release 2.4.0 of its market-leading Pigeon Point Shelf Manager, including several features requested by major customers. These features include: 1) hardening of the Shelf Manager to denial of service (DoS) attacks via the Ethernet interfaces used by the overall System Manager and 2) provisions for the Shelf Manager's Internet Protocol (IP) addresses to be automatically configured based on the location of a shelf (the "shelf address"). These features have already been tested in the labs of major Telecom Equipment Manufacturers (TEMs) and their suppliers. The new release 2.4.0 will be available to upgrade any of the thousands of Pigeon Point Shelf Management Mezzanines (especially the second generation Pigeon Point ShMM-500) that manage the majority of the world's AdvancedTCA shelves.

In many AdvancedTCA system configurations, the dual redundant Shelf Managers can be accessed through the Ethernet links implemented via dual redundant Ethernet switches installed in the shelf. In such configurations, the Shelf Managers may be accessible to any board in the shelf and possibly to shelf-external entities. Either intentionally or unintentionally, it is possible for the Shelf Managers to receive a very

high level of Ethernet messages (say, a flood of 250,000 ARP packets per second). It is critical in such circumstances that the Shelf Manager continue to fulfill its shelf monitoring functions. Release 2.4.0 of the Pigeon Point Shelf Manager incorporates significant improvements in the underlying Linux Ethernet driver to make it resistant to such floods.

In a large AdvancedTCA system with many shelves (possibly thousands in a major installation), one of the many logistic challenges is managing the Internet Protocol (IP) addresses used by system entities to contact the Shelf Managers. A pair of Pigeon Point Shelf Managers can have up to six IP addresses. One attractive approach for many TEMs is to assign such addresses based on the geographic location of a shelf and the functional role of a given address. With this approach, any specific shelf installed at that geographic location will get the same IP addresses for each specific function. One or more appropriately configured Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) servers can provide these addresses when Shelf Managers come on line, even when Shelf Managers, switches and shelves anywhere in the system are replaced or upgraded. Release 2.4.0 of the Pigeon Point Shelf Manager can acquire its IP addresses via DHCP and those DHCP requests can include an AdvancedTCA-defined shelf address to identify the location of the shelf with a text string established during shelf provisioning.

In addition, with release 2.4.0, the Pigeon Point Shelf Manager user documentation has been extensively restructured for better usability and is now posted on the Library page of the Pigeon Point website (www.pigeonpoint.com/library.html). Also accessible via that page are useful articles and newly updated tutorials on hardware platform management, recently presented by Pigeon Point at the AdvancedTCA Summit in Santa Clara, CA and the PICMG China Tech-Forum in Shanghai, China.

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About Pigeon Point Systems

Pigeon Point Systems delivers world-class management components for modular platforms based on the AdvancedTCA[®], AdvancedMC[™] and MicroTCA[™] architectures to leading companies, worldwide. Pigeon Point's focus on providing dependable, proven

solutions for the mandatory management controllers in these architectures allows customers to concentrate on the value-add aspects of their products. Deep expertise on these architectures ensures compliance and interoperability in the Pigeon Point components.

Pigeon Point, an executive member of PICMG, is a leader in its AdvancedTCA, AdvancedMC and MicroTCA subcommittees and is active in many other technical subcommittees. Pigeon Point is also a contributing member of the Service Availability™ Forum and the Communications Platform Trade Association. For more information about Pigeon Point, visit www.pigeonpoint.com or call 831-438-1565.

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