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MARKET-LEADING PIGEON POINT BOARD MANAGEMENT CONTROLLERS DELIVER INTEROPERABLE FIRMWARE UPGRADES

SCOTTS VALLEY, CA USA – October 2007 – Pigeon Point Systems, the leading supplier of shelf and board management solutions for AdvancedTCA[®], AdvancedMC[™] and MicroTCA[™], announces availability of new releases of its market-leading Pigeon Point Board Management Reference (BMR) solutions, including support for the much anticipated PICMG HPM.1 Firmware Upgrade specification. Pigeon Point led the development of HPM.1 specification within PICMG through its adoption in May, 2007. HPM.1 establishes conventions that allow any compliant management controller to have its firmware updated by a single generic upgrade agent, addressing a major need in the PICMG hardware platform management architecture.

The widely used Pigeon Point BMR-H8S-ATCA, BMR-H8S-AMC_c and BMR-AVR-AMC_m reference designs implement the mandatory management controllers for ATCA boards, AMC carrier boards and AMC modules, respectively. These popular solutions have long had a sophisticated firmware upgrade facility. Other developers of PICMG management controllers have had their own incompatible firmware upgrade approaches, complicating the development and operation of mixed vendor ATCA/AMC systems. HPM.1 combines the best of the existing approaches into a single firmware upgrade paradigm that works with any compliant management controller. At Pigeon Point's urging, the new approach was defined by PICMG in a separate stand-alone

specification so that it could be immediately applicable to the AdvancedTCA, AdvancedMC and MicroTCA architectures from the beginning.

The HPM.1 approach to PICMG management controller firmware upgrades is being rapidly adopted by leading Telecom Equipment Manufacturers (TEMs) and their suppliers. In fact, the second revision of the Scope Alliance (www.scope-alliance.org) AdvancedTCA Hardware Profile, also published in May, 2007, makes HPM.1 support mandatory for the management controllers on ATCA boards and AMC modules.

“In our 2007 surveys of the ATCA, MicroTCA and AMC market, we found that Pigeon Point’s management controller designs were widely used,” said Chris Rezendes, Executive Vice President of Venture Development Corporation. “Except for a few of the larger board and system suppliers who chose to implement their own board management controllers, nearly all the board developers we surveyed were using Pigeon Point designs. Board developers targeting the xTCA architectures typically have stringent requirements for high availability and specification compliance. Pigeon Point is meeting those requirements squarely, and support for HPM.1 in the Pigeon Point ATCA and AMC management controller solutions is further evidence of that.”

In addition to HPM.1 R1.0, the new releases of Pigeon Point’s BMR-H8S-AMCc (for AMC carriers) and BMR-AVR-AMCm (for AMC modules) solutions also support R2.0 of the AMC.0 base specification. This revision includes various enhancements in the hardware platform management area, including a new facility for electronic keying of clocking signals on AMC carriers and modules.

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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. For more information about Pigeon Point, visit www.pigeonpoint.com or call 831-438-1565.

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