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NEWS

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Media Contact:  
Mark Overgaard  
Pigeon Point Systems  
831-438-1565  
[mark@pigeonpoint.com](mailto:mark@pigeonpoint.com)  
[www.pigeonpoint.com](http://www.pigeonpoint.com)

**PIGEON POINT SYSTEMS ANNOUNCES UPDATES TO  
ATCA/AMC MANAGEMENT CONTROLLER SOLUTIONS FOR  
SMARTFUSION**

**Release Adds Support for New PICMG HPM.2 and HPM.3 Specs**

**OCEANSIDE, California, September 17, 2012**—Pigeon Point Systems, LLC today announced the upcoming release of significant enhancements to its well-received AdvancedTCA<sup>®</sup> (ATCA<sup>®</sup>) and AdvancedMC<sup>®</sup> (AMC) management controller solutions based on the Microsemi<sup>®</sup> SmartFusion<sup>™</sup> intelligent mixed signal FPGA. The new releases boost the performance and serviceability of LAN-attached management controllers that connect to an in-shelf LAN (such as the Ethernet-based ATCA Base Interface) to supplement the existing mandatory, but much slower, Intelligent Platform Management Bus (IPMB) connection, which is based on I<sup>2</sup>C. The updated solutions cover IPM Controllers (IPMCs), Carrier IPMCs and Module Management Controllers (MMCs) for ATCA and AMC boards and modules. The updates will be released during Q1, 2013.

HPM.2, the LAN-attached IPM Controller specification, was adopted by PICMG in August, 2012 and standardizes how xTCA management controllers can attach to an in-shelf LAN. HPM.3, the DHCP-assigned Platform Management Parameters specification is nearly complete within PICMG and covers how the

Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) can be used, on an implementation-independent basis, to efficiently assign controller parameters such as network addresses. The PICMG subcommittee that developed both documents was originally proposed by and is chaired by Pigeon Point Systems. The new specifications standardize functionality that was already implemented in many xTCA ecosystem products (including those based on Pigeon Point solutions). Now, ecosystem participants and customers can leverage interoperability among independent implementations of these specifications, which also add advanced features that were not previously available for LAN-attached management controllers.

Taking advantage of HPM.2, the new BMR releases can enable BMR-based management controllers to deliver the following benefits, all in an interoperable way with other independently implemented controllers: 1) get much faster firmware upgrades, boosting serviceability, 2) deliver traces of the Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) messaging in which they participate and remote visibility for serial port traffic on a board, both aiding diagnostic efforts, 3) potentially provide high speed access to large controller data items for both the Shelf Manager and a higher level System Manager, benefiting overall xTCA system performance. Taking advantage of HPM.3, those benefits can be achieved with standardized assignments of IP addresses, as well, potentially a substantial simplification in provisioning a large deployment.

Some of these benefits have already been achievable in proprietary ways with the existing BMR solutions; achieving them in a standardized way is even better. Consider the faster firmware updates, as an example. A single HPM.2-compliant upgrade agent can deliver fast firmware updates to all HPM.2-compliant controllers in a system, independent of the vendor or implementation of those controllers, with standardized IP address assignments, to boot.

Like all Pigeon Point Board Management Reference (BMR) management controller solutions, these come with full reference schematics, firmware source

code, and FPGA design, plus comprehensive documentation, a year of technical support and bench top hardware. The bench top Carrier IPMC can be tested directly with standard AMC modules and the bench top MMC can be installed in standard AMC slots for additional testing flexibility.

Numerous leading xTCA board and module vendors are already building SmartFusion-based Pigeon Point Board Management Reference (BMR) management controllers into their products. These vendors get advanced controller features, with lower cost and footprint, while benefiting from Pigeon Point's years of leadership and proven specification compliance and interoperability.

For more information on already shipping SmartFusion-based IPMC, Carrier IPMC and MMC solutions, visit [www.pigeonpoint.com](http://www.pigeonpoint.com); further queries are welcome via email at [info@pigeonpoint.com](mailto:info@pigeonpoint.com).

Pigeon Point's Mark Overgaard is leading and presenting in an HPM.2- and HPM.3-focused segment at the ATCA/ $\mu$ TCA Summit as part of Sessions A101-102: "New PICMG Specs Supercharge Systems." These sessions start at 8:30am on September 18 at the ATCA  $\mu$ TCA Summit 2012.

### **About Pigeon Point**

Pigeon Point Systems LLC 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-added 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<sup>®</sup>, AdvancedMC<sup>®</sup>, and MicroTCA<sup>™</sup> subcommittees and is active in many other technical subcommittees. Pigeon Point is also a member of VITA and

participates actively in its VITA 46.11 working group, which is defining a management architecture for VPX and OpenVPX. In addition, Pigeon Point is a contributing member of the Service Availability Forum™ and a leader in its HPI Working Group. For more information on Pigeon Point Systems, visit [www.pigeonpoint.com](http://www.pigeonpoint.com).

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Notice to editors: supplementary graphics are available in soft copy at [www.pigeonpoint.com/press/HPM\\_2-3](http://www.pigeonpoint.com/press/HPM_2-3) and included below, with draft captions.

Graphic: Pigeon Point's Board Management Reference (BMR) solutions for IPMCs, Carrier IPMCs and MMCs are adding standardized LAN attach support, with benefits in several serviceability and performance areas, based on the new PICMG HPM.2 and HPM.3 specifications, with availability by Q1, 2013.

