



Capacitive Touch Operation Now Available from FTDI Chip for its EVE Graphic Controller Platform

Enabling advanced multi-touch functionality & gesture recognition via I²C interconnect

25th February 2014 - FTDI Chip has expanded its award-winning Embedded Video Engine (EVE) offering, with the introduction of the FT801, which supports intelligent display implementations with capacitive touchscreens.

The new FT801 possesses the same key elements found on the initial EVE product, the FT800. It supports display, audio and touch functionality, with capacitive touch element provided through an I²C interface which is connected to a standard capacitive touch controller. The FT801 brings together the functionality and system benefits of EVE with the increased brightness, interactivity and vividness that both users and developers have come to recognize in capacitive touchscreen technology.

Targeted at touchscreen/display assemblies with formats up to 512 x 512 pixels, the ICs that make up the EVE platform all employ an object-oriented approach, with line-by-line rendering of graphics at 1/16th pixel resolution. This equates to simplified systems where no frame buffers are needed and where lower end 8-bit or 16-bit microcontrollers can be specified. The end result of this is dramatic reductions in overall bill-of-materials costs and board space utilised - with systems being easy to design and quick to move to full production.

The FT801 can be interfaced without difficulty to a capacitive touch controller via an I²C interface, with its multi-touch capabilities enabling 5 independent touch points to be simultaneously determined. This facilitates the deployment of human machine interfaces (HMIs) which several people can utilise at once, or conversely where a variety of complex hand gestures can be detected. The IC's sophisticated hardware engine has the ability to recognize touch tags and track touch movement - delivering notification of up to 255 touch tags.

As the FT801 comes in exactly the same package size and form factors as the FT800 (7mm x 7mm x 0.9mm, 48-lead VQFN), it expedites the re-use of existing OEM designs, with migration to capacitive touch achieved quickly and simply. A 12MHz crystal oscillator with PLL can deliver a 48MHz or 36MHz system clock. Pricing for the FT801 is \$2.75 per unit for 100K volumes.

“With the FT801 we have a truly compelling solution that can address capacitive touch sensing technology - which now represents the basis of more than half the overall touchscreen market,” states Dave Sroka, Global Product Marketing Director at FTDI Chip. “Boasting a set of features, a footprint and development support tools that are all consistent with the FT800, designers can easily utilise EVE technology for this class of displays. Furthermore, as the technology scales well they can be rest-assured that even more products will be forthcoming in the future.”

For more information on the FT801 go to:

<http://www.ftdichip.com/EVE>

About FTDI Chip

FTDI Chip develops innovative silicon solutions that enhance interaction with today's technology. Through application of its “Design Made Easy” ethos, the company is able to support engineers with highly sophisticated, feature-rich, robust and simple-to-use product platforms. These enable creation

of electronic designs with higher performance, fewer peripheral components, lower power budgets and diminished board real estate.

FTDI Chip's long-established, continuously expanding Universal Serial Bus (USB) product line boasts such universally recognized product brands as the ubiquitous R-Chip, X-Chip, Vinculum, and H-series. As well as host and bridge chips, it includes highly-integrated system solutions with built-in microcontroller functionality. The company's Embedded Video Engine (EVE) graphic controllers each pack display, audio and touch functionality onto a single chip. The unique, more streamlined approach utilised by these ICs allows dramatic reductions in the development time and bill-of-materials costs involved in next generation Human Machine Interfaces (HMIs) implementation. FTDI Chip also provides families of highly differentiated, speed-optimised microcontrollers with augmented connectivity features. These application oriented controllers (AOCs) are targeted at key areas where they add value via their elevated processing performance and increased operational efficiency.

FTDI Chip is a fab-less semiconductor company, partnered with the world's leading foundries. The company is headquartered in Glasgow, UK, with research and development facilities located in Glasgow, Singapore and Taipei (Taiwan), plus regional sales and technical support sites in Glasgow, Taipei, Portland (Oregon, USA) and Shanghai (China).

For more information go to <http://www.ftdichip.com>

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