SerialTek Delivers the Industry's First Compact, Portable Analyzer Supporting PCI Express® 3.0

Small, Lightweight Analyzer Makes the New BusXpert Micro Well-Suited for Troubleshooting PCI Express Issues in Field Environments

San Jose, CA, October 27, 2014 – SerialTek, a leader in storage protocol analysis, expands its line of analysis solutions for PCI Express® (PCIe®) today with the announced availability of the industry's first portable analyzer for PCIe 3.0 solutions. Ideal for field environments, the new BusXpert Micro analyzer for PCIe 3.0 technology provides field personnel and lab engineers with a portable and powerful solution to help quickly identify and resolve interoperability and component issues with PCIe systems.

Like its larger predecessor, the Micro supports data rates of 2.5 GT/s, 5.0 GT/s and 8.0 GT/s and provides capture, analysis and insight of PCI Express traffic at all layers. The same ease of use, multiple display views, powerful triggering and attractive price points that have long been hallmarks of SerialTek storage protocol products is available.

The SerialTek Micro analyzer supporting PCIe 3.0 architecture provides key technical features and benefits:

- Compact and portable; it weighs less than 4.5 lbs making it well-suited for field-based work and applications. The dimensions of the unit are 7" x 10" x 2" or 17.8cms x 25.4cms x 5cms
- Purpose-built analysis appliance; there is no need to hassle with swapping blades or modules
- Built in eye diagram display allow digital signals to be observed in a graphic form
- Support for Non-Volatile Memory Express (NVMe), Advanced Host Controller Interface (AHCI), SCSI over PCI Express (SOP) and SATA Express
- Deep capture buffers -- 72 GBs of DDR3 memory; 36 GBs upstream and 36 GBs downstream
- Advanced triggering with up to 7 separate simultaneous sequencers

"We are pleased that companies like SerialTek are actively promoting the adoption of PCIe technology," said Al Yanes, PCI-SIG chairman and president. "Its protocol tools and analysis solutions broaden the reach of possible use cases for PCIe architecture."

"Foxconn is the world's largest electronics contractor manufacturer and is engaged with original design manufacturing," said Xiaolin Gan, Vice Manager, Foxconn. "Our engineers are under great pressure to identify, and resolve physical and protocol issues that often arise during the design, test and quality assurance phases of our product development lifecycle. SerialTek is committed to providing the SAS/SATA and PCIe tools necessary to support our mission of providing the highest level of product quality and satisfaction for our customers and ensuring we maintain our market leadership position."

The Micro provides a number of ways to display the captured traffic, from viewing an entire command transaction and its associated frames in Transaction view, to viewing a frame as it looks in the PCI Express specifications in Details view, to viewing the handshaking in Protocol view. Manipulating the trace via searching, hide/show, bookmarking, and by decode is available with just a few clicks. Innovations like multi-threaded processing, fast trace display and trace indexing have long been a hallmark of SerialTek analyzer software and are available on the Micro.

"As a leader in PCIe test and validation tools, OakGate is pleased to see SerialTek introduce a small form factor PCIe analyzer," stated Aaron Masters, Director of Engineering at OakGate Technology. "We have a high regard for the advanced functionality built into SerialTek's analyzers. Developers and users of PCIe products will derive significant incremental benefits from the compact footprint, enhanced portability and familiar user interface offered by this product. We look forward to working with SerialTek and other industry partners to deliver innovative test solutions for the PCIe storage industry," added Mr. Masters.

Complementing the Micro is a waveform "eye" display feature. Typically found on oscilloscopes, eye diagrams allow PCIe digital signals to be observed in a graphic form. Such diagrams are used as a visual aid in obtaining the optimal signal integrity by presenting visually the effects of varying calibration settings on the received serial data.

"SerialTek is excited to meet the engineering community's need for a portable, small footprint protocol analyzer supporting PCIe 3.0 technology with the introduction of the BusXpert Micro," said Jud Bond, Senior Product Manager at SerialTek. "The innovative hardware design of the Micro analyzer, coupled with the industry-best BusXpert software makes for a powerful combination that enables engineers to analyze and solve issues both in the lab and in the field."

SerialTek's Micro analyzer for PCIe 3.0 is currently available for quote with first customer shipments beginning in November.

SerialTek offers no cost, no obligation evaluation systems to qualified customers. For more information on the new Micro analyzer supporting PCIe technology, including quote and evaluation system requests, please contact us at info@serialtek.com. Please also visit us on the web at www.serialtek.com.

About SerialTek

SerialTek is a provider of innovative data storage test tools and solutions since 2007. Leading storage manufacturers depend on our products to improve product quality and drive time-to-market requirements. The company was founded with the goal of making test and measurement solutions more powerful and fast yet easier to use. SerialTek's engineers include the original inventors of many of the popular features found in protocol analyzers including hardware indexing during capture, buffer segmentation with auto-re-arm, ultra-fast histograms and multiple trigger sequencers. Our solutions support the Serial Attached SCSI (SAS), SATA (Serial ATA), PCI Express, Non-Volatile Memory Express (NVMe) and Advanced Host Controller Interface (AHCI) protocols.

About PCI-SIG
PCI-SIG is the consortium that owns and manages PCI specifications as open industry specifications. The organization defines I/O (input/output) specifications consistent with the needs of its members. Currently, PCI-SIG is comprised of nearly 800 industry-leading member companies. To join PCI-SIG, and for a list of the Board of Directors, visit www.pcisig.com.