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For further information:
Joe Pavlat, PICMG, (781) 246-9318
info@picmg.org

PICMG Ratifies new MicroTCA and AdvancedTCA Specifications

WAKEFIELD, Mass., October 18, 2011 – PICMG, a leading standards organization for the communications, military and embedded computer industries, announces the adoption and availability of the two new specifications, The MicroTCA® Enhancements for Rear I/O and Precision Timing (MicroTCA.4) specification, and PICMG 3.8 - AdvancedTCA Rear Transition Module Zone 3A specification.

The MicroTCA.4 specification defines an addition rear I/O area for specialized AdvancedMC™ devices and a corresponding rear transition module, called a MicroRTM. The MicroTCA.4 specification also includes extension of the platform management to allow these new resources to be accurately managed by the system, as well as specialized interconnects for control and distribution of high speed timing resources used by synchronous data acquisition applications.

The new PICMG 3.8 specification adds a defined set of connectors for data and management for full size AdvancedTCA Rear Transition Modules (RTMs). The specification defines a power and system management connector, and addresses power and cooling issues specific to AdvancedTCA RTMs.

“Many of the changes introduced by both of these specifications are the result of PICMG’s high energy physics efforts through direct engagement with researchers in this field. This will allow both the MicroTCA and the AdvancedTCA community to better serve these markets or other additional markets that need synchronized data acquisition or greater I/O needs,” said Joe Pavlat, PICMG’s President.

PICMG’s MicroTCA specification was adopted in 2006 and enables AdvancedMC products to integrated in a passive backplane architecture. By reusing AdvancedMC products, MicroTCA systems are much smaller than classic AdvancedTCA architectures and are currently used in a wide variety of telecommunication, military and research markets.

The original AdvancedTCA specification was released in January of 2003 with the goal of creating a foundation for a set of common platforms with a large selection of interchangeable modules from many companies for use in telecommunications applications. AdvancedTCA has been adopted top telecommunication equipment providers and is now gaining momentum in military markets.

Products compliant to these new specifications can be found in PICMG’s product listing found at <http://www.picmg.org/>.

About PICMG

Founded in 1994 as the PCI Industrial Computer Manufacturers Group, PICMG is a consortium of over 250 companies that collaboratively develops open specifications for high performance telecommunications, military and industrial computing applications.

For information about PICMG membership, or to find out how to obtain PICMG specifications, visit the PICMG website at <http://www.picmg.org> or call PICMG headquarters at (781) 246-9318.