

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information:

Rob Davidson, PICMG, (805) 542-0999

info@picmg.org

PICMG approves new Advanced Mezzanine Card Specification

AdvancedMC™ brings hot swap and AdvancedTCA® like features to a new generation of mezzanine modules.

WAKEFIELD, Mass., February 12, 2004 – PICMG® has released the first two specifications defining the new Advanced Mezzanine Card architecture. AdvancedMC™ is the first entirely new open mezzanine standard to be developed in over a decade. AdvancedMC cards are switch fabric based, hot swappable, and fully managed.

The AdvancedMC series of specifications follow the numbering pattern set by AdvancedTCA where AMC.0 creates the foundation for the Mezzanine Cards with definition of form-factor, connector, power and thermal characteristics, management, clocking and base fabric. AMC.1 maps PCI-Express onto the extended fabric interface. Additional specifications to support Ethernet, storage, and Serial Rapid I/O are near completion and will be released as AMC.2 AMC.3 and AMC.4 respectively.

Over 60 companies, both vendors and users, participated in the specification development process, ensuring both a breadth of knowledge and experience went into the spec and that there is a ready made vendor and user community.

Mark Summers of Intel was the subcommittee chair; he said: "AdvancedMC is leveraged to exceed the high availability needs of the telecomm industry by accommodating system management and hot swap capability". "The AdvancedMC is positioned to uplift AdvancedTCA by providing greater thermal and volume envelope add-in modularity for a variety of I/O, storage and processor applications" he added.

Even though the specifications were developed for the stringent telecom requirements for reliability, availability, serviceability and manageability, it is expected that these characteristics will make AMC modules attractive in many other markets as well.

While AdvancedMC was developed to be compatible with the AdvancedTCA architecture, AdvancedMC modules will be used in conjunction with other platform architectures including some unique new systems to be comprised exclusively of AdvancedMC modules. As its predecessors have shown, good mezzanine cards will be used wherever they can fit, which will encompass a very wide range of carrier form factors and applications.. As its predecessors have shown, good mezzanine cards will be used wherever they can fit, which will encompass a very wide range of carrier form factors and applications.

Within PICMG efforts are already underway to utilize AdvancedMC modules in new ways, including MicroTCA™, in which AdvancedMC cards plug directly into a backplane, creating physically small but very powerful systems.

The PICMG website now includes a product directory where manufacturers can list their for AdvancedMC product offerings. They can be viewed at www.picmg.org/productlistings.stm. A short form version of the specification that summarizes the details of the architecture is also available on the PICMG website. Copies of the complete specifications are available to PICMG members and can be purchased by non-members from PICMG. For more information on AdvancedMC and other PICMG developments go to www.picmg.org/picmgnewinitiatives.stm.

About PICMG

Founded in 1994 as the PCI Industrial Computer Manufacturers Group, PICMG is a consortium of over 400 companies that collaboratively develops open specifications for high performance telecommunications and industrial computing applications. The members of the consortium have a long history of developing and using leading edge products for these industries.

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

###

PICMG, CompactPCI, and AdvancedTCA are registered trademarks of the PCI Industrial Computer Manufacturers Group. AdvancedMC is a trademark of PICMG. PCI Express is a trademark of the PCI SIG. Intel is a registered trademark of Intel Corporation.