



News Release

Editorial Contact:

Eric Lawson
480-792-7182
eric.lawson@microchip.com

Reader Inquiries:

1-888-624-7435
<http://www.microchip.com/get/2PT2>

Microchip and Cymbet Release World's First Energy Harvesting Application Development Kit Using eXtreme Low Power MCUs

Customizable Kit Enables Developers to Build and Test Solar Energy Harvesting Applications Without Designing Any Hardware

CHANDLER, Ariz., July 19, 2010 [NASDAQ: MCHP] — Microchip Technology Inc., a leading provider of microcontroller, analog and Flash-IP solutions, today announced that it has partnered with Cymbet Corporation to provide the world's first customizable energy harvesting application development kit—the [XLP 16-bit Energy Harvesting Development Kit](#). This kit includes a modular development board populated with the [PIC24F16KA102 microcontroller](#)—featuring eXtreme Low Power—and the capability to add [PICtail™ daughter boards](#) for the rapid evaluation of a wide variety of system functions, including ZigBee® and proprietary wireless connectivity, and SD memory cards. The PIC® microcontroller's eXtreme Low Power technology allows users to gain the longest possible operation from the included Cymbet EnerChip™ EH Eval-08 Energy Harvesting Board, which harvests solar energy that is then stored in the EnerChip solid-state, rechargeable energy-storage devices.

Watch a video on this new tool at: <http://www.microchip.com/get/R3HC>

Power condition and capacity are monitored by energy conscious software algorithms developed by Microchip and Cymbet. The monitored information can be reported to a PC user interface via a USB connection. Complete energy harvesting application firmware can be fully developed using the included [PICkit™ 3 programmer/debugger](#).

Energy Harvesting is an emerging trend within the worldwide energy-efficiency movement. It enables designers to extend the life of their battery-powered applications, or eliminate batteries altogether, by scavenging energy from sources such as the sun or ambient indoor light. The [XLP 16-bit Energy Harvesting Kit](#) provides a customizable development platform for designers to build and test their solar energy harvesting applications, without having to design any hardware. Example applications for this technology include portable consumer electronics, remote sensor networks, utility meters and portable medical devices.

“Until now, energy harvesting kits were limited to demonstration,” said Mitch Obolsky, vice president of Microchip’s Advanced Microcontroller Architecture Division. “This new kit offers true application development capability, and pairs Microchip’s industry-leading eXtreme Low Power PIC microcontrollers with Cymbet’s innovative energy harvesting technology, for the longest and most efficient solar-power operation.”

Availability & Pricing

The XLP 16-bit Energy Harvesting Kit (part # DV164133) is available today for \$195. Currently, the kit is available exclusively through Digi-Key at <http://www.microchip.com/get/FKAT>. For additional information, contact any Microchip sales representative or visit Microchip’s Web site at <http://www.microchip.com/get/2PT2>.

About Microchip Technology

Microchip Technology Inc. (NASDAQ: MCHP) is a leading provider of microcontroller, analog and Flash-IP solutions, providing low-risk product development, lower total system cost and faster time to market for thousands of diverse customer applications worldwide. Headquartered in Chandler, Arizona, Microchip offers outstanding technical support along with dependable delivery and quality. For more information, visit the Microchip website at <http://www.microchip.com/get/XW8E>.

###

Note: The Microchip name and logo, and PIC are registered trademarks of Microchip Technology Inc. in the USA and other countries. PICtail is a trademark of Microchip Technology Inc. All other trademarks mentioned herein are the property of their respective companies.

High-res Photo Available Through Flickr or Editorial Contact (feel free to publish):

<http://www.microchip.com/get/EXX0>

Video Available Through YouTube or Editorial Contact (feel free to post):

<http://www.microchip.com/get/R3HC>

Tags / Keywords: Energy Harvesting, Solar, Energy Efficiency, Low Power, Microcontroller, Thin Film Battery, PIC, Microchip, MCHP, World’s Lowest Power, Development Kit, Energy Scavenging, Self-powered, Smart Energy, wireless sensor, wireless sensor networks, ambient energy, alternative energy, XLP, extreme low power, ultra low power, ULP, MSP430, Cymbet, enerchip, WSN, RTLS

RSS Feed for Microchip Product News: <http://www.microchip.com/get/1F2C>