Tokyo, July 16, 2008 - Fujitsu Microelectronics Limited announced today the development and launch of a new microcontroller driver for its MB91460 Series of high-performance 32-bit automotive microcontrollers, jointly developed with EB, Elektrobit Corporation and compatible with Release 2.1 of AUTOSAR(1), the open software architecture for automobiles from the AUTOSAR automotive software standards consortium. The new microcontroller driver will be available from Fujitsu Microelectronics and EB from July 18, 2008. When used with Fujitsu Microelectronics' microcontrollers, this new driver will offer customers a greater degree of code reusability for automotive onboard applications already developed, and greater efficiency when developing automotive software.

The new microcontroller driver will be exhibited as part of an automotive cockpit product demonstration at Automotive Technology (AT) International 2008, to be held from July 23 to July 25 at Makuhari Messe, near Tokyo.

Figure 1: Positioning of FML’s new driver for automotive onboard microcontrollers

Larger View
In preparing the next generation of onboard systems in cars, as electronic control technology becomes more pervasive and the number of electronic components increases, the software that controls these components is becoming more complex and larger, leading to mounting costs for manufacturers of vehicles and electronic control
units (ECUs). AUTOSAR is a standards consortium for automotive onboard systems software, dedicated to addressing this problem - by creating a common specification for onboard software, the same software can be re-used regardless of the microcontroller it is running on. The AUTOSAR Release 2.1 specification standard was recently published and encompasses FlexRay(2), the next-generation in-vehicle networking standard.

Fujitsu Microelectronics became a premium member of the AUTOSAR organization in 2005 and has taken an active role in the development of onboard microcontrollers. In 2007, the company formed a strategic partnership with EB, a leading provider of software for automotive onboard systems. The companies worked together to develop a version of EB's "EB tresos" software for Fujitsu Microelectronics' MB91460 Series of microcontrollers, with both companies agreeing to distribute an AUTOSAR-compatible driver.

In accordance with this agreement, Fujitsu Microelectronics and EB jointly developed two drivers compatible with AUTOSAR 2.1: one for the dashboard-control microcontroller MB91F467DA, and one for the FlexRay 2.1 microcontroller, MB91F465XA, which are both available as of July 18, 2008. The AUTOSAR Release 2.1 now encompasses FlexRay, so customers using Fujitsu Microelectronics' microcontrollers and the new driver developed with EB can efficiently develop applications that take advantage of FlexRay.

Based on its strategic partnership agreement with EB, Fujitsu Microelectronics will continue to promptly provide drivers compatible with the latest upgrades to the AUTOSAR standards for the mid- to long-term future.

Glossary and Notes
1. AUTOSAR:
Acronym for AUTomotive Open System ARchitecture. The AUTOSAR consortium is a standards consortium for automotive electronics and software. Chiefly active in Europe at first, with the publication of Release 2.1 of its specification at the end of 2006, the consortium concluded Phase 1 of its development plans. During the period from 2007 to 2009, the consortium has started to focus on Phase 2, in which new features inclusive of safety features will be incorporated into the specification. Fujitsu Microelectronics and Elektrobit are both premium members of AUTOSAR.

2. FlexRay:
A next-generation advanced onboard network standard for automobiles. Designed for sophisticated controls that can handle transmission speeds up to 10 Mbps with high reliability. The FlexRay Consortium advocates the use of its standards for "x-by-wire" systems in next-generation advanced onboard networks in which mechanical controls are replaced by electronic controls.

3. Dashboard-control microcontroller:
Controls dashboard instruments, odometers, trip odometers, and warning lights. Includes various optimizations for ancillary components, using CAN communications macros for communications and providing control over other dashboard devices.

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About Fujitsu Microelectronics (FML)
Fujitsu Microelectronics Limited designs and manufactures semiconductors, providing highly reliable, optimal solutions and support to meet the varying needs of its customers. Products and services include ASICs/COT, ASSPs, power management ICs, and flash microcontrollers, with wide-ranging expertise focusing on imaging, wireless, automotive and security applications. Fujitsu Microelectronics also drives power efficiency and environmental initiatives. Headquartered in Tokyo, Fujitsu Microelectronics Limited was established as a subsidiary of Fujitsu Limited on March 21, 2008. Through its global sales and development network, with sites in Japan and throughout Asia, Europe, and the Americas, Fujitsu Microelectronics offers semiconductor solutions to the global marketplace. For more information: http://jp.fujitsu.com/group/fml/en/

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