Firecomms
Photonic Communications Technology

Press Release
For Immediate Release

Firecomms Launches RCLED-Based S200 Solution for IEEE 1394 POF Applications

Cork, Ireland—August 22, 2003–Firecomms announces its RCLED-based 650nm transceiver solution designed for maximum speed in IEEE 1394 plastic optical fiber (POF) applications. Based on the company's flagship RCLED (resonant cavity light emitting diode) technology, this new transceiver solution pairs Firecomms' new 250 Mbps RCLED transmitter with the company's new 250 Mbps receiver to enable POF to achieve 250 Mbps over 50 meters as specified by the S200 standard of IEEE 1394b.

Due to the coupling efficiency and narrow beam characteristic of RCLED technology, Firecomms' new RCLED-based S200 solution provides a minimum 5dB attenuation overhead in a 250 Mbps 50m POF link.

Firecomms' 650nm RCLED transmitter, built on the company's acclaimed RCLED technology, is capable of high-speed modulation of 250Mbps and boasts a tiny emission aperture. With an identical form factor to the RCLED transmitter, Firecomms' new 650 nm ROSA (receiver optical sub-assembly) is an ideal mate.

"Current POF is most efficient at the 650nm wavelength," says Firecomms CTO Dr. John Lambkin. "Capable of over 250Mbps, Firecomms' new 650nm S200 transceiver solution opens up an enormous market for high-speed, low-cost networking. Technologies such as IEEE 1394b have immediate requirements for optical devices in this range."

Developed at Firecomms' compound semiconductor lab in Ireland, Firecomms' new RCLED-based transceiver products meet the S200 (250 Mbps) specification of the IEEE 1394b standard. Both products are housed in Firecomms exclusive *Side-Looker* package to efficiently focus the transmitted and received light.

"RCLED devices have greater optical power and lower numerical apertures than traditional LEDs making them ideal for efficient coupling to POF," says Firecomms CEO Declan O'Mahoney. "Firecomms' new RCLED-based products have been designed in tandem with the lens and packaging to create an efficient integrated solution—a design approach that

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2200 AIRPORT BUSINESS PARK, CORK, IRELAND
PHONE +353 (21) 454 7100 FAX +353 (21) 432 2657

makes our RCLED-based products faster, more efficient, and more temperature tolerant than any other devices on the market today."

According to O'Mahoney, Firecomms offers its world-class RCLED core technology as integrated solutions to the company's automotive, consumer and industrial customers.

Firecomms' new RCLED-based transceiver products are currently shipping in volume quantities. These devices can be ordered through the Firecomms sales organization (sales@firecomms.com) in Japan, USA, and Europe using part number FC200R-010 for the transmitter and FC200D-010 for the receiver.

About Firecomms Ltd.

Firecomms light source technology overcomes existing technical difficulties to allow information to be carried via simple plastic optical fiber (POF) rather than much more expensive, sophisticated and difficult to install glass fiber optic cable. As a result, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) can use the company's high-speed compound semiconductor light sources for cost-effective solutions in industrial, commercial and personal electronic applications where glass fiber optics would be prohibitively expensive.

The Cork, Ireland based company uses a fabless business model, conducting product development in Ireland in association with the Ireland's national information communications technology (ICT) research centre, NMRC, and outsourcing the manufacturing process to the most competitive, high quality sub-contractors overseas.

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F u r t h e r I n f o r m a t i o n :

Rene' Williams
Strategic Incite
Tel. 949.360.7770
rene@strategic-incite.com