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Altium unveils latest M16C v3.1r1 toolset

New features enhance performance of generated code

SYDNEY, Australia – March 7, 2005 – Altium Limited (ASX: ALU), a leading developer of Windows-based electronics design software, today released version 3.1r1 of its TASKING M16C software development toolset. The updated toolset excels in performance of generated code and accelerates application development.

The M16C architecture from Renesas Technology Corporation is a 16-bit MCU featuring high C-programming efficiency, high-speed processing, and low-power consumption. The combination of Renesas' M16C MCU, and Altium's TASKING M16C software development toolset enhanced with next generation VIPER compiler technology, enables engineers to develop high-performance and superior applications.

"Altium continues to demonstrate its ability as a powerful tool partner with this latest evolution of its TASKING M16C compiler chain," said David Noverraz, Product Manager, Support Tools, Renesas Technology Europe.

"With version 3.1r1, we introduced several new features in the compiler. Run-time error checking capabilities are now available offering a wealth of checks that reveal run-time errors. The profiling feature will contribute to execution time improvements," explained Jeroen C. Verheijen, Altium's TASKING Product Manager. "Furthermore, compilation time has been greatly improved and the assembler was overhauled."

Key features of TASKING M16C software development toolset v3.1r1 include:

- MISRA C code checking rules according to MISRA-C:2004 guidelines.
- Extensive run-time error checking facilities in the compiler.
- A profiler tool in the compiler that uses code instrumentation to determine which pieces of code execute slower than expected.

Pricing and availability

The TASKING M16C software development toolset v3.1r1 is a comprehensive toolset which supports both the Renesas M16C and the Renesas R8C/Tiny. It contains the TASKING Embedded Development Environment (EDE), C/C++/EC++ compiler with MISRA C code checking, assembler, linker/locator, CrossView Pro simulator debugger, and TASKING ROM monitor debugger and M16C flasher. The toolset is available for PC/Windows and SUN/Solaris platforms and is priced at US\$2,790 for the complete C/C++/EC++ compiler and debugger PC toolset.

For more product information or a demonstration version of the product, visit www.altium.com/tasking/m16c or contact your local Altium Sales and Support center.

About TASKING

TASKING, Altium's industry-leading range of tools for embedded software development, offers an integrated software development environment that enables developers to take advantage of all the capabilities needed for application development from project management, editing, and program building to compiling, optimizing, and debugging. Its software development toolsets consist of the award winning TASKING Embedded Development Environment (EDE), highly optimizing C and C++/EC++ compilers, assembler, linker/locator, and the CrossView Pro debugger.

About Altium Limited

Altium Limited (ASX: ALU) is a global developer and supplier of electronics design software for the Microsoft Windows environment. Founded in 1985, Altium released the world's first Microsoft Windows-based printed circuit board design tool in 1991 and continues to provide advanced, easy-to-use and affordable software design tools to electronics engineers, designers, and developers worldwide. Altium's products offer tailored solutions covering a range of hardware and software design processes including the Nexar, Protel, P-CAD and TASKING brands. Altium is headquartered in Sydney, Australia and has sales and support offices in Australia, the United States, Japan, Europe and China. More information is available at www.altium.com.

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