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For Immediate Release

TASKING C166/ST10 Software Development Toolset Delivers Powerful New Global Storage Optimization Technique

All New C166 & ST10 Derivatives Now Supported

SYDNEY, Australia – October 24th 2001 – Altium Limited (ASX: ALU) is pleased to announce that TASKING, its industry-leading brand of tools for embedded software development, delivers advanced automated memory utilization for the complete range of C166/ST10 derivatives, an enhanced development environment, improved Linker/Locator, and restyled debugger in the latest release of the C166/ST10 Software Development Toolset.

With a focus on enabling the developer to maximize the memory utilization of any memory model, but in particular the small memory model, the Global Storage Optimization (GSO) feature now included in V7.5 of the TASKING C166/ST10 toolset greatly enhances the TASKING C Compiler, cementing its position as the leading software development solution for either Infineon C166, STMicroelectronic ST10 or Micronas SDA6000/M2 microcontrollers or their derivatives.

TASKING continues to exploit new techniques for achieving greater levels of efficiency between the compiler and the target architecture. The Global Storage Optimization feature of the C/C++/EC++ compilers maximizes memory utilization by automatically filling in memory qualifiers based on the suitability of objects in either near or far memory spaces. The optimization is global in its application scope, meaning that the whole application is pre-compiled first to gather information about all static objects, and then compiled again using the optimum memory configuration as determined by the GSO and so resulting in tighter code.

Exchanging data with 8-bit devices can be difficult due to compatibility requirements. The TASKING C compiler helps developers overcome these difficulties by supporting packed structures, allowing fields within a structure to be allocated at unaligned addresses. The compiler can then generate code to access these unaligned fields, allowing easier integration with the 8-bit target.

In V7.5, the TASKING Embedded Development Environment (EDE) has been enhanced and extended with a focus on improving user-friendliness and increasing the available features to allow developers to reach new levels of coding efficiency. Some of the highlights of the improved EDE are:

- **Back and Forward buttons**, well known from HTML browsers, that allow quick navigation through files or views.
- **Split Windows** to provide full control over source code by allowing files to be split horizontally and vertically in up to four interactive edit windows.
- Optimized **CodeSense** feature for better control of the type-ahead functionality, enabling faster coding with fewer mistakes.
- Integrated **HTML View Window** to allow browsing through the product manuals, project or code documentation, or even surfing the Internet.
- The editor's **ChromaCoding** feature now recognizes even more keywords related to embedded application development, such as all C166/ST10 instructions, compiler intrinsics and pragmas.
- **XML Collapsible Grid Viewer** displays a hierarchy of the elements and elements in an XML document, which for example could be part of a project description.

The Linker / Locator has been enhanced to help developers produce the most compact code possible. With the new Smart Linking feature, unused functions from a library object are automatically removed from the application, resulting in a smaller application size.

A vital stage in embedded software development is accurate, efficient debugging. The user interface of the TASKING CrossView Pro debugger has been extensively restyled, with the rearrangement of menus, improvement of user dialogs, and redesign of button bars and button sizes, resulting in a highly intuitive environment. It is also now easier to learn to use the debugger thanks to the new context sensitive help system.

With the new CrossView Pro ROM Monitor debugger supporting over 20 CAN host adapters including ISA, PCI, PCMCIA and parallel port adapters from IXXAT, Vector, ESD and Phytec, together with more flexible identifier configuration, CrossView Pro can be connected to any CAN device equipped with the ROM monitor in a CAN network.

TASKING's toolset, the de facto standard C166/ST10 development suite in the automotive industry, now offers generic OSEK kernel awareness in its CrossView Pro debugger. Based on the OSEK Run Time Interface (ORTI) language specification, the debugger can inspect and present the internals of the developer's preferred OSEK compliant operating system.

With the release of v7.5 of TASKING's C166 software development toolset, Altium continues to break down the barriers to innovation and technological advancement, and provide every electronic engineer and embedded system developer with easy access to the best possible design tools.

Availability

This latest version of the TASKING C166 / ST10 Software Development toolset, featuring TASKING's award-winning EDE, highly optimizing C/C++/EC++ compiler with MISRA C enhanced code checking support, efficient Linker / Locator and powerful CrossView Pro debugger, delivers the very latest technology for producing tight, compact, efficient code for embedded software development.

It is now available on MS-Windows, Sun/Solaris, HP/UX and PC/Linux and starts at \$2,650 for the C compiler and CrossView Pro simulator package. C166/ST10 customers with an active maintenance contract may upgrade to this release free of charge. A demo version of the toolset is available from <http://www.tasking.com/C166-ST10/> or on CD-ROM from any of the Altium Sales Offices or distributors. Release notes and manual files can be downloaded from the technical support area at <http://www.tasking.com/support/C166-ST10/>.

About Altium Limited

Altium Limited (ASX: ALU), trading as Protel International Limited (ASX: PRI) prior to August 6, 2001, is a leading global developer and supplier of desktop electronic design automation (EDA) and embedded software design tools for the Microsoft Windows environment.

Since the Company's foundation in 1985 and its release of the world's first Microsoft Windows-based EDA tool in 1991, Altium has continued to apply the most advanced software design methods to provide powerful, easy-to-use and affordable design software to engineers and electronics designers worldwide.

Altium's current product brands include Protel, P-CAD, TASKING, Accolade, CircuitMaker and CAMtastic!. These products offer tailored solutions covering a range of hardware and software design processes.

Altium is headquartered in Sydney, Australia, and operates a number of sales and support offices in Australia, the United States, Japan and Europe – as well as maintaining a large reseller network in all other major markets. More information about the Company and its products and services may be obtained from our new website at <http://www.altium.com>.

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