

Tektronix Delivers Industry's First One-button Test For 10GBASE-T Compliance

Simplified Test Solution Accelerates Validation Cycles and Lowers Costs

BEAVERTON, Ore., August 18, 2009 – Tektronix, Inc., a leading worldwide provider of test, measurement and monitoring instrumentation, today announced the industry's first one-button solution for the full-range of 10GBASE-T measurements with the release of XGbT test automation software and test fixtures. The new oscilloscope-based solution lowers cost by nearly 50 percent, removes complexity and improves usability compared to competitive 10GBASE-T test solutions that require the use of up to three separate instruments.

The market adoption of 10G Ethernet is expected to grow exponentially over the next several years, driven by such bandwidth-hungry applications as streaming video, VoIP, IPTV, video conferencing over Ethernet, virtualization technology, server consolidation and more. This growth means that the entire supply chain for 10GBASE-T will demand low-cost, reliable, fast and easy to operate test equipment such as the new Tektronix XGbT Automation Solution.

"The need for an improved 10GBASE-T solution spans chip makers, product developers and manufacturers around the world," said Brian Reich, Vice-President, Performance Oscilloscopes, Tektronix. "With our XGbT software and fixtures, we are delivering an affordable one-button solution that can perform repeatable conformance and validation tests at the press of a button, making it ideal for both design and manufacturing applications."

Faster Validation, More Efficient

Using the new Tektronix solution, 10GBASE-T designers and validation engineers can improve efficiency with faster validation cycles and higher reliability afforded by the industry leading features of the Tektronix DPO7000 Series and DPO/DSA70000 Series Real-Time Oscilloscopes, XGbT software and XGbT Test Fixtures. In addition, the 10GBASE-T software is built on the TekExpress test automation framework which enables additional automation steps that may be required for unique measurement needs – such as one-button control of a Tektronix AWG7000B Series Arbitrary Waveform Generator for Return Loss measurements.

"We are closely working with Tektronix to validate the one-button approach. Joint testing performed on a customer device shows that this method of testing correlates extremely well with the expected results," said Jon Beckwith, Research & Development Engineer at the University of New Hampshire InterOperability Laboratory. "We find it to be a convenient approach to performing 10GBASE-T PHY design, validation and compliance testing."

Compared to competitive offerings which require the use of an oscilloscope, vector network analyzer (VNA) and spectrum analyzer, the Tektronix oscilloscope and software solution provides faster and easier test set-up. The use of a single instrument reduces upfront costs by nearly 50 percent in certain configurations and provides for a significantly improved user experience and more repeatable results. This is especially important in distributed engineering environments where repeatable test methods are required across different groups using different test equipment. The Tektronix solution conforms to 10GBASE-T PHY electrical testing specifications.

"Teranetics, the leader in 10GBASE-T PHY technology, has closely worked with Tektronix to make 10GBASE-T testing efficient and user friendly," said Jose Tellado, Vice President of Systems Engineering at Teranetics. "Using an oscilloscope as the common platform to perform 10GBASE-T measurements such as power spectral density, power level and linearity, the XGbT solution provides significant time and cost

savings."

Many end-users of Ethernet compliance solutions are technicians who work on the production floor testing Ethernet equipment. In this environment, companies need automated testing to quickly validate performance and interoperability of production units coming off the line. Using the Tektronix 10GBASE-T solution, customers have one-button selection of multiple tests.

The solution allows customers to use all four channels of the DPO/DSA oscilloscope to perform measurements for faster test times and additional cost savings. Customers can also use a Tektronix P7380 SMA differential probe and P6330 high input impedance probe with the XGbT test fixture to further reduce test time. For in-depth validation and debugging, the XGbT software includes a reporting module and results export capabilities and can capture test margins and statistical information.

At Solarflare Communications, a leading silicon vendor delivering 10 Gigabit Ethernet products, four channel capabilities, along with Tektronix support for National Instruments' LabVIEW, are leading to impressive time and cost savings. "Solarflare is currently shipping 10 Gigabit Ethernet controller and transceiver products. IEEE 802.3 compliance, including Tektronix' four channel support, is critical to us because it drastically reduces our validation test times," said Ajay Rane, Director of Marketing at Solarflare. "Tektronix' additional support of National Instruments' LabVIEW further enhances our test automation and gives us the flexibility to automate 10GBASE-T PHY compliance testing with other components, such as thermal change and power supplies."

Pricing & Availability

Tektronix XGbT software and fixtures will be available in August 2009. A complete solution including DPO7354 oscilloscope, software, and fixtures has a starting list price of \$47,200 U.S. MSRP.

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About Tektronix

Tektronix is a leading supplier of test, measurement, and monitoring products, solutions and services for the communications, computer, and semiconductor industries - as well as military/aerospace, consumer electronics, education and a broad range of other industries worldwide. With 60 years of experience, Tektronix enables its customers to design, build, deploy, and manage next-generation global communications networks, computing and advanced technologies. Headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon, Tektronix has operations in 19 countries worldwide. Tektronix' Web address is www.tektronix.com .

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