

Firecomms Launches First IDB 1394 FOT

EH Expo, Long Beach, CA—November 16, 2004—Firecomms announces the release of the first 650nm RCLED-based FOT (fiber optic transceiver) and highly-sensitive receiver FOT to conform to the latest IDB 1394 form factor standard. Based on Firecomms' proprietary technology for Resonant Cavity LEDs, the FOT is rated for modulation of 250 Mbps and boasts a tiny emission aperture and narrow beam characteristics.

These new devices are currently in analog form, with an application circuit available as part of Firecomms' product specifications. Firecomms' FOTS are rated for up to 85°C operation, and meet the 1394b S200 (250 Mbps) specification.

"Our new FOTs provide future-proof drop-in solutions for all connectors designed for IEEE 1394 automotive or consumer electronics applications," says, Firecomms CEO Declan O'Mahoney. "The 1394 Trade Association and IDB Forum have worked tirelessly to create this standard for Plastic Optical Fiber (POF) devices that can be used in such applications."

Firecomms leads the development of devices to drive POF, a low-cost optical alternative to copper cabling. Due to its ease of use, large core tolerances, and low costs, POF is enjoying a huge growth in a wide range of applications. In fact, POF is now used in millions of small area networks, such as those in use in many car models, and is rapidly gaining ground in home network and point-to-point interconnection.

Firecomms new FOT is currently shipping in volume quantities. These devices, known as the FC300 series, can be ordered through Firecomms' sales organization (sales@firecomms.com) in Japan, USA, and Europe.

About Firecomms Ltd.

Firecomms, a compound semiconductor company, develops high-speed light sources in visible range wavelengths. Firecomms' lasers and LEDs provide the groundwork that will revolutionize optical data communications for small area networks, such as in-car networks and home networks. Firecomms' low power visible lasers unleash the potential for advances in medical devices, barcode scanners, and optical storage devices.

The Ireland-based company leverages its ten years of photonics research experience, optical expertise, and extensive IP portfolio to develop cost-effective solutions for applications in which the use of glass fiber optics is prohibitively expensive. Additional information about Firecomms is available at www.firecomms.com.

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