



## **AKUSTICA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM SPEEDS DESIGN OF DIGITAL MICROPHONE ARRAYS**

*--IDT becomes first CODEC Manufacturer certified for use with Akustica's CMOS  
MEMS Microphones*

**San Francisco/IDF—September 26, 2006**—Akustica, Inc., the pioneer in on-chip acoustic systems, today announced their “Akustica Certified” CODEC program, the industry’s first certification program that ensures manufacturers a straightforward and seamless implementation of digital microphone arrays.

The program is designed to validate all of the functionality required for a successful customer integration of digital microphones. This includes hardware compatibility with the digital microphone interface as well as driver compatibility in areas such as proper identification of left/right microphones in an array.

All CODECs and accompanying drivers that have been designed to support the digital microphone interface are eligible for certification. Devices that meet Akustica’s stringent standards will be branded “Akustica Certified” and are guaranteed to work out-of-the-box with Akustica digital microphones. For example, IDT’s STAC9228 is the first High Definition (HD) Audio CODEC to be certified for complete interoperability with Akustica digital microphones in a laptop PC. This digital microphone array solution was the first ever to be used in production and can be found in the Fujitsu Q2010 LifeBook that has been available since May '06.

“As the first and only provider of digital microphones today, Akustica feels it is important to leverage our extensive audio expertise to provide more than just microphones for our customers,” said Jim Rock, Akustica’s CEO. “By ensuring that the entire microphone array solution is fully functional, all the way from the voice input to the digital audio bus, we are guaranteeing high quality and a significantly reduced design time for our customers, a factor of critical importance to consumer electronics manufacturers who require fast design-to-delivery cycles.”

### **The Certified Partner Program**

In order for a CODEC to become Akustica Certified, CODEC vendors must provide their CODEC and an evaluation board for testing at Akustica. Akustica will then perform a battery of tests and provide a report to the vendor on aspects that must be improved prior to the device receiving Akustica Certification. Once the CODEC is certified, Akustica will, upon request, provide a final report to customers that are using the solution. The Akustica Certified CODECs will be the preferred solutions that are recommended to customers that are integrating digital microphone arrays. Partners with Akustica Certified devices are also able to use the Akustica Certified logo in their CODEC collateral.

“As the first CODEC vendor to attain Akustica Certification, we are pleased to offer our customers an HD Audio CODEC solution that is guaranteed to integrate smoothly with

Akustica's digital microphones," said Phil Bourekas, vice president and general manager of the IDT PC Audio Products. "Participating in this program is reflective of our goal to help drive the ongoing improvements and innovation for the PC audio market. Like Akustica, we are at the forefront of delivering high-performance audio solutions that can be easily implemented while providing our PC customers a realistic path for Vista compliance."

### **Joining the Akustica Certification Program**

Audio CODEC vendors interested in Akustica Certification may contact Akustica directly via phone: (412) 390-1730, Fax (412) 390-1737, email: [marketing@akustica.com](mailto:marketing@akustica.com).

### **Akustica's Digital Microphone Family**

The Akustica Certified program is available for Akustica's family of digital microphones, which includes the AKU2000, AKU2001 and AKU2004. These microphones offer numerous benefits to consumer electronics manufacturers. Because of their small size and immunity to radio frequency/electromagnetic interference (RFI/EMI), they are ideally suited to space-constrained, wireless consumer electronics devices that are manufactured in high volume. As the first microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) devices manufactured using standard Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) processes, Akustica's microphones can be produced in high volumes by CMOS foundries around the world.

### **About Akustica, Inc.**

Founded in 2001, Akustica, Inc. is a privately held company based in Pittsburgh. Through a revolutionary technology known as Sensory Silicon™, Akustica products enable electronic devices to sense and respond to the world around them. By leveraging standard CMOS processes and MEMS technology, Akustica acoustic system-on-chip solutions combine the functionality of microphones with microelectronics and software onto a single chip. Only Akustica's CMOS MEMS Microphone Chips—which were pioneered by Akustica co-founder and CTO Dr. Ken Gabriel during his tenure at Carnegie Mellon University—enable single-chip solutions with arrays of transducers and integrated signal processing that disrupt both conventional microphone and speaker technologies. Smaller and more reliable than the current crop of electret condenser microphones (ECMs), silicon microphones can be customized with advanced sound capture features and noise reduction capabilities. For more information on Akustica, please contact us via phone: (412) 390-1730, Fax (412) 390-1737, email: [contact@akustica.com](mailto:contact@akustica.com) or web: [www.akustica.com](http://www.akustica.com).

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### **PRESS CONTACTS (For Editors Only):**

AKUSTICA, INC.

Davin Yuknis

Phone: 412/390-1730

Email: [dyuknis@akustica.com](mailto:dyuknis@akustica.com)

VETRANO COMMUNICATIONS

Maria Vetranò

Phone: 617/876-2770

Email: [m.vetranò@vetranò.com](mailto:m.vetranò@vetranò.com)