

Next generation XBee and XBee-PRO ZigBee modules launched

Minnetonka, MN --- (METERING.COM) --- June 11, 2010 - A new line of XBee and XBee-PRO ZB embedded ZigBee modules based on the Ember EM357 system on chip (SoC) has been introduced by Digi International.

The new modules add surface mount technology (SMT) and serial peripheral interface (SPI) to the product family. The SMT modules are ideal for high volume applications in the energy and controls markets where manufacturing efficiencies are critical. The addition of SPI provides high speed throughput and optimizes integration with embedded microcontrollers lowering costs of development and shortening time to market.



"The enhanced technology will be the standard for all future XBee releases," said Larry Kraft, senior vice president of global sales and marketing, Digi International. "The XBee product line improvements make the modules an even better choice for smart energy and other ZigBee networking applications."

The XBee and XBee-PRO ZB modules feature ZigBee Smart Energy-ready firmware for supporting the implementation of each of the eight devices defined in the ZigBee Smart Energy public application profile. Products developed with the ZigBee Smart Energy profile will be ideal for metering devices, load controllers, in-home displays and other ZigBee Smart Energy devices.

The new modules with SMT will be backwards compatible with existing hardware and software allowing customers to leverage their existing XBee deployments. Available in a variety of protocols for different applications, one XBee can be substituted for another with minimal development time or risk. When coupled with a ConnectPort X gateway, customers can also use the iDigi™ Platform to easily integrate XBee ZigBee endpoints into their systems.

The new XBee ZB modules will be available in July, and the new XBee-PRO ZB modules will be available in August. New versions of all XBee modules including the programmable XBee-PRO ZB will be released throughout the year.