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For Immediate Release

Cypress Launches High-Speed Programmable Communications ICs

*Family of Devices Combines Programmable logic,
High-Speed Serial Interface, and Integrated Software Solution
To Enable Rapid Time-to-Market for High-Bandwidth Communications Applications*

SAN JOSE, Calif., December 18, 2000 – Cypress Semiconductor (NYSE: CY) today introduced a family of communications devices that will enable programmable, high-speed serial I/O. The Programmable Serial Interface (PSI™) family will offer a unique combination of programmable logic and serial interface technology to reduce the time-to-market, overall system complexity and cost of high-bandwidth communications systems.

PSI devices will combine the flexibility, predictable timing, and ease-of-use of programmable logic with a SERDES, a high-speed serial interface, communications memory, logic, and phase-locked loops (PLLs). Cypress's *Warp*™ software will enable a seamless programming interface to allow design engineers to integrate custom IP with the SERDES. These programmable communications ICs will provide a range of flexible, single-chip interface solutions targeted at communications backplanes and line cards. A subset of the family will be SONET-compliant and targeted at the OC-48 market.

"Cypress has been an acknowledged leader in communications technologies, as demonstrated by our HOTLink® transceivers, for the past eight years. We will combine those competencies with programmability, resulting in the PSI family's flexibility and ease of use," said Geoff Charubin, Cypress director of marketing. "We will deliver the first members of this family in the first quarter of 2001, enabling our customers to integrate their logic IP with our communications devices."

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“Communications backplanes traditionally employ parallel buses; however, designers aiming to meet the demand for bandwidth in networking systems have encountered the speed, noise and scalability limitations of this bus architecture,” said Richard Kapusta, Cypress senior product marketing manager. “Serial connections, on the other hand, eliminate cross-talk while increasing system speed, reducing noise and providing scalability. Serial connections also enable high-speed box-to-box communication. In addition, system reliability and serviceability are greatly enhanced.”

The devices in the PSI family will provide a programmable interface to a SERDES that is compatible with various physical layer transmission media – fiber optic modules, copper cables and circuit board traces. Along with optimized memory (such as dual-ported and FIFO memories), logic and PLLs, the ICs will provide multiple parallel I/Os supporting LVCMOS, LVTTTL, 3.3 Volt PCI, SSTL2, SSTL3, HSTL, and GTL+ inputs. The serial links will offer operating speeds from 1 x 2.5 GHz to 8 x 1.5 GHz to support high-bandwidth applications. The combined serial bandwidth of 200 Mbps to 12 Gbps will allow PSI devices to meet the requirements of a broad range of market segments, including Gigabit Ethernet, InfiniBand, Fibre Channel, and SONET. The devices will be offered in BGA packages.

About Cypress

Cypress Semiconductor is “Driving the Communications Revolution”™ by providing high-performance integrated circuit solutions to fast-growing markets, including data communications, telecommunications, computation, consumer products, and industrial control. With a focus on emerging communications applications, Cypress's product portfolios include networking-optimized and micropower static RAMs; high-bandwidth multi-port and FIFO memories; high-performance communication devices, high-density programmable logic devices; timing technology solutions; and controllers for Universal Serial Bus (USB). Cypress is No. 1 in the USB and clock generation and distribution markets.

More than two-thirds of Cypress's sales come from fast-growing communications markets and dynamic companies such as Alcatel, Cisco, Ericsson, Lucent, Motorola, Nortel Networks, and 3Com. Cypress's ability to mix and match its broad portfolio of intellectual property enables targeted, integrated solutions for high-speed systems that feed bandwidth-hungry Internet applications. Cypress aims to become the preferred silicon supplier for Internet switching systems and for every Internet data stream to pass through at least one Cypress IC.

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Cypress employs more than 4,100 people worldwide with international headquarters in San Jose, California. Its shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CY. More information about Cypress is accessible electronically on the company's worldwide Web site at <http://www.cypress.com> or by CD-ROM (call 1-800-858-1810). An electronic investor forum, and other investor information, is located at <http://www.cypress.com/investor/index.html>.

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