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SIGPRO Opens Technology Center in Coimbatore, India

SIGPRO's India Technology Center enables SIGPRO to expedite Commercialization of Flexium™ Chip and Enter New Market

1 July 2003 (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada) - SIGPRO Wireless an Ottawa based fabless semiconductor company engaged in the development and commercialization of next generation System on Chip hardware and embedded software solutions for Personal Communication Devices (PCDs) is pleased to announce the grand opening of it's India Technology Center.

SIGPRO's India Technology Center will employ forty engineers and be located in Coimbatore, India about two hundred kilometers southwest of Bangalore, India's high technology capital. "The mandate of the SIGPRO Technology Center is three fold; enhance time to market for our Flexium™ chip, evaluate and integrate new technologies for the next generation of 3G ASICs, and create a local presence in one of the largest global markets for personal communication devices," explained Dr. Sundara Murthy the founder and CEO of SIGPRO Wireless.

SIGPRO's expansion into India will allow the company to maximize efficiency by utilizing India's talented pool of wireless mobility engineers and semiconductor technology visionaries. The new SIGPRO Technology Center will allow the company to work around the clock, accelerating product development and ASIC verification in order to rapidly meet the demands of original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). "We are so pleased to see the SIGPRO India Technology Center open," said Dr. Sundara Murthy the CEO and founder of SIGPRO Wireless "Our team has put a great deal of effort into making this possible and we look forward to the immediate impact the SIGPRO team in India will have."

The office in India will also assist SIGPRO in evaluating new technologies and software applications for integration with SIGPRO's communication platforms. With the enormous talent pool, the emergence of the venture capital industry in India and the multinationals moving research and development facilities to India there has emerged a significant cluster of technology companies developing new and innovative technologies. "We have already begun discussions with third party vendors in the region about integrating 3G software protocol suites and bluetooth hardware with our Flexium™ chip," elaborated Dr. Murthy.

SIGPRO's expansion into India will not only open doors for many new opportunities in technology development, it will also provide a strong foundation for growth in the region. "The size of the market for personal communication devices in India is astonishing, just like in China the personal communication device makers moved aggressively into the market to position themselves" explained Dr. Murthy. "In China, we saw the emergence of domestic brand mobile phone makers competing against the multinational handset makers, our extensive market research has told us that in India the same will happen," added Dr. Murthy. "SIGPRO will be well positioned to provide our technology to the personal communication device makers in India and to the multinationals selling phones in to the Indian market."

SIGPRO's executives and team leaders have begun building the SIGPRO India team including experts in ASIC design, real time software design, board level design, protocol suite and application development. "We have a core group of professionals and will quickly ramp to around thirty employees in India over a three month period" explained Dr. Murthy. "We are providing great career opportunities with the opportunity for individuals to be part of a dynamic and fast moving team that is solely focused on making SIGPRO Wireless number one in the wireless chipset market."

The grand opening for SIGPRO's Technology Center was a homecoming of sorts for SIGPRO's CEO and founder who was on hand for the July 1, 2003 grand opening of the SIGPRO Wireless India Technology Center in Coimbatore, India. Dr. Sundara Murthy was born and raised in Coimbatore, educated at the University of Madras and the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Dr. Murthy then earned his Ph.D. in Digital Communications at the University of Essex in England. He then immigrated to Canada and had successful careers at Miller Communications, Telesat, Vistar Telecom, COM DEV and Research in Motion prior to founding SIGPRO Wireless in May 2000.

With technology trials underway with numerous global personal communication device makers, SIGPRO Wireless is planning and preparing for its next growth phase. "This is just the first phase of our global expansion, we are planning for sales offices in Europe, Asia and in Silicon Valley in the USA in the near future," explained Dr. Murthy.

About SIGPRO Wireless

Founded in May 2000 by Dr. Sundara Murthy. SIGPRO Wireless is commercializing critical System-on-Chip (SoC) and associated software solutions for next-generation wireless mobility Personal Communication Devices (PCDs). With a pioneering architecture, SIGPRO's programmable Flexium™ chip supports a variety of worldwide standards, data rates, protocols, services and applications. With Flexium™ inside, the next generation wireless PCD will "empower the individual" with a multitude of personal communication (cellular phones), computation (palm computers), information (email, web devices), navigation (GPS), and entertainment (MPEG4, MP3) services. Flexium™ is leading the technology "Convergence" in PCDs to deliver "All-in-one" integrated services to people on the move.

For more information about SIGPRO Wireless and the Flexium™ chips visit www.sigprowireless.com