

PRESS RELEASES

- FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION -

OKI offers new opportunities for Silica Iberia

Madrid 28th January 2004 -- Specialist semiconductor distributor Silica has extended its distribution agreement with OKI Electric Europe. The new agreement covers the entire Iberia region of Spain and Portugal and encompasses OKI's full range of advanced semiconductor solutions. Silica already distributes OKI semiconductor products in France and Italy.

Commenting on the agreement, Javier Revilla, managing director of Silica Iberia, said: "The addition of OKI to our linecard brings with it a host of extremely attractive products. In particular these include a low cost family of general purpose ARM7-based 32-bit RISC microcontrollers which are suitable for a wide range of applications. Other highlights include OKI's speech generation and recording modules, which are backed by low cost development kits that can help designers target fast-growing markets such as home automation and gambling machines."

Revilla continued: "Silica's approach to market is characterised by the provision of expert technical support and the OKI line is no exception. Our customers will benefit from the assistance of manufacturer-trained FAEs, ensuring that new designs using OKI technology can be brought to market quickly and efficiently."

Theo Oberpichler, distribution sales manager for OKI Electric Europe, said: "Silica represents an excellent distribution partner for OKI. It will undoubtedly provide first class design-in support for our products, helping to develop our business in Europe and ensuring that OKI customers can exploit fully the advantages of OKI technology."

Building on OKI's century-long commitment to network solutions technologies and markets, OKI Electric Europe designs and markets a broad line of advanced integrated circuits for telecommunications, network, automotive, computer, and digital consumer products. OKI's product lines include ARM core microcontrollers, telecommunications, networking, speech synthesis, ASIC microcontroller, and memory devices, offered in a variety of creative packages. Founded in 1973 and headquartered in Neuss, Germany, OKI has ISO-9000 certified manufacturing facilities in Japan and Thailand. Information on OKI Electric Europe and its products is available through its Web site at <http://www.okisemi.com/eu>.

Silica, a division of Avnet Electronics Marketing EMEA (Europe, Middle-East, Africa), is a highly specialised semiconductor distributor. Silica has sales & marketing offices throughout Europe and provides a broad portfolio of semiconductor products and solutions from world leading suppliers to all market segments in the electronics industry. The company's Web site is located at www.silica.com.

Serving customers in 68 countries, Avnet Electronics Marketing is the largest operating group of Phoenix, Ariz.-based Avnet, Inc. (NYSE:AVT). Avnet Electronics Marketing markets, inventories and adds value to electronic components and provides world-class supply-chain management services. Avnet, with fiscal year 2003 sales of \$ 9 billion (year ended June 27, 2003), is the world's largest distributor of semiconductors, interconnect, passive and electromechanical components, embedded subsystems and enterprise computing products from leading manufacturers.

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