Silicon Labs Powers the Future of 5G Small Cells with Complete Power over Ethernet Portfolio

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-- New IEEE 802.3bt-Compliant PoE Portfolio Simplifies 90 W Power Sourcing Equipment and Powered Device Applications --

AUSTIN, Texas, March 16, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- Silicon Labs (NASDAQ: SLAB) has introduced a comprehensive Power over Ethernet (PoE) portfolio that reduces the cost and complexity of adding 90 W PoE to power sourcing equipment (PSE) and powered devices (PD). The new 90 W PoE portfolio complies with the IEEE 802.3bt standard, which more than doubles standard PoE power and expands the capabilities of wireless access points and IoT wireless gateways. The portfolio's higher power capabilities help make PoE-powered 5G small cells and digital buildings a practical reality.

"Silicon Labs' 802.3bt PoE portfolio delivers higher power, exceptional integration and advanced features to help developers simplify their system designs while meeting stringent power, size and cost budgets," said Brian Mirkin, vice president and general manager of power products at Silicon Labs. "Our new PoE portfolio spans both ends of the Ethernet cable, from 15 W to 90 W, giving developers flexible options for a wide range of PSE and PD applications."

The 802.3bt portfolio includes three new PSE and PD products:

- The Si3471 PSE controller is the industry's first fully autonomous, 90 W single-port 802.3bt-compliant power-sourcing solution. The Si3471 makes it easy to add 90 W power to single-port midspans or "injectors." It automatically manages all nuances associated with the 802.3bt standard. The Si3471 does not require external host MCUs, firmware downloads or software programming and is simple to configure using three
digital I/O pins. The small 38-pin 5 mm x 7 mm QFN package and simple BOM help reduce system cost and complexity.

- The Si3474 quad Ethernet port PSE controller powers up to four 90 W 802.3bt PoE ports or up to eight 30 W 802.3at/af PoE ports, providing a versatile solution for industrial and commercial Ethernet switches and security recording equipment. The Si3474 can be operated in autonomous mode with full power on each port or in hosted mode, enabling developers to manage power through an I2C interface with a full-featured register map. The Si3474 is available in a 56-pin 8 mm x 8 mm package with an industry-standard pinout.

- The Si34071 single-chip PD solution combines an 802.3bt interface with an integrated, high-efficiency dc-dc converter capable of achieving more than 90 percent end-to-end efficiency. The Si34071 includes a simple, 9600-baud UART interface to the system MCU. The Si34071 delivers high power for 5G small cells, wireless access points and IoT gateways. A companion to the Si3471 PSE controller, the Si34071 comes in a small 32-pin 5 mm x 5 mm QFN package.

"Silicon Labs’ new 90 W solutions helped streamline our single-port PoE designs for the emerging high-power PoE market," said Jonathan Sohnis, chief technology officer of Altronix, a global leader in power and data transmission solutions. "Silicon Labs' excellent technical support enables us to be early in the market with the latest high-power PoE technology."

Pricing and Availability

- Si3471 samples and production quantities are available now. Si3471 pricing starts at $1.97 (USD) in 10,000-unit quantities. The Si3471 evaluation board (EVB) is priced at $105 (USD MSRP).
- Si3474 samples and EVBs are planned to be available in April 2020. Si3474 pricing starts at $3.33 (USD) in 10,000 unit quantities. The Si3474 EVB is priced at $199 (USD MSRP).
- Si34071 samples and EVBs are planned to be available in April 2020. Si34071 pricing starts at $2.13 (USD) in 10,000 unit quantities. The Si34071 71 W forward converter EVB is priced at $119 (USD MSRP).

To learn more about the new 90 W 802.3bt PoE portfolio and to order product samples and evaluation kits, visit silabs.com/90wpoe.

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