

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CRITICAL I/O ANNOUNCES FIRST 4 GBIT/SEC FIBRE CHANNEL PMC INTERFACE FOR EMBEDDED SYSTEMS

4 Gb Fibre Channel in PMC Form Factor

IRVINE, Calif., June 29, 2006 — Critical I/O, the leading manufacturer of Fibre Channel interfaces for embedded systems with more than 30,000 units shipped, today announced the availability of its 4 Gbit/sec Fibre Channel PMC interface product, which allows embedded system applications to leverage ultra-high speed Fibre Channel technology for performance networking and storage applications. Due to Critical I/O's unique silicon-based architecture and extensive software support, the Model FCA2420 PMC achieves sustained data rates as high as 1000 MBytes/sec, 15 µsec RDMA data transfers, and up to 300,000 IOPS (IO operations per second).

According to Jack Staub, CEO of Critical I/O, "Due to its extraordinary performance characteristics and RDMA & SCSI protocol support, 4Gb Fibre Channel is ideal for performance networking applications and is really the only choice for performance storage applications. But integrating this technology into real-time and embedded systems can be quite challenging due to the importance of mature drivers and libraries. The hardware is relatively straightforward but the supporting software is very difficult and often not taken seriously by many suppliers. Critical I/O has invested more than 50 man-years of development in our Fibre Channel software and it's one of the key reasons that more embedded systems designers come to Critical I/O than any other supplier. Our customers are able to integrate our Fibre Channel products without wasting time

debugging poorly written and inadequate drivers, or even worse, having to attempt development of drivers from scratch.”

The FCA2420 PMC is part of Critical I/O’s fifth generation of Fibre Channel interfaces. This hardware interface dissipates only five watts but provides two independent 4Gb Fibre Channel ports, 64-bit PCI-X host interface, and extensive integrated hardware BIT. It is supported by a full complement of library and drivers for VxWorks, Linux and Windows. It is compatible with X86, PPC, and DSP based embedded processor boards.

Contact Critical I/O for pricing and availability of the FCA2420 Fibre Channel PMC.

About Critical I/O

Critical I/O, headquartered in Irvine, California, is the leading provider of high-performance interfaces for embedded, avionics and military applications. The company has shipped more than 30,000 Fibre Channel interfaces into the embedded systems marketplace and with nearly a decade of progressive development and testing, has now delivered its sixth generation of advanced Fibre Channel technology. Critical I/O has also brought *true* high performance Ethernet interfaces to the real-time and embedded systems marketplace. With its unique Silicon Stack Ethernet architecture, Critical I/O is leading the way in enabling high performance Ethernet-based systems to compete, for the first time, with costly proprietary fabrics. Known worldwide for its technical expertise, software support, and its ability to leverage state of the art commercial technology, Critical I/O focuses entirely on the network requirements of high performance embedded systems.