



NEWS

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ESS Technology Announces Crescendo III+ Hi-Performance SoC *World's Most Highly Integrated SoundBar Processor*

FREMONT, Calif., June 21, 2013 — ESS Technology, a leading provider of high performance audio/video solutions, today announces the Crescendo III+ SoC as the latest member of its Sound Bar product line, combining the highly acclaimed SABRE converter technology normally found only in audiophile and professional equipment with all soundbar processing, system controller and embedded 2MByte DRAM on the same chip, delivering the best sound, highest integration and lowest bill of materials to the fast growing soundbar and docking market.

The Crescendo III+ SoC contains all the necessary processors and peripherals for full-featured soundbar and docking applications: a 32-bit RISC processor for the operating system, a 64-bit media processor for audio decoding, post-processing, lip-synchronization and sound effects such as virtual surround and bass enhancement, a hardware parametric equalizer (PEQ) for speaker equalization, an automatic gain limiter (AGL) for anti-clipping control, a user-programmable 32-bit Audio Coprocessor for custom sound algorithms, a 5.1-channel patented HyperStream™ Class D or D/A converter with 3-channel feedback for driving digital or analog power stages, a 2-input HyperStream™ stereo ADC for connection to line input sources, a 6-input SPDIF/ARC receiver for connection to coaxial, optical, HDMI and ARC input sources, a 4-channel system ADC for analog status measurement, a 2-ch PWM controller for analog voltage generation, a 3-channel key ADC for multi-key support, and dual full-speed USB host/device controllers for firmware upgrade or music playback from thumb drives or iPod.

To enable quick time-to-market for customer product development, the Crescendo III+ SoC comes with a soundbar reference design complete with demonstration code, software development tools and a PC-based audio tuning tool for sound profile customization.

Robert Wong, vice-president of marketing and worldwide sales for ESS Technology, said, "The Crescendo III+ SoC is a culmination of our ongoing effort to deliver critically acclaimed SABRE SOUND at the lowest system cost for the soundbar and docking market. With the additional integration of the DRAM and system controller functions, the Crescendo III+ SoC will enable soundbar and docking manufacturers to build the best sounding products at a price affordable to everyone."

The Crescendo III+ SoC is sampling now in 128-LQFP package. Sample chips, reference design and volume price information are available from ESS or your local ESS distributor and representatives.

About ESS Technology

ESS Technology, Inc. designs and markets high-performance audio and video products for the consumer market.

ESS's products include the SABRE/SABRE32 series of Hyperstream™ audio DACs and ADCs, the Phoenix-III series of HD-Enhanced DVD Home Theater SoC, Crescendo series of Sound Bar SoC, Radix CMOS TV tuners, 1080p Video Up-converter, and the DMPX Media Processor.

ESS's SABRE³² audio DAC series is the world's highest performance 32-bit audio D/A converter solution, built upon the original SABRE audio DAC series first introduced in 2008. The SABRE³² and SABRE audio DACs have been designed into the world's most prestigious consumer, audiophile and professional equipments, including Blu-ray players, CD/SACD players, A/V preamps and digital audio workstations.

ESS is headquartered in Fremont, California, and has R&D, sales, and technical support offices worldwide. ESS Technology's web site address is: <http://www.esstech.com>.