Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies
香港物流及供應鏈管理應用技術研發中心

For immediate release

LSCM R&D Centre Introduces UHF RFID Reader Chip, Bringing NFC-Enabled Handset Application to the Next Phase

A light-weight and low-cost NFC RFID reader chip, perfectly addressing the emerging needs of mobile application market

Hong Kong, 13 January, 2012 – Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies (LSCM R&D Centre) today introduced the LS1001 UHF RFID reader chip, tailor-made for near-field-communication (NFC) and mobile applications. This Hong Kong designed LS1001 chip is a major deliverable from a recently completed project "Lightweight RFID Reader Chip for NFC and Mobile Applications" supported by the Government's Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF).
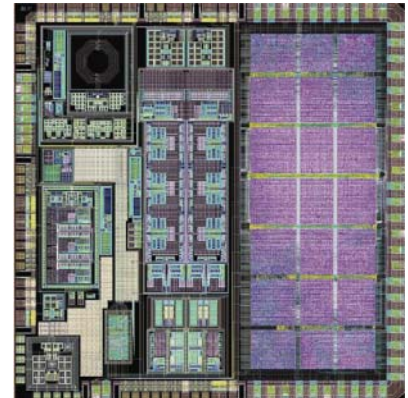
This chip targets to provide UHF RFID interrogation capability for smart phones. Riding on the existing mobile phone network and infrastructure, it has high potential in real-world application environments. By pin-pointing to an item of interest, product authentication and verification, anti-counterfeit and proof-of-transaction, etc will be easily achieved for general consumers. Designed to meet most of the required functions for the retail industry, and being compatible to ISO 18000-6c Gen 2 standard, it is ideal for NFC-enabled devices performing simple read-and-write operation in retail environments as well as supporting innovative applications for mobile handsets.

"Our reader chip takes a great leap forward in bringing the RFID technology to people's everyday life by addressing the need of a lightweight, low power consumption and easy-to-operate reader device in the market. It is ideal for item level identification and data retrieval in NFC application. System architecture, as well as peripheral circuitry and interface, could be set to the minimal so that power consumption as well as the total device cost, will be drastically reduced," said Dr. Terry Ye, project co-ordinator and Director, Research and Technology Development of LSCM R&D Centre.

"RFID China Alliance is pleased to see the launch of this latest low-cost reader chip. The availability of a cost-optimized reader chipset will definitely make mass-scale NFC RFID systems feasible in various industries. This will help members of the RFID industrial chain in China to further penetrate into their respective markets." said David OuYang, Secretary-General of RFID China Alliance.

Reader Operation and Functionality
Designed to cater to the NFC applications that operate within 10-30cm distance, where normally only a few items are in the reading range, performance requirements, as well as command set, as defined in Gen2 air interface, can be pre-tuned to reduce the operation complexity.

1

Performance and Cost Trade-off

The chip can be operated in different modes (profiles) that are suitable for different usage scenarios, such as Inventory, EPC Retrieval, Read Memory and Write EPC and Memory. By selecting different profiles, the peripheral circuitry as well as MCU requirements can be tailor-made, and the best performance-power-consumption-cost trade-off can be achieved for different users.

A detailed datasheet is available for download at http://www.lscm.hk/download_info/en/index.jsp. Alternatively, please contact LSCM R&D Centre on tel (852) 2299 0551 or via email info@lscm.hk for licensing discussion and product demonstration.

About LSCM R&D Centre

Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies (LSCM R&D Centre) was founded in April 2006. It is established with funding support from the Innovation and Technology Commission of the HKSAR Government and is commissioned to provide a one-stop shop for applied research, technology transfer and commercialisation. It is hosted by three leading universities in Hong Kong: The University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Our team of technology-savvy researchers and engineers are well versed in the latest logistics and supply chain management and RFID technologies. Some key projects of the LSCM R&D Centre include:

RFID Tagging and Packaging Technology for Food Products
E-Lock-Based Enabling Technology for Container Cargo Transhipment Process
Low-cost Versatile Tracking Device and Technology for Logistics Applications

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