Future Technology Devices Intl. Limited
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Subject: ERRATA, FTDI's X-Chip Series March 20, 2012

During the launch of the X-Chip Series, an issue was found that affects 3.3V operation of all thirteen, X-Chip devices. Upon review of our served markets and due to the self-regulating aspect of the bug, the decision taken is to continue with the product launch initiatives currently being deployed. Because FTDI estimates that well over 80% of designs utilizing FTDI solutions operate from a 5V supply, we see that the majority of design activity will, in no-way, be impacted by this bug. Further, as the bug relates to 3.3V systems, it will be an issue that is immediately evident to the designer while in development, and should therefore not pose any risk of system failure in the field.

FTDI sincerely regrets the inconvenience that the errata may cause, but we truly feel that the best path forward is to continue the high intensity product launch. With the world-wide advertising, press, technical documentation, product availability, and coordinated distributor plans, the momentum being generated by the X-Chip Series should benefit all parties involved.

Currently at this time, the design fix has been implemented and material is processing towards an expedited completion. The target date for a validated, fixed design for 3.3V systems, is March 30th. This material will be designated as revision C, as compared to the current revision B, and marked accordingly. The production date for revision C is to be determined, based upon the results of the design fix.

As FTDI sees no risk for 5V operation, it is our opinion that material currently stocked for the product introduction can remain in place, albeit with design-in function limited by this errata. Please note that additional revision B material is in place in FTDI inventory, and is available for purchase to support immediate design-in activities. In addition, a description of the errata and technical issue has been posted for each individual X-Chip device, on the FTDI website.

The technical issue is that revision B, X-Chip devices will enter into a reset state with a supply voltage of 3.3V. The specific problem has been isolated to an internal 3.3V regulator, which has now been revised and design-fix implemented. Should further information be needed, FTDI would be happy to arrange discussions to elaborate on the bug and corresponding fix, as well as the action and recovery plan.

After serious contemplation, FTDI believes that the best path is to continue, in the short term, with revision B material that is currently in place. It is our belief that the plusses truly out-weight the negatives. Needless to say, we understand that this path raises support issues for our distributors and ourselves. FTDI is fully committed to working with all the parties involved to support the current material as well as the transition to revision C.

At this moment the critical action is to inform the necessary sales, support, and application personal of this issue, so that customers are not impacted negatively. Further if a 3.3V solution is needed, that reliable data is provided on the technical issue as well as the recovery plan. FTDI asks that any affected

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customers be documented so that revision C material can be prioritized accordingly. Please notify your regional FTDI sales account manager in these cases.

FTDI sincerely regrets this situation, but please know that we are available and ready to respond to your needs to effectively address and positively resolve items that may arise.

Sincerely,

Dave Sroka
Global Product Director