

Socionext Unveils Video & Communication Bridge Providing Interconnection between Consumer Chips and Automotive Interfaces

The MB86R91 APIX® Companion Chip enables addressing the growing number of in-car displays while reducing costs.

Langen/Germany, 19 May 2015 --- Carmakers are increasingly turning their attention to powerful application processors made by major chip manufacturers from the consumer electronics sector. However, because these were not originally designed for automotive use, they are seldom equipped with the interfaces needed for this application. The Socionext MB86R91 APIX® Companion Chip communication and video bridge offers vehicle manufacturers an automotive version to interconnect the growing number of in-car displays with consumer grade chips – while at the same time reducing costs.

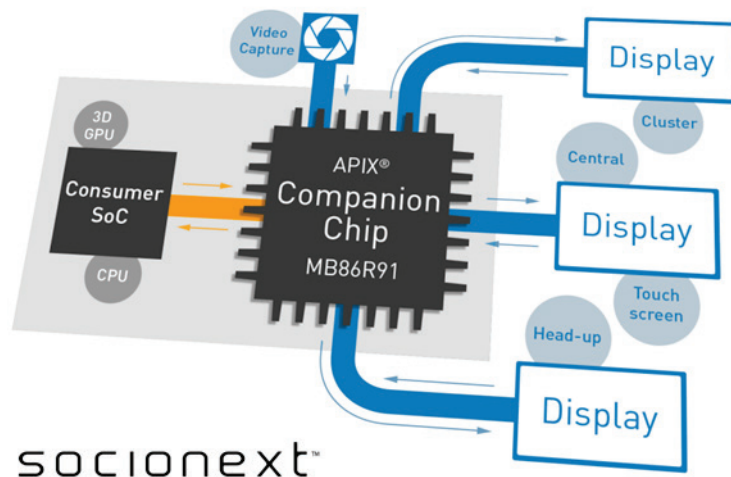


Photo 1: The Socionext MB86R91 APIX® Companion Chip provides an interconnection between Consumer Chips and Automotive Interfaces ([view larger image](#))

Convergence of consumer and automotive electronics

The MB86R91 APIX® Companion Chip enables the connection of modern high-performance application processors via various standard interfaces, such as single or dual OpenLDI Flat Panel Display Links and DRGB888. The fully integrated High Speed APIX2® transmitters, with a downlink data rate of 3 Gbps and an uplink rate of 187.5 Mbps, allow up to three high-resolution remote displays to be connected in parallel.

For Press Inquiry

Hotwire Public Relations Germany
Florian Hohenauer
Tel: +49-89-210932-74
Email: florian.hohenauer@hotwirepr.com

Socionext Europe GmbH
Mark Ellins
+49-6103-3745-382
mark.ellins@socionext.com

Typical automotive resolutions of up to 1920x720 pixels with 24-bit color depth per connection are supported, as is the transmission of touch information. The connections offer complete flexibility, allowing a system architecture to use different resolutions. The integrated APIX2[®] receiver enables the connection of a video source whose input can be forwarded for processing to the application processor.

A typical application in a vehicle would be a driver information system with a freely programmable cluster display, a Head up Display and a central information display, all of which can be addressed simultaneously. Different combinations of passenger displays, control panels and central information systems, with touchscreen if required, are easy to implement.

Cost savings also possible on the display side

The savings that can be made with the MB86R91 APIX[®] Companion Chip on the transmitter side are also possible on the display side, thanks to Socionext's 'Indigo' family of graphics controllers. As the number of remote display units in vehicles continues to increase, automobile manufacturers are giving priority to reducing their cost per screen. Because the Indigo family provides "remote control" of the display, the MCU on the display side is no longer required. It also allows the display's CAN and TCON connections to be eliminated.

Availability

The MB86R91 APIX[®] Companion Chip is shipping now. Evaluation boards and the Remote Software Framework are available, allowing different suppliers to carry out their development independently of each other.

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About Socionext Inc.

Socionext is a new, innovative enterprise that designs, develops and delivers System-on-Chip products to customers worldwide. The company is focused on imaging, networking and other dynamic technologies that drive today's leading-edge applications. Socionext combines world-class expertise, experience, and an extensive IP portfolio to provide exceptional solutions and ensure a better quality of experience for customers. Founded in 2015, Socionext Inc. is headquartered in Yokohama, and has offices in Japan, Asia, United States and Europe to lead its product development and sales activities. For more information, visit socionext.com.

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