Wireless Gecko SoC Portfolio Supports Full Bluetooth 5 Connectivity and Expands Memory Options

-- New EFR32xG13 SoCs Offer 512 kB Flash and a Higher Performance PHY for Longer Bluetooth Range --

AUSTIN, Texas – June 14, 2017– Silicon Labs (NASDAQ: SLAB) expands its Wireless Gecko system-on-chip (SoC) portfolio with new multiband SoCs supporting full Bluetooth® 5 connectivity and more memory options. Silicon Labs' new EFR32xG13 SoCs offer developers greater flexibility and more capabilities for applications using a single wireless protocol or requiring more memory for multiprotocol solutions, larger customer applications or for storage of over-the-air (OTA) images. The EFR32xG13 devices also offer advanced an on-chip oscillator to reduce bill of materials (BOM) cost, security acceleration, capacitive sensing, low-power sensing and enhanced RF performance.

The new EFR32xG13 family supports all Bluetooth 5 features and capabilities, enabling four times the range, twice the speed and eight times greater broadcasting capacity than Bluetooth 4, as well as improved co-existence with other wireless protocols. The EFR32xG13 SoCs feature a 2 Mbps PHY that supports faster throughput or reduced power consumption due to lower transmit (TX) and receive (RX) times. The SoCs also integrate a new 125 kbps and 500 kbps coded PHY that enables much longer communications, quadrupling the range of Bluetooth connections compared to existing devices running Bluetooth 4.

The EFR32xG13 SoCs provide sufficient flash memory (512 kB) and RAM (64 kB) to run applications using zigbee®, Thread and Bluetooth 5 in single-protocol mode and to support multiprotocol combinations of Bluetooth with zigbee, Thread or proprietary stacks (running on sub-GHz or 2.4 GHz networks). The EFR32BG13 family is an ideal choice for Bluetooth Mesh applications as the SoCs are designed to run both Bluetooth Mesh and Bluetooth 5 stacks and to support both smartphone and Bluetooth Mesh connectivity.

The new SoCs include an on-chip oscillator that eliminates the need for an external 32 KHz crystal typically required for Bluetooth low energy devices. This integrated precision low-frequency resistor-capacitor (RC) oscillator (PLFRCO) enables developers to save approximately $0.15 (USD) in BOM cost when used in high-volume designs requiring a 32 KHz crystal to meet Bluetooth low energy sleep clock accuracy specifications. The PLFRCO is differentiated from similar integrated oscillators offered by other Bluetooth devices as it guarantees robust, reliable Bluetooth low energy connections across the devices' entire operating temperature range.

The EFR32xG13 SoCs' exceptional energy efficiency enables longer battery life and lower vampire current for Energy Star compliant devices. Sleep current is now 6 percent lower than EFR32xG12 SoCs and 44 percent lower than first-generation Wireless Gecko devices.

The EFR32xG13 family is pin-compatible with all Wireless Gecko SoCs in QFN48 packages, further extending flexible memory, peripheral and feature options for existing customers. The Wireless Gecko portfolio is supported by Silicon Labs' full suite of Simplicity Studio development tools, available to developers free of charge.

Pricing and Availability

EFR32xG13 Wireless Gecko SoC samples and production quantities are available now in 7 mm x 7 mm QFN48 packages. Pricing for EFR32xG13 SoCs in volume quantities begins below $2.00 USD. For Mighty Gecko, Blue Gecko and Flex Gecko SoC pricing information, contact your local Silicon Labs sales representative or authorized distributor. An updated SLWSTK6020B Blue Gecko development kit, now supporting Bluetooth 5, is priced at $149. Additional radio boards for Mighty Gecko, Blue Gecko and Flex Gecko are available for $49 each. (All kits USD MSRP.) To order EFR32xG13 samples and development kits, visit www.silabs.com/wirelessgecko.

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