

SEMICONDUCTOR



DECEMBER 2007

FOCUSED ON EMERGING SEMICONDUCTOR COMPANIES

VOL 12 ISSUE 12

New Products

Comtech AHA, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Comtech Telecom (NASDAQ: CMTL) has introduced the first-ever GZIP compression and decompression IC, which offers up to 2.5 Gbps throughput via hardware, while achieving compression ratios comparable to high effort (level 9) GZIP software. The AHA3610 increases data transfer rates by up to 4X and reduces storage requirements by that same amount in applications such as storage area networks, Web servers, Web accelerators and Web traffic appliances, including load balancers, firewall VPN servers, integrated routers/switches and application server appliances.

The AHA3610 implements the open standard GZIP format (deflate compression and decompression algorithm), which is ideal for networking and storage networks since compatible software is readily available on client machines and is included in Internet browsers. The AHA3610 is the latest addition to Comtech's line of Lossless Data Compression ICs.

Comtech argues that software compression is inadequate for many systems either because the throughput is too slow or the CPU loading is too high. In fact, the company said that turning on GZIP to accelerate web

server applications can actually slow down the server due to the higher CPU load. Much like SSL offload cards, Comtech envisions GZIP offload cards relieving host CPUs of the burden of gzip compression. Samples now; production in January 2008; \$55 @ 10Ku. Future plans include additional GZIP ICs and PCI boards based on these ICs. Bill Thomson, president. www.aha.com