



Silicon Labs Digital Isolator IC Selected by Elster Group for Smart Grid Meter

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AUSTIN, Texas, Jun 23, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- [Silicon Laboratories Inc.](#) (Nasdaq: SLAB), a leader in high-performance, analog-intensive, mixed-signal ICs, today announced that Elster, a global leader in smart metering solutions, has chosen the Si8422 5 kV digital isolator IC for its sophisticated AS1440 electronic polyphase meter designed for Smart Grid applications.

Elster offers a complete line of electronic and electromechanical polyphase meters for residential, commercial and industrial applications that can be easily incorporated into Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) systems for Smart Grid deployment. According to ABI Research, the number of smart electricity meters deployed worldwide is expected to grow to 212 million in 2014, nearly three times the 76 million units deployed in 2009.

Elster's intelligent AS1440 polyphase meter, which incorporates the Si8422 digital isolator, provides precise electricity measurement, anti-tampering features and reliable data transfer for industrial and high-power commercial applications. The AS1440 meter supports both direct and current/voltage transformer (CT/VT) connections and 4-quadrant measurement.

"Silicon Labs' Si8422 digital isolator meets the very high performance, reliability and security standards of our electronic polyphase meters," said Rainer Miermann, design and development manager at the Elster Group. "Smart meters must operate safely and reliably in harsh outdoor environments prone to transient spikes. The Si8422 IC provides a robust isolation solution that is critical to the fail-safe operation of one of our most advanced smart electricity meters."

The Si8422 is a member of Silicon Labs' popular [Si84xx digital isolator family](#), which supports high-speed data transmission up to 150 Mbps while providing up to 5 kV of isolation. The Si84xx family significantly improves radio frequency (RF) susceptibility and RF emissions performance over existing digital isolation solutions, which is important to the security and reliability of high-performance metering solutions. The Si84xx digital isolator family also provides vastly superior reliability and immunity to temperature and aging compared to traditional optocouplers, making it an optimal isolation solution for green energy and industrial applications.

"Offering superior electrostatic discharge performance, robust tolerance to electromagnetic noise and high-speed operation, the Si84xx family provides best-in-class digital isolation technology that's critical to sophisticated smart electricity meters such as Elster's industry-leading AS1440," said Mark Thompson, vice president of Embedded Mixed-Signal products at Silicon Labs. "Growing deployment of smart metering systems will continue to drive demand for CMOS-based isolation solutions like the Si84xx ICs."

About the Si84xx Digital Isolators

Silicon Labs' Si84xx family of digital isolators employs digital RF technology to communicate data across a capacitive isolation barrier manufactured in cost-effective CMOS technology. The Si84xx family provides exceptional performance and integration, superior immunity to RF fields, and low emissions during operation while addressing the demanding requirements for low-power, high-speed digital data transfer. Offering isolation ratings of 1 kV, 2.5 kV and 5 kV, the digital isolator family provides a broad range of solutions for diverse isolation requirements. The Si84xx family is based on a patented RF isolation technology that is also used in Silicon Labs' Si82xx family of isolated gate drivers. For more information about Silicon Labs' digital isolators and other power solutions, visit www.silabs.com/pr/isolation.

About the Elster Group

Elster was acquired by funds advised by CVC Capital Partners in September 2005. In 2008, Elster generated revenues of EUR 1.3 billion, or \$1.9 billion (USD). For more information about Elster, please visit www.elster.com.

Cautionary Language

This press release may contain forward-looking statements based on Silicon Laboratories' current expectations. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. A number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. For a discussion of factors that could impact Silicon Laboratories' financial results and cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements, please refer to Silicon Laboratories' filings with the SEC. Silicon Laboratories disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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Silicon Laboratories Inc.

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Headquartered in Austin, TX, Silicon Labs is a global enterprise with operations, sales and design activities worldwide. The company is committed to contributing to our customers' success by recruiting the highest quality talent to create industry-changing innovations. For more information about Silicon Labs, please visit www.silabs.com.



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Silicon Laboratories Inc.

Dale Weisman +1-512-532-5871

dale.weisman@silabs.com

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