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Darnell Group **NEWS**

1.3 Billion Power Factor Correction Opportunities Identified

Corona, California, March 1, 2006 – **Darnell Group Inc.** announced publication of its latest report, "**Power Factor Correction: Potential Market Forecasts, Application Trends & Competitive Environment**" This 106-page report provides a detailed examination of the trends driving the adoption and utilization of power factor correction (PFC) in a wide variety of application systems. Recent worldwide regulations have made companies consider PFC in their designs, but many of these regulations are voluntary, not required. This report looks at the current status of regulations and standards worldwide and the impact they will have on the adoption of PFC. In addition, discontinuous and continuous conduction modes (DCM and CCM) are expected to be the most important factors when determining the semiconductor components used in PFC designs. These are strongly related to wattage segments, with certain ranges still considered a "gray area" in terms of PFC implementation. All these factors are expected to play a role in the potential adoption of PFC.

The total Worldwide market for PFC (both passive and active) is expected to be approximately 1.3 billion units in 2006, increasing to 2.2 billion units in 2011, a compound annual growth rate of 11.4%. Until recently, PFC has been most commonly used in motor drives and pumps. Lighting ballasts also often use PFC, in part because of the Class C requirements of EN61000-3-2. PFC implementation is likely in distributed power architectures, including embedded ac-dc power supplies. Active PFC is a requirement for Server System Infrastructure (SSI) compliance. Flat panel displays are also potential applications for PFC. Cost is the biggest issue determining when active or passive PFC is used. Active PFC can be a more expensive solution, depending on the application. Volume production and price declines are factors that will drive the adoption of active or passive PFC. Higher-powered products are also likely to use active PFC, since it would be the most cost-effective way to bring products into compliance with the EN standard.

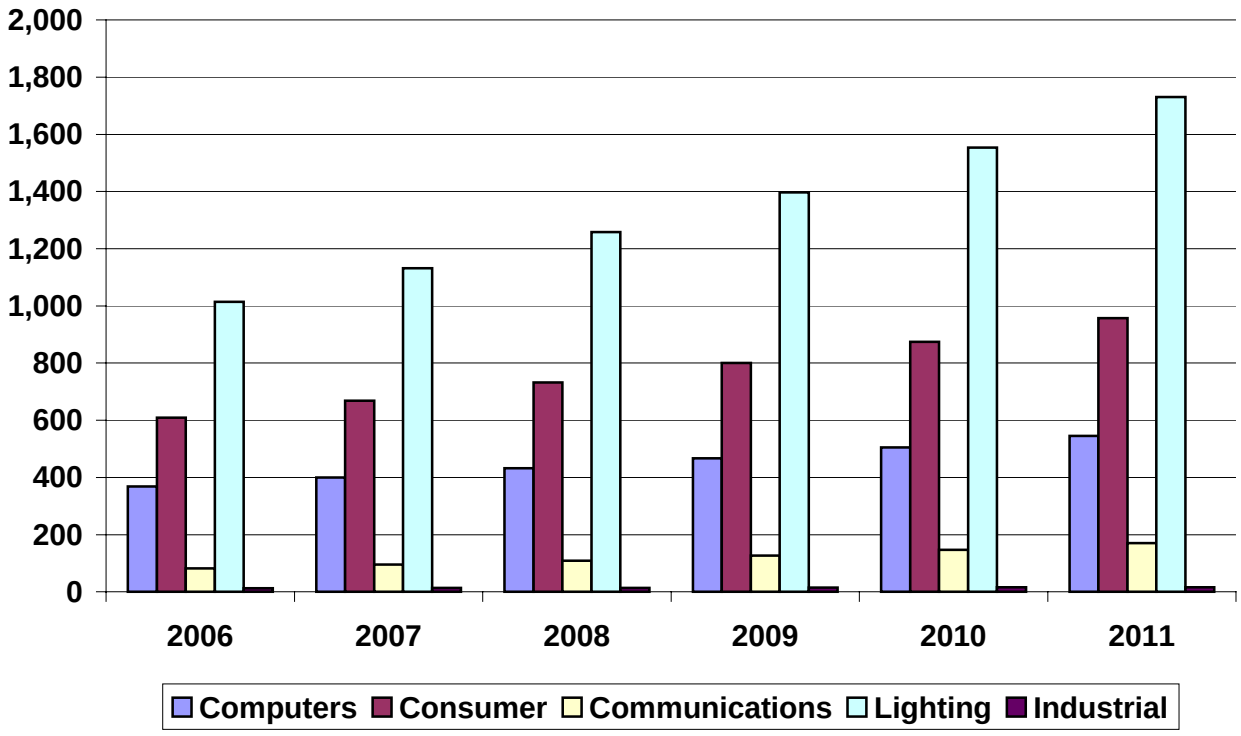
PFC has been implemented for some time, although it got a boost in power supplies in 2001, when the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standard 61000-3-2 went into effect in Europe. This specification required new electronic equipment consuming more than 75W to meet certain standards for harmonic content, which basically required the use of PFC. Britain, Japan and China soon adopted similar standards, and any company selling equipment into these regions needed to meet these requirements. No similar requirements have gone into effect for North America.

This report provides detailed forecasts by Region (Asia, Europe and North America), Application, Power Product, Wattage, Active versus Passive PFC, and DCM versus CCM. The PFC-related activities of over 50 companies and organizations are discussed throughout this detailed report.The report also analyzes the competitive environment in this market, including profiles of more than 20 manufacturers. The Competitive chapter provides market share and sales estimates for the top competitors and analyzes recent developments in the industry.

Darnell's Power Factor Correction report is now available. For more information, or to order the report, please contact Darnell by phone at (951) 279-6684 x240; by e-mail at tshepard@darnell.com; or visit http://www.darnell.com/consulting/study.php?mc_id=30 to view the abstract, outline and order form.

Darnell Group is the leading source for worldwide strategic information covering the full spectrum of power electronics, energy storage and generation. The company specializes in the economic/business analysis of emerging power markets and technologies.

Worldwide Power Supply Market
Total Available Market
By Application
(millions of units)



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