



For more information, contact:
 Jeff Shepard, President
 jshepard@darnell.com
 (951) 279-6684
<http://nanopower.darnell.com>

Darnell Group

NEWS

nanoPower Forum '09 Growing Over 2008 Event

Corona, California, April 30, 2009 – Low-power system design, practical energy harvesting, thin-film batteries and power management solutions for low-power wireless systems will be spotlighted at Darnell's third annual nanoPower Forum (nPF '09), May 18-20 in San Jose, California. These are critical technologies enabling wireless applications such as mesh networks, wireless sensor and control applications, microelectromechanical (MEMs) systems, and so on. This is a very hot area of technology, and in spite of the economic troubles, registrations are running ahead of last year's event!

"Mesh networks, wireless sensor and control systems, industrial/building automation and a variety of medical, military and other applications are being enabled by the latest advances in energy harvesting, thin-film batteries and power management," observed Jeff Shepard, President of Darnell Group. "Seeing the growth of this Forum in 2009 is validation that this is an important area of emerging technology. This year, our nanoPower Forum will focus on the latest practical solutions to the increasing complexity of wringing out the maximum performance from today's advanced ultra-low power devices," he continued.

nPF '09 will bring together component suppliers and system designers and will address the latest advances in this rapidly emerging field. Regardless of the energy harvesting technology (piezoelectric, photovoltaic, thermo-electric, and so on) or the energy storage technology (battery, supercapacitor, fuel cell, etc.), the critical aspect of designing an ultra-low power wireless device is the complete power management solution and efficient energy utilization. Designers will not wait for the "ultimate" energy harvesting or energy storage solution; it may never arrive. "Even if an improved energy harvesting and/or energy storage solution arises, the emphasis will remain on getting the maximum possible performance from the device, and that implies continued focus on developments in advanced power architectures, sophisticated power management and efficient energy utilization. nPF '09 will offer practical solutions for today's designs," Shepard concluded.

During nPF '09, a roundtable discussion of "**Energy Harvesting – Enabler or Inhibitor?**" will be moderated by **Kevin O'Handley**, Vice President, Business Development, **Ferro Solutions**. Panelists will include: **Mark Buccini**, Director, Worldwide Strategic Marketing, **Texas Instruments**; **Steve Grady**, Vice President, **Cymbet**; **Tim Bradow**, Vice President, **Infinite Power Solutions**; **Jerry Ruddle**, Executive Vice President, **Advanced Cerametrics**; and **Regan Zane**, Associate Professor, **University of Colorado**.

The Plenary Session will open with Zhong Lin Wang, Director of the Center for Nanostructure Characterization at the Georgia Institute of Technology, talking about **Harvesting Mechanical Energy by Nanogenerators**; Giovanni Balli, Director with the AutoGlobal Business Network, focusing on **Nanoelectronics: The European Vision and Strategy**; Mark Buccini, Director of Worldwide Strategic Marketing at Texas Instruments revealing the details of **Living Life Under 1µW – Extreme Deeply Embedded Computing**; Didier Sagan, Product Line Marketing Manager of the Medical Products Group with Zarlink Semiconductor will close out the session with a vision of **Wireless Body Area Network – Today and Tomorrow's Potentials**. Energy harvesting, energy storage and power management are some of the major issues in terms of the commercial rollout of next-generation of low-power systems. Participants will have an opportunity to meet and talk with top executives and technical professionals in the fields of advanced batteries, power management, ultra-low power RF technologies, energy harvesting, networking protocols, and related fields.

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. The nPF '09 web site is at: <http://nanopower.darnell.com>.

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