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Current Issue

December 2008



- Electro-Mechanical Broadband RF Switch.
- Single-Stage Driver Amplifier
- Quad-Band EDGE Radio Solution
- Modeling 3G / WCDMA / HSDPA
- Composite Filters
- Integration of Waveguide
- Coaxial Components
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Frequency Synthesizer

The LX-2400 Series operates at fixed frequencies between 2400 and 2480 MHz,

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Ultra Low Noise Amplifier

Model ZX60-0916LN+ boasts a noise figure of

FEATURED ARTICLE >>

December 2008 VIEW FROM THE TOP



Joe Hajduk
CEO, dB Control

Q: *Given the current economic crisis affecting the U.S. – which will certainly have international repercussions – how do you think the markets you serve may be impacted? How do you and your company plan to address this?*

A: dB Control serves the major defense contractors who supply the Department of Defense. Included in the DOD's 2009 budget is \$30 billion to continue modernization of the Nation's tactical aircraft fleets and transform the Navy's warships, \$12 billion to enhance missile defense systems and continue development of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and \$7.5 billion to support the Army and Marine Corps with modern tactical vehicles. While there's plenty of opportunity to continue to provide new technology to improve the military's legacy systems, our current economic crisis is putting an emphasis on good businesses practices. Manufacturers who know how to run lean and mean while offering advanced, reliable products will survive.

Q: *What do you feel are the greatest opportunities for manufacturers in either the commercial or military markets?*

A: In the military market, there are tremendous opportunities for manufacturers to help transform concepts into operational realities. Companies who can provide advanced microwave products and power systems that help reduce cost and increase capabilities will do well. On the commercial side, we're seeing our products that were originally developed and tested in mission-critical military Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) applications being adapted for a variety of commercial applications. For example, SAR images -- taken under adverse weather conditions and through foliage -- have been used to assess the best response to forest fires.

Q: *Which of the past year's developments or emerging technologies has you most excited?*

A: Exciting advances are being made in signal amplification technology to meet the requirements of Satcom, radar, and EW systems. Due to the complexity and agility of threats, the use of exotic waveforms, and the low probability of detection radars, ECM transmitters and EW threat simulators in particular require high microwave power over a wide bandwidth. To meet critical requirements, we've successfully designed systems using pairs of traveling wave tubes (TWTs) in a power-combined configuration for each frequency band. And we're also combining TWTs and solid state amplifiers in a lighter, more compact, package. These new microwave power modules (MPMs) are the best of both worlds!

Q: *How would you rate the health of the microwave industry as we near the end of the decade?*

A: It's very healthy. When the economy was solid, microwave companies that invested in research and development now have products that will carry them through the next few years. And even though the U.S. is going through some economic turmoil, there are emerging markets in India, Turkey, and other countries where reputable companies are eager to be our global partners, which ultimately helps contribute to the health of the industry.

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