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BITWISE CONTROLS TO BEGIN SHIPPING THE BC4 AND BCX SERIES OF NETWORKED CONTROL SYSTEM PERIPHERALS

Offers A/V Integrators Options and Advantages Of
Modular Design, Power-Over-Ethernet, and Robust Two-Way Communications

July 18, 2008, Larkspur, CO – BitWise Controls announces today that they will begin shipping the BitWise Controls BC4 and BCX series networked control system peripherals on August 11 of this year. The BC4 is a standards-based control system network interface, which allows IP-based software and control systems to control and monitor virtually any hardware device available today. The system's modular design gives the integrator the flexibility to match BC4 base units and BCX series expansion modules to fit any application. It is the only PoE (Power-over-Ethernet)-capable product of its type on the market, eliminating the need to install a power supply at each BC4 location.

The BC4 system is made up of a BC4 base unit and various BCX expansion I/O modules available from BitWise Controls. The base unit is housed in a rugged steel enclosure (4.5" x 5" x 1") which contains the built-in network adaptor and temperature sensor. It can be powered by 802.3af PoE or a standard 12VDC wall supply. Field-upgradeable firmware allows the BC4 to take advantage of future enhancements, and the on-board temperature sensor allows the host control system to monitor the ambient environment. It automatically recognizes and adapts to various I/O plug-in expansion modules, which become an internal part of the base unit. The base unit can be wall- or shelf-mounted, or up to 16 BC4 units may be rack mounted in a 3U space.

Each expansion module is individually configured to perform a variety of control and monitoring tasks. The first available expansion module is the BC4-BCX1, which features five IR (infrared) ports, one three-wire RS232 port, two customizable GPIO (general purpose input/output) ports, and 2 SPDT relays. An extensive on-board IR code database with built-in IR learning makes the BC4-BCX1 an extremely fast and efficient way to add IR control of connected hardware. IR signals can be routed to any or all of the 5 IR outputs – 4 standard 1/8" jacks for off-the-shelf emitters and one built in IR Blaster. The two GPIO ports can be individually configured as digital inputs, digital outputs or analog inputs. One input can also be configured to monitor signal frequency (up to 50 KHz) or as a counter input. The three-wire RS232 port can be used with their available virtual com port driver or via communication over TCP.

The BC4 system uses integration-friendly commands and feedback via two-way TCP or UDP. The extensive two-way command set makes for easy integration with popular control systems, as well as other products from BitWise Controls. The BC4, operating as a peripheral, communicates with home systems via Ethernet and supports both Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

Lance Beck, CEO of BitWise Controls said "The BC4 will appeal to integrators with its extensive command set, flexibility of field configuration and choice of power supplies. Integration professionals can configure the BC4 to suit a specific need with a variety of expansion module configurations, all sharing a common command set. The BC4 can be configured via a web interface. The modular concept also

allows better inventory control. Integrators can buy base units in volume and purchase modules to fit the job criteria.”

The next product slated for release by BitWise Controls is the BC1 Control Processor. Details on the BC1 system will be released sometime this quarter.

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If you'd like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Lance Beck, please call Michael Sherman at 662-893-8360 or send an email to msherman@bitwisecontrols.com

About BitWise Controls

Designed and backed by over 20 years of mission-critical control, monitoring, and AV systems integration experience, Bitwise Controls is uniquely equipped to provide powerful and flexible products for the expanding commercial, industrial, educational, and residential control-systems markets. Bitwise Controls was founded by veteran industry leadership in 2008 with the goal of offering innovative and reliable new products, designed, tested and manufactured in the USA. For more information, go to www.bitwisecontrols.com.