

Semtech Shows Off Wireless Charging at CES

TECHNOLOGY: Consumers can access convenience with plug-free device.

Representatives from **Semtech Corp.** attended last month's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas to show off the company's wireless charging technology.

The Camarillo semiconductor manufacturer demonstrated the LinkCharge system on a number of products, including a robotic vacuum cleaner, a drone and surveillance equipment.

Phil Daggett, senior director in the company's power and high-reliability product group, said the technology gives Semtech entry into new markets.



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"Wireless charging is a fairly new technology," Daggett said. "There are a lot of people who have a smartphone that is capable of wireless charging who do not know it is capable of it. There has to be some education of the consumer."

The wireless charging system works with a pad that contain electronics and a coil and a corresponding receiver also with a coil attached to a smartphone or other electronic device. When the receiver is placed on the charging pad, the two coils can induce power into the receiver over the air.

What accelerated the adoption of wireless charging was **Apple Inc.** saying that its iPhone 8 and iPhone X would support the technology, Daggett explained.



Airborne Electricity: Coil induces power in battery with Semtech's LinkCharge.

"The fact that we have been developing it and have had the products available for a while now means that we're going to be able to capitalize on the renewed interest from the end consumer," Daggett said.

Semtech got into wireless charging with its acquisition three years ago of Triune Systems LLC in Plano, Texas. Triune had been working on wireless charging technology for the industrial and automotive industries since about 2011. Semtech branded the technology as LinkCharge in early 2016.

Wireless charging uses a standard known as "Qi" developed by the **Wireless Power Consortium**. All Semtech products support that standard, Daggett said.

"Any phone, whether it's an LG or a Samsung or an Apple, can be charged on that independent of what you need to plug into it,"

he added. "You don't need to plug anything into it. Having an industry standard is important to that interoperability."

Improved Missile

The defense systems group of aerospace contractor **Orbital ATK Inc.** will be doing upgrade work on a guided missile program.

The work on the advanced anti-radiation guided missile will take place at Orbital's Northridge facility as well as in Ridgecrest. The upgrades will improve operational capabilities, including extended range and survivability.

The missile, which is currently in full rate production, is used by the Navy and Marine Corps on the Navy's Hornet, Super Hornet and Growler aircraft.

"This contract is a major step in Orbital ATK's ongoing commitment to advancing (guided missile) counter-air defense capability for the U.S. Navy," **Cary Ralston**, general manager of Orbital's Defense Electronic Systems division, said in a statement. "We are committed to increasing the effectiveness of the warfighter to suppress and destroy enemy air defense threats while remaining safe."

The company has been developing the guided missile in the San Fernando Valley since it received its first development contract in 2003. ATK had been in a low rate of production for about three years, making a couple of missiles a month. Then, in September 2012, it received its first full production contract valued at \$71 million. Last June, Orbital delivered its 500th guided missile and in September received a contract valued at up to \$350 million from the U.S. Navy to continue production.

Orbital ATK is in the process of being acquired by defense contractor **Northrop Grumman Corp.** in a deal valued at \$9.2

billion.

Catalina Island Shuttle

BYD Coach and Bus announced on Jan. 29 it is deploying three electric buses to shuttle tourists around Catalina Island.

The 23-foot BYD C6 Motor Coach is built at the Chinese company's plant in Lancaster. The arrival of the electric bus reflects another innovative step toward developing sustainable transportation alternatives on the island.

Macy Neshati, senior vice president with BYD, called Catalina a beautiful treasure and the decision to use electric buses reflects a public stewardship.

"More than a million people visit Catalina each year, and swapping out diesel buses with battery-electric vehicles will dramatically lessen their footprint," Neshati said in a statement.

BYD opened its Lancaster production facility in 2013 and employs more than 700 workers.

The C6 has room for up to 20 seats and has a range of 124 miles per charge.

Visual Accounting

Accounting software developer **FloQast Inc.** added a visualization component to its Close Analytics product to better manage and help improve the month-end closing process.

The Van Nuys company put visualization capabilities into the software to give controllers an instant view of the overall close status, informing them how their team is progressing and giving them the ability to know whether the close is on track.

"Close management software has revolutionized the long, tedious and manual close process," Chief Executive **Michael Whitmire** said in a statement.

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Opioid Epidemic Prompts Cliffside Expansion

TREATMENT: Addiction center opens new facility in Sherman Oaks.

Addiction treatment center **Cliffside Malibu** has expanded its operations into the San Fernando Valley with an outpatient clinic in Sherman Oaks.

The development is a first for the luxury rehab, which until mid-January had provided its services exclusively through its beachside residential treatment facility. Clients at Cliffside Malibu – Sherman Oaks, a 2,000-square-foot location at 15250 Ventura Blvd., will



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commute from home to the clinic between two and seven days a week depending on their care plan, Medical Director **Dr. Craig V. Smith** explained.

"Not everyone needs to be in residential treatment for 30 to 90 days," Smith said. "This is filling the need for people who need treatment and do well with less intensive programs."

The clinic is geared primarily toward individuals with a mild to moderate degree of substance dependence, such as those who are struggling to wean off painkillers following recovery from surgery. It offers both on- and off-site drug withdrawal programs monitored by physicians as well as counseling with licensed therapists, according to Smith. He expects addiction to prescription opioids, benzodiazepines



Recovery: Interior of Cliffside Malibu — Sherman Oaks at 15250 Ventura Blvd.

such as Xanax and alcohol will constitute the bulk of cases.

"Most doctors aren't very well-trained in dealing with (prescription drug) addiction and are struggling with what to do with people coming back and needing refills," Smith explained. "We're hoping to be a resource for that."

Cliffside chose Sherman Oaks for its new site on account of its proximity to busy freeways, Chief Executive **John Peloquin** said. The rehab is exploring other possibilities for another outpatient clinic either in the San Fernando Valley or elsewhere in the region, and the new Sherman Oaks site will likely expand as well, he added.

"We're trying to offer a full continuum of care in the broader L.A. market, both outpatient and inpatient," Peloquin said. "The whole concept is to strategically place multiple outpatient

service centers that target the opiate epidemic across the broader Los Angeles region."

Cliffside is considering providing treatments for mental health conditions that commonly precipitate or occur alongside substance addiction. Long-term, the Sherman Oaks location may offer high-tech treatments such as transcranial magnetic stimulation, a noninvasive procedure that works by stimulating brain cells to ease the symptoms of depression.

Cure Pharmaceuticals Hire

Cure Pharmaceuticals in Oxnard has named **Boston Consulting Group** alum **Vered Gigi** as vice president of strategy and business development, the biotech firm announced Jan. 23.

The appointment is part of a larger push to build out partnerships within the pharmaceutical industry and test new indications for the company's primary product, an oral film that

delivers medications to the body by dissolving on the tongue. To date, the firm's technology has been applied or is in the development stage of implementation with medications to treat sleep disorders, erectile dysfunction, vitamin deficiency, tuberculosis and oral abrasions.

"Cure has been on stealth mode for a while, developing the technology and the intellectual property," Gigi said. "Now we're really moving into phase two of growth and expansion to bring our product to market."

Cure's growth plans include partnering with drug companies on products in clinical trials and converting established commercial products to forms that will work with the company's product. Not every chemical formulation can be delivered effectively through an oral film, Gigi explained.

"There is a big need on all indications for this kind of product, but for us this is kind of exploratory as far as what kind of indications we want to hone in on," she said.

At the top of the list are medications built from compounds in cannabis, some of which have been identified as potential treatments for sleep conditions and cancer. Cure announced an expanded contract in early November with Israel-based **Therapix Biosciences Ltd.** for the development of a cannabis-sourced medication to treat sleep disorders. It is in the process of soliciting partners to work on cancer applications, Gigi said.

"Technology is trying to zoom in on the anti-cancer properties of individual (cannabis compounds)," she explained. Cure's product can deliver different multiple single compounds on one film, making it ideal for these types of applications, Gigi added.

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