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Synaptics AudioSmart USB-C Codec Earns Industry-First THX Approval

Headphone Designers Using Pre-approved Components Gain Quality Assurance, Faster Time-to-Market

SAN JOSE, Calif., Nov. 13, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Synaptics Incorporated (NASDAQ:[SYNA](#)), the leading developer of human interface solutions, today announced its AudioSmart[®] [CX21988-THX](#) is the industry's first USB-C audio codec solution to achieve [THX](#) Approval. By offering a THX Approved USB-C audio codec, Synaptics[®] can supply OEMs with an important building block that affords a significant head start in the development of THX Certified headphones and headsets, mobile gaming devices and other personal audio devices. THX, founded by filmmaker George Lucas in 1983, is a globally recognized assurance of uncompromising quality, consistency and performance.

"The key to developing a great sounding set of headphones, especially ones capable of accurately reproducing the engineered sound field of a mix, is utilizing a winning combination of professional-grade components," said Peter Vasay, Senior Vice President, Technology and Operations, THX. "The Synaptics AudioSmart CX21988-THX USB-C codec impressed us, as it supports high-resolution audio with best-in-class headphone performance, and boasts ultra-low distortion, and tuning options to greatly improve the performance of connected transducers. We believe it to be the ideal foundation for the development of THX Certified headphones."

"The AudioSmart CX21988-THX is our first crystal-free, low-power codec for USB type-C applications that supports high-resolution audio. Having it certified by THX for its performance and quality, serves as validation of the significant engineering that went into making this single-chip solution ideal for providing an immersive listening experience on high-fidelity headphones and headsets," said Saleel Awsare, vice president and general manager, Audio and Imaging Business, Synaptics.

To earn the THX certified rating, THX engineers completed hundreds of measurements and tests focusing on frequency response, audio output vs distortion, and ability to accurately reproduce the complexity of the engineered sound field. Having met or exceeded THX's strict requirements, manufacturers can rest assured that the AudioSmart CX21988-THX USB-C codec will enable headphones and mobile gaming devices to reproduce professionally engineered audio to the industry's highest standards.

The CX21988-THX is a low-power, highly-integrated, low-cost, crystal-free, single-chip solution that is ideal for immersive, high-resolution headphone applications. Additionally, it adds five-band equalization for easy tuning of audio products. With an ultra-compact form factor measuring a tiny 3mm x 3.3mm, the CX21988-THX chip minimizes needed PCB area and material costs, allowing for more flexibility in overall headphone and headset designs.

About THX:

Founded by legendary filmmaker George Lucas in 1983, THX Ltd. and its partners provide premium entertainment experiences in the cinema, in the home and on the go. Over the past thirty years, THX has expanded its certification categories beyond studios and cinemas to consumer electronics, content, and automotive systems. Today, THX continues to redefine entertainment, providing exciting new technologies and assurance of experiences with superior quality and high performance that guarantee an artist's vision is truthfully delivered to audiences worldwide.

About Synaptics:

Synaptics is the pioneer and leader of the human interface revolution, bringing innovative and intuitive user experiences to intelligent devices. Synaptics' broad portfolio of touch, display, biometrics, voice, and audio products is built on the company's rich R&D, extensive IP and dependable supply chain capabilities. With solutions designed for mobile, PC, smart home, and automotive industries, Synaptics combines ease of use, functionality and aesthetics to enable products that help make our digital lives more productive, secure and enjoyable. (NASDAQ:[SYNA](#)) www.synaptics.com.

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