

Yassir Ali of Atmel on the Touch Interface

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Hosted by Alix Paultre, the Tinker's Toolbox is the Advantage Design Group's web-based interview show where we talk about the latest technology, components, and design issues for the electronic design engineering community.



In this podcast we talk to Yassir Ali of Atmel on the Touch Interface and discuss their maXStylus technology, an active stylus solution for tablets and smartphones. Atmel's multiSense functionality enables advanced gesturing such as zooming in/out while writing and scrolling; page flipping while scrolling; and selecting a tool or content.

[Right-click to download the podcast](#) [1]

Here is a link in case the play button is not operative: [Atmel Interview](#) [1]

Here is a demo video on the :

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=dqVmPZcZ5RA [2]

Microsite link: <http://www.atmel.com/microsite/stylus/?source=cms> [3]

Here is a press release on the technology:

[Atmel](#) [4], a leader in microcontroller and touch solutions, today announced [maXStylus](#) [5], an active stylus solution for tablets and smartphones. Combined with [Atmel's industry-leading maXTouch solutions](#) [6], which are powering millions of smartphones and tablets today, the maXStylus family offers an unparalleled human interface by providing simultaneous touch and stylus functionality. Referred to as multiSense functionality, this feature enables advanced gesturing such as zooming in/out while writing and scrolling; page flipping while scrolling; and selecting a tool or content.

The [maXStylus family](#) [5] is designed to provide the most precise, high-resolution

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writing experience with a narrow 1mm tip, excellent accuracy and linearity of +/- 0.25mm, advanced gesturing, palm rejection and pressure sensing capability with 256 pressure levels to enhance writing/drawing experiences. The family also supports dual mechanical buttons for customizable features tailored for the end customer. The [Atmel mXTS100](#) [7] is the first solution sampling in this family and works seamlessly with the [maXTouch E series](#) [8] and future maXTouch solutions.

The maXStylus family also leverages Atmel's eco-system and software partners. As a [co-engineering partner to Microsoft](#) [9], the mXTS100 supports Windows 8 and the recently launched [Android 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich](#) [10].

Traditional solutions today require two separate sensors to enable both stylus and finger touch functionality. With Atmel maXStylus solutions, OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) can use just one sensor to implement both a stylus and touch simultaneously to simplify system design and reduce overall system cost. The new family also reduces the overall time-to-market for adding touch and stylus features to a design using [award-winning maXTouch](#) [11] technology.

"Stylus support will be an important touch component as media tablets migrate to include more creation-oriented applications and Windows 8 incorporates a touch friendly architecture," said Rhoda Alexander, Director, Monitor and Tablet Research at IHS. "A stylus solution allows the user to move past finger input to more specific touchpoints, dramatically improving drawing, writing, and screen navigation while also providing an alternate input for gloved or mittened fingers. Handwriting capability is particularly important in Asia for character recognition and is a must have in much of the education sector. With stylus demand increasing in the fast growing tablet and smartphone markets, companies offering affordable, well designed stylus solutions are well positioned to capitalize on this rapidly growing segment."

"As the leader in the touch market, Atmel continues to offer the right features that are critical for any touch design such as the first-ever multiSense functionality," said Jon Kiachian, Sr. Director of Touch Marketing, Atmel Corporation. "Customers are demanding stylus support and we are excited to be one of the first companies to provide the highest performance, cost-optimized stylus solution for this rapidly growing segment."

For more information on the Atmel maXStylus family, please visit: www.atmel.com/maXStylus [12]. To see Atmel's latest maXTouch videos, visit the Atmel YouTube Channel at www.atmel.com/youtube [13] or follow Atmel on Twitter at www.atmel.com/twitter [14] or Facebook at www.atmel.com/facebook [15].

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