Small-footprint MCUs Enable Addition of USB to Any Application

Microchip Technology announced a family of 8-bit PIC microcontrollers (MCUs) for USB applications. The PIC18F13K50 and PIC18F14K50 (PIC18F1XK50) allow the addition of embedded USB into a wide range of applications. The PIC18F1XK50 MCUs include serial communications interfaces such as USB 2.0, I^2C, SPI and USART; enabling them to transfer data between USB and other embedded serial networks. Additionally, they provide a 10-bit, nine-channel analog-to-digital converter (ADC) and dual comparators with S/R Latch, giving users the capability to process a variety of environmental inputs—from temperature and humidity logging to capacitive touch-sensing. Additional features include a USB host-detection capability, whereby the MCU can be configured to enter SLEEP or any other power-managed mode when a USB connection is not present. The MCUs can also be internally or externally clocked with seamless on-the-fly switching. Operating voltages range of 1.8V to 5.5V. The PIC18F13K50 has 8 KB Flash and 512 Bytes of RAM memory, whereas the PIC18F14K50 has 16 KB Flash and 768 Bytes of RAM. Both devices have 256 Bytes of EEPROM for non-volatile data storage. Low-power options are available for both devices PIC18LF1XK50) offering 1.8V to 3.6V operation. The devices are supported by the company's USB software stack and the free MPLAB IDE Integrated Development Environment, which provides a consistent development platform across all PIC MCUs.

Microchip Technology
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