USB 2.0 Module Positioned as Replacement for DB9 RS232 Connector on Legacy Boards

Future Technology Devices International Limited (FTDI) announced the availability of its DB9-USB-RS232 range of modules, designed to replace a DB9-based RS-232 connector, on an existing board design, with a USB 2.0 connector interface. The modules feature a standard USB 'mini-B' type connector in a module that fits the PCB footprint of a standard 9-pin DB9 connector. The modules are designed to provide a fast and simple method of replacing a DB9 RS232 interface with USB 2.0 connectivity, without the need to change an existing PCB board design. Two modules are available to replace male or female DB9 connector versions. The modules are targeted at systems equipped with legacy DB9 based RS232 connectors, which often face connection issues to modern PCs, laptops and other equipment. The modules provide a mechanism to extend the life cycle of these systems, while providing enhanced capability through the introduction of USB 2.0 connectivity available via the DB9-USB-RS232 modules. The DB9-USB-RS232 modules contain all the electronics needed to carry out the conversion between RS232 and USB. The modules use the company’s FT232R, USB 2.0 to serial UART converter IC, which handles the USB protocol conversion. The FT232R device converts from USB to a serial UART interface, which is then level-shifted into RS232 signal levels, within the DB9-USB-RS232 module. Power to the module is supplied by the USB 2.0 connection.

Future Technology Devices International Limited
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