

Set-top Box IC Family Targets Entry Level Equipment



STMicroelectronics has revealed its latest range of set-top box system-on-chip ICs for HD terrestrial, cable IP and satellite equipment providing platform for operators and retailers to deliver innovative Internet-based services in price-sensitive markets. Manufactured in 40 nm process technology, the family touts a processing engine with integrated on-chip features that are said to simplify set-top-box design, enable operators to take advantage of lower-cost memories and meet the latest low-power objectives. The chips will find applications in HD zappers, Personal Video Recorders (PVR), Internet Protocol (IP) clients and dual-HD boxes supporting connected-TV services such as Internet Protocol television (IPTV), information channels and Over-The-Top (OTT) video, gaming, catch-up TV and social networking. The new devices support the full range of HD broadcast and multimedia codecs, hybrid and IP standards, the latest security and content protection standards, and important middleware stacks from the leading providers. All devices deliver “green” features such as the latest generation of energy-efficient Ethernet and a 0.5 W stand-by mode with fast-resume capability.

Code-compatible with the widely-used STi7105, the new devices facilitate rapid porting of existing software, permitting customers to upgrade their product platforms with minimal development costs.

The new devices also enhance flexibility for equipment manufacturers and save cost for operators through pin compatibility between two decoder-only chips and their associated packages that combine the decoder with a cable, satellite or terrestrial demodulator. This enables designers to create products for various market sectors taking advantage of extensive hardware commonality to save costs and lead times.

Members of the new family include:

The STiH207 decoder is ideal for IP client, zapper and PVR applications;

STiH237 features an integrated DVB-S2 (Digital Video Broadcast-Satellite 2)

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demodulator and suits satellite zapper boxes;

STiH239 integrates a dual DVB-S2 demodulator for satellite PVR and dual HD picture-in-picture set-top boxes;

STiH273/STiH223 includes DVB-T (digital-terrestrial) and DVB-C (digital-cable) annex A/B/C demodulation;

The STiH207 decoder, which adds support for 1080p60 decoding, dual HD Picture in Picture (PIP) and 3DTV MVC (Multiview Video Codec), is pin compatible with the STiH239, STiH237, or the STiH273.

STMicroelectronics

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