



Fulcrum Microsystems To Demo Comprehensive 10 Gigabit Ethernet Congestion Management at Interop 2009

Company Unveils Support for Enhanced Transmission Selection Enabling Lossless Storage Traffic on 10GbE Networks

CALABASAS, CA. – May 12, 2009 – Fulcrum Microsystems, Inc., a leading provider of 10 Gigabit Ethernet (10GbE) switch chips for use in converged data center fabrics, cloud networking, and telecom fabric applications, will be showcasing new Enhanced Transmission Selection (ETS) capabilities in its FocalPoint 10GbE switches at its booth at the Interop 2009 conference (#2727).

ETS is an IEEE Data Center Bridging feature that is combined with FocalPoint’s support for IEEE 802.3x class-based pause congestion management capabilities to provide lossless operation and minimum bandwidth guarantees for storage traffic. This is yet another achievement in Fulcrum’s on-going development of comprehensive lossless Ethernet fabric technology for the data center.

“Fulcrum is dedicated to providing its customers with unparalleled performance, capabilities and scalability,” said Mike Zeile, President and COO of Fulcrum Microsystems. “Adding ETS support is an achievement that complements our demonstration of IEEE Priority Flow Control (PFC) and quantized congestion notification (QCN) at SC08 last fall and shows customers how Fulcrum’s FocalPoint family can be used in converged network applications.”

ETS provides special traffic classes such as storage or video with minimum bandwidth guarantees at congested egress ports. When combined with the lossless operation available with PFC, FocalPoint can classify special traffic such as storage and provide it with bounded latency, which is required for converged data center fabrics. A Fulcrum 24-port 10G Ethernet “Reno” reference platform will be used to demonstrate ETS by directing two full bandwidth ingress flows to a single egress port. This will show that with ETS enabled, the egress bandwidth of the protected storage traffic will remain unaffected by disruptive data traffic.

In addition, Fulcrum will be participating in a multivendor Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) and converged Ethernet demonstration at the Ethernet Alliance Interop booth, #527. A Fulcrum FocalPoint-based 24-port SFP+ “Monaco” reference design is used as the data center bridging (DCB) switch connected to two storage area networks (SANs) and will demonstrate how Monaco’s ETS implementation ensures lossless delivery and guaranteed bandwidth.

About Fulcrum Microsystems

Fulcrum Microsystems Inc. is a fabless semiconductor company that has developed the FocalPoint family of 10 Gigabit Ethernet (10GbE) switch/router chips for next-generation data center fabric designs. FocalPoint devices offer the industry’s lowest latency combined with the fine-grained flow control and high throughput required for converged data center fabrics. With its ControlPoint network OS, Fulcrum offers a complete solution along with a worldwide ecosystem of partners from which storage and clustering system designers can drive adoption of 10GbE as the fabric of choice for a fully converged data center. More information can be found at www.fulcrummicro.com.

Fulcrum Microsystems, Fulcrum, FocalPoint, and ControlPoint are trademarks of Fulcrum Microsystems, Inc.