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## ***NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT***

Contacts: Kerry Fedro  
Lages & Associates  
949/453-8080  
kerry@lages.com

Jim Gilbert  
SoftConnex Technologies, Inc.  
949/608-7592  
jgilbert@softconnex.com

### **SoftConnex announces that STMicroelectronics has selected USBLink Host Software Solution to USB-Enable Digital Devices**

**IRVINE, CA, February 17, 2004** – SoftConnex Technologies Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of TransDimension and a leading provider of Universal Serial Bus (USB) software solutions for the embedded market, today announced that STMicroelectronics has licensed its USBLink Host software to integrate into their set top box, DVD player and digital still camera chipsets. By incorporating USB into these SoCs, STMicroelectronics will enable connectivity between the host system and a wide variety of USB peripherals, such as mass storage devices, printers and modems.

As the software component that makes the USB connectivity possible, SoftConnex's USBLink Host solution will be used in conjunction with full speed and high speed embedded USB cores. Additionally, SoftConnex software will support STMicroelectronics' OS20 and OS21 operating systems and their ST20, ST200 and ST40 CPUs.

"Digital devices today require the ability to exchange data with a multitude of applications. We selected USB as our connectivity solution because it is cost-effective and easy to integrate, as well as a proven technology implemented in a vast installed base of USB peripherals" said Christos Lagomichos, vice president and general manager, ST's Set Top Box Division. "In choosing our software provider, we selected SoftConnex because of their USB expertise and excellent technology that supports our operating systems and hardware. Furthermore, their ability to rapidly meet our design schedules, support our worldwide engineering teams and customer requirements were key factors in our decision. We're pleased with the relationship we've built with SoftConnex and look forward to working together in the coming years."

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SoftConnex's USBLink Host solution is comprised of the host controller driver layer, USB protocol layer and a class module framework. The host controller layer is responsible for driving full and high speed host controllers, while the protocol layer enumerates USB devices and simulates a plug and play environment with the host operating system when the USB supports external devices. All USB transfer types are supported, as are complex USB devices that contain multiple configurations/interfaces and alternate settings. The USBLink Host class drivers are responsible for driving each type of device, such as Bluetooth baseband modules, printers, digital still cameras and MP3 players.

"STMicroelectronics is an innovative, global semiconductor company developing next-generation SoCs for advanced digital devices," said Jim Gilbert, SoftConnex vice president of marketing and business development. "Our software is rapidly becoming the standard for enabling the USB functionality found in many of these applications and we are pleased that STMicroelectronics continues that trend and further validates our offering by selecting USBLink Host. We look forward to seeing the successful introduction of ST's chipsets to the marketplace bundled with our software."

As a leading provider of comprehensive Universal Serial Bus (USB) software solutions for embedded systems, SoftConnex offers a complete product suite, which includes USBLink Host, USBLink Peripheral and USBLink On-The-Go (OTG). These products offer a modularized approach to providing USB connectivity for embedded products, support upwards of 18 different operating systems and a wide variety of USB controllers.

### **About SoftConnex**

Based in Irvine, CA, SoftConnex Technologies, Inc. delivers the most complete USB software solutions for the embedded market. The company's USBLink Host, USBLink Peripheral and USBLink OTG products provide the broadest platform support and the most comprehensive collection of class drivers currently available. They are also distinguished by their support for a variety of USB controllers, such as the TD242LP, TD243, UHC124 and OTG Full Speed Core, all from TransDimension, as well as OHCI, UHCI and EHCI compliant controllers. The solutions also support a wide variety of SoCs, which include USB cores, from manufacturers such as Agere Systems, Conexant, Texas Instruments, Motorola, Qualcomm and STMicroelectronics. For more information about SoftConnex, please visit [www.softconnex.com](http://www.softconnex.com).