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gumstix announces two expansion boards
boards create new audio/robotics & connectivity opportunities

Palo Alto, Calif., February 17th, 2006 – gumstix, inc., maker of the world's smallest full function miniature computers (FFMC), today announced one new expansion board - the roboaudio-th™ expansion board - and the return of the popular thumbstix™ expansion board in a new form factor.

The roboaudio-th expansion board provides an audio-capable robotics board with through-holes. The key advantage of this new expansion board is the combination of gumstix [PXA255-based] logic, audiostix™ [UCB1400-based] logic and analog signals at 3.3V levels, and robostix™ [Atmega128-based] logic and analog signals using 5.0V. These signals include power, touchscreen, PWM, A/D, signalling and an in-system programming port.

The roboaudio-th has 0.5mm headers. At 80 mm x 36 mm with 3+4 mounting holes, the roboaudio-th expansion board connects to the 60-pin hirose connector of either the basix or the connex platforms or may be used stand-alone. roboaudio-th costs $ 59.00.

The roboaudio-th expansion board was originally designed for Professor Richard Vaughan and his Autonomy Lab at Simon Fraser University. They aim to build a series of life-like, long-lived robot creatures: great, small and very small. Their first custom robot project is the *Chatterboxes;* a swarm of robots that communicate using sound.

"Gordon (Kruberg) combined the robostix board with the audiostix board for us, making the initial hardware layout on a big screen in front of our team during the Robotics Summit in September, 2005," said Professor Vaughan. "It was a very impressive demonstration of the flexibility of gumstix products and engineering, and we got the perfect expansion board for our project".

The thumbstix-gs expansion board offers a redesign of the original thumbstix board. USB-powered with a Type A male USB socket, the thumbstix-gs expansion board offers four (4) TTL serial ports (three (3) TTL serial ports when used with a bluetooth enabled basix or connex

platform), LCD signals and 2 3.3V PWM. At 80 mm x 20 mm with three mounting holes, the thumbstix-gs board sells for $ 27.50.

"The addition of these expansion boards has been in direct response to requirements of the marketplace", said Gordon Kruberg, President and CEO of gumstix, inc. "One of the reasons that customers choose our gumstix product line is because of our ability to address a wide range of function and features through an increasing array of expansion boards".

Schematics of both the roboaudio-TH and thumbstix boards are available online in the wiki, available via the support tab at gumstix.com as well as at:
http://svn.gumstix.com/gumstix-hardware/Eagle/Gumstix

All gumstix platforms and expansion boards are available for purchase online **www.gumstix.com**.

About gumstix, Inc.

gumstix develops and sells small, inexpensive, Full Function Miniature Computers (FFMC). Built on an open source software platform, the award winning gumstix product line supports the growing Linux devices market through gumstix motherboards, expansion boards and waysmall computers. The company sells directly to commercial users, OEM designers, and open source enthusiasts in the embedded, wired and wireless devices, and application-server markets.

Based near Palo Alto, California, gumstix is privately owned and operated. For more information visit **www.gumstix.com**.

About Simon Fraser University

Simon Fraser University, named after the explorer Simon Fraser, opened in September 1965 on Burnaby Mountain, near Vancouver, BC, Canada. In less than 40 years, SFU has gained an international reputation for its strengths in the liberal arts and sciences, as well as for its innovative interdisciplinary and professional programs. SFU offers programs at the graduate and undergraduate level to approximately 25,000 students.

The Autonomy Lab builds life-like machines. Their goal is to increase the autonomy (i.e. self-direction and self-maintenance) of robots and other machines. More information about the SFU Autonomy Lab may be found at this link: **http://autonomy.cs.sfu.ca/**