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Development Board for Altera's One Million Logic Gate Capacity APEX PLD

Cincinnati, OH, November 27, 2001 – Nova Engineering, Inc. introduces the *Constellation-20KE*[™] Development System supporting Altera's one million logic gate PLD (Programmable Logic Device). This new *Constellation-20KE* expands Nova Engineering's wide selection of reasonably priced, feature-rich development boards based on Altera's APEX and FLEX line of advanced PLDs.

The first *Constellation* development board to provide support for a one million logic gate APEX family PLD, the *Constellation-20KE* is fabricated in the compact (3.6" x 3.8" x 0.6"), industry-standard PC/104 form factor. In addition, the development board includes ISA and USB interfaces as well as flash programmable memory. This powerful development board can be re-used in a variety of product development tasks, such as rapid prototyping, hardware acceleration, and custom test equipment. The price of the million-gate version *Constellation-20KE* board including the PLD starts under \$3,000. Other versions of *Constellation* boards start as low as \$494.

Constellation development boards reduce time-to-market and improve product quality by providing functional hardware early in the development cycle, allowing time to evaluate and refine product designs. Rapid prototyping can also be used to complement long ASIC design cycles. In addition, *Constellation*-based rapid prototypes can be used for technology or feasibility demonstrations.

Constellation products improve designer productivity by dramatically reducing simulation times. *Constellation's* ISA and USB connectivity allow designs to be directly downloaded



from a PC into the PLD and then simulated using real-time hardware, reducing simulation time from hours to seconds.

Constellation boards perform a wide variety of test functions when connected to a host PC through its USB interface. For example, *Constellation* can be used as a Digital Pattern Generator, Bit Error Rate Tester, or Vector Waveform Generator. Furthermore, the board can be embedded in production or custom test fixtures to automate and reduce the cost of testing.

Constellation is further enhanced when combined with *Megafunctions*[™] IP Cores from Altera's Megafunction Partner Program (AMPP). Nova Engineering is one of two Premier members of AMPP and specializes in communication IP cores.

Availability is immediate.

About the Company: Nova Engineering, a 100% employee-owned digital and wireless communications company, designs, develops, and manufactures high-speed communications equipment and communication development tools. Since 1989, Nova Engineering has been helping datacomm and telecomm designers pioneer leading edge projects in both the commercial and public sectors.

NovaSource[™] RF Signal Sources, *Constellation*[™] PC/104 PLD Development Boards, and *Megafunctions*[™] IP Cores all help reduce cost and shorten time to market for today's wireless communications designers. Nova Engineering's turnkey designs include miniature low-power RF communications equipment, mobile wireless routers, high performance modems, waveform development software, and embedded real-time signal processing equipment.

Nova Engineering supports the total development cycle from systems engineering, analysis and computer simulation to printed circuit board design, prototyping, production and automated testing.

For further information about *Constellation-20KE*[™] or Nova Engineering, Inc. call Dave Jordan or Ryan Canning at 513-642-3000 or email info@nova-eng.com. Information is also available at <http://www.nova-eng.com>.

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