



## **FCI and Tyco Electronics In Alliance For Next-Generation High-Speed Connector Development**

HARRISBURG, PA – November 8, 2002 – FCI and Tyco Electronics announced today an agreement to collaborate on next generation high-speed mezzanine and backpanel connectors. This alliance will combine FCI's and Tyco Electronics' technical and development expertise to jointly bring to market new dual sourced high-speed products.

The Communications and Data market requirements for high-speed mezzanine and backpanel interconnect systems have created a demand for new products to address a wide range of applications. FCI and Tyco Electronics have each historically invested significant engineering resources into developing products to satisfy these requirements. This alliance allows both companies to improve the "Time to Market" for products in this highly competitive market place while meeting the customer's need for multiple sourcing.

The first two products under this agreement are FCI's GIG-Array™ mezzanine connector and Tyco Electronics' MultiGig RT™ backpanel connector system; the result will be "certified" second source product lines for the marketplace. Intermated product qualification tests will ensure that products are truly interchangeable and intermateable.

FCI's GIG-Array™ connector is a scalable, two-piece, BGA mezzanine connector system. The products are targeted at those customers who require a mezzanine card packaging solution with very high data rates (up to 10 Gbps) and signal densities providing a consistent signal integrity performance over the total range of stacking heights. The Gig-Array™ product family is offered in mated stack heights of 15-35 millimeters, in increments of 5 millimeters, with 104 to 392 signal lines. Dave Sideck– Product Manager for the Gig-Array™ Product Family states, "The Gig-Array™ product is the next progression in our BGA mezzanine product line. The teaming of

FCI and Tyco will enable our customers to pick a standardized platform for their next generation of high speed products.” More information about the GIG-Array™ connector family is available at [http://www.fciconnect.com/highspeed/highspeed\\_04.asp](http://www.fciconnect.com/highspeed/highspeed_04.asp)

Tyco Electronics’ MultiGig RT™ is a robust high-speed backplane connector that is intended for applications requiring high density up to 141 contacts per linear board inch and high-speed capability to 10 Gigabits per second. The connector design is flexible to permit the use of single ended or differential pair signal configuration and power within the same interconnect. The MultiGig RT connector system is a “pin-less” backplane connector unlike two-piece backplane interconnects in use today, eliminating the concern of system fault due to bending or stubbing pins. “We are seeing growing customer interest in our MultiGig RT™ product series and FCI seemed to be a natural selection for an alternative source based upon their history with backplane connector applications and knowledge of high speed issues,” said Jeff Brown, Product Manager in the Communications, Computer and Consumer Electronics Business Unit within Tyco Electronics. More information about MultiGig RT™ is available at <http://multigigrt.tycoelectronics.com>

#### About FCI

Created in 1989, FCI – an Areva Group company – rapidly secured its place among the world’s top three manufacturers of connectors and interconnect systems. With a turnover of 1.97 billion Euros (1.8 billion dollars) in 2001, FCI currently operates in 29 countries where it covers the following markets: communications, data, consumer, industrial, military, aerospace, automotive and electrical power interconnect. The company employs 16,000 staff worldwide. For more information go to: <http://www.fciconnect.com/>

#### About Tyco Electronics

Tyco Electronics is one of the major business units of Tyco International Ltd. Headquartered in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA, Tyco Electronics is the world’s largest passive electronic components manufacturer; a world leader in cutting-edge wireless, active fiber optic and complete power systems technologies; and is also rapidly developing extensive networking and building technology installation services. The company has facilities located in 51 countries serving customers in the aerospace, automotive, computer, communications, consumer electronics, industrial and power industries. Tyco Electronics provides advanced technology products from over forty well-known and respected brands, including Agastat, Alcoswitch, AMP, AMP NETCONNECT, Buchanan, CII, CoEv, Critchley, Elcon, Elo TouchSystems, M/A-COM, Madison Cable, OEG, OneSource Building Technologies, Potter & Brumfield, Raychem, Schrack, Simel and TDI Batteries.

FCI and GIG-Array are trademarks.

MULTIGIG RT and TYCO are trademarks.

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