



Synaptics Creates Custom Interface Solution for the Olympus m:robe MR-100 HDD Music Player

New Illuminated Scrolling and Selection Interface Combines Design and Functionality

SAN JOSE, Calif., Oct 14, 2004 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Synaptics(R) Incorporated (Nasdaq: SYNA), a leading developer of interface solutions for mobile computing, communications, and entertainment devices, has created a new interface for Olympus' first hard disk drive music player, the m:robe MR-100. The interface solution incorporates an LED ScrollStrip(TM) solution with an array of LightTouch(TM) capacitive buttons for a compelling and intuitive user experience.

The custom interface solution helped create a distinctive industrial design for the m:robe MR-100. As users move their finger along the ScrollStrip area, integrated LEDs in the center of the scrolling sensor light up, creating unique visual feedback. Likewise, the five LightTouch buttons are also illuminated. The interface solution is based on Synaptics' intelligent capacitive sensing technology, which allows for unique features such as speed adjusted scrolling, where the speed of the scrolling is determined by the speed of the finger on the sensor, and precision scrolling, which allows users to accurately move short distances. This type of intelligent sensing is critical for hard disk drive based digital audio players, which require a quick and easy way to access thousands of songs.

"We worked closely with Olympus to create a novel interface design that would differentiate their device in the growing digital audio player market," explains Clark Foy, Synaptics Vice President of Marketing. "The result is a custom interface that combines functionality with eye-catching design for a truly unique interface experience."

"We worked with Synaptics to develop the interface solution for the m:robe MR-100 to make the user experience intuitive and fun," explains General Manager, CDS R&D Dept. of Olympus, Toshikazu Hayashi. "Through our development with Synaptics, we created a design that is sleek and stylish, and at the same time simple and easy to use."

The Olympus m:robe MR-100 HDD music player is a 5GB HDD music player, which boasts a battery life of approximately 12 hours. The m:robe MR-100 will be available beginning November 26th, 2004 in Japan. For more information, visit the Olympus web site www.olympus.co.jp/en/.

About Synaptics Incorporated

Synaptics is a leading developer of interface solutions for mobile computing, communications and entertainment devices, with its products found in over 50 percent of today's notebook computers. Synaptics' engineered solutions for device manufacturers include: TouchPad(TM) the industry standard notebook navigation device; MobileTouch(TM), a customizable scrolling, input and navigation solution for mobile handsets; TouchRing(TM), a one dimensional scrolling solution for MP3 devices; and QuickStroke(R), a proprietary Chinese handwriting recognition software. More information about Synaptics can be found on the web at www.synaptics.com.

NOTE: Synaptics, the Synaptics logo, ScrollStrip, and LightTouch are trademarks of Synaptics in the United States and/or other countries.

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This press release contains "forward-looking" statements about Synaptics, as that term is defined under the federal securities laws. Synaptics intends such forward-looking statements to be subject to the safe-harbor created by those laws. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to expectations of the market acceptability of the ScrollStrip and LightTouch products. Synaptics cautions that these statements are qualified by important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected by the forward-looking statements contained herein. Such factors include, but are not limited to: (a) market demand for Synaptics' custom interface solution (b) market demand for Olympus products using Synaptics' solution, and (c) the failure of Synaptics' products and OEM products to deliver commercially acceptable performance, and other risks as identified from time to time in Synaptics' SEC reports, including Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and Annual Reports on Form 10-K. All forward-looking statements are based on information available to Synaptics on the date hereof, and Synaptics assumes no obligation to update such statements.

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