

Radio and Modules Provide Extremely Low Receive Current for Longer Battery Life in Wireless Sensor Networks and Metering Communications



Microchip Technology Inc. today announced from the Embedded Systems Conference in Chicago the new MRF89XA transceiver with extremely low receive current of 3 mA for longer battery life in 868, 915 and 950 MHz Sub-GHz wireless networks.

The 868 MHz MRF89XAM8A and 915 MHz MRF89XAM9A transceiver modules accelerate design cycles by removing the complexity of designing RF circuitry and the cost of obtaining agency certification.

The Sub-GHz frequency bands are sometimes preferred by designers for a broad range of battery-powered wireless sensor networks and metering communications. In addition to the low-power receive current for extending battery life, Microchip's MRF89XA transceiver and modules integrate a 12.5 dBm power amplifier for long transmission distances and a low noise amplifier for -113 dBm enhanced receive sensitivity.

To ease communication and further prolong battery life, the MRF89XA combines an integrated packet handler with a 64-byte FIFO for transmit and receive buffering.

Example applications for the MRF89XA transceiver and modules include remote meter reading, home/building/industrial automation, remote keyless entry, tire-pressure monitoring, points of sale and toys.

The MRF89XAM8A (part # AC164138-1) and MRF89XAM9A (part # AC164138-2) PICtail™/PICtail Plus Daughter Boards are expected to be available in Calendar Q3 2010, to enable development of 868 and 915 MHz applications, respectively.

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