Windows CE feature phone platform adds Monahans, i.MX31

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Intrinsyc has announced support for two new high-end mobile processor families to its Windows CE-based feature phone platform. The Soleus platform now formally supports Marvell's PXA3xx (aka "Monahans") and Freescale's i.MX31 application processors, in addition to previously stated support for the ARM, MIPS, SHx, XScale, and x86 processor architectures.

Intrinsyc describes Soleus as a "full" suite of development tools that can be used to create cost-effective, feature-rich mobile handsets based on Windows CE. The Soleus suite basically comprises a Windows CE 5 adaptation kit, a board support package (BSP), and a software development kit (SDK). Additionally, the suite includes "UX Designer," a plug-in for Visual Studio 2005 that is used for creating and editing portable user interface schemes, according to the company.

Intrinsyc says it has "fine-tuned" the performance of Soleus for the Marvell PXA3xx application processors, the first of which, the PXA320, began shipping last November. The PXA320 targets "feature handsets, advanced smart phones, and a wide array of portable consumer web browsing devices," according to Marvell.

The i.MX31 is part of Freescale's multimedia applications processor family. It provides an integrated image processing engine that is claimed to support full-motion (30 frames/sec.) VGA video. Last summer, Intrinsyc ported ARM's "Intelligent Energy Manager" (IEM) software to the i.MX31, and claimed a power savings of 58 percent on a reference platform running Windows CE.

Intrinsyc CTO Randy Kath stated, "many of our [Intrinsyc's] customers are looking to us to help them navigate the industry's transition to next generation devices that require a high-level operating system. We are well poised to do this with both our engineering services capabilities, as well as the Soleus software platform."