

## JAFCO Asia Invests S\$6million in FTD Technology Investment helps homegrown FTD Expand Business in Asia

Singapore, 14 July 2003 - Leading venture capital company JAFCO Investment Asia-Pacific Ltd ('JAFCO Asia') today announced that it has invested in FTD Technology Pte Ltd ('FTD').

FTD and its group of companies (the 'FTD Group') provide a full array of design services indispensable to the semiconductor industry - from concept to design to product development services. The company undertakes the entire process of electronic design which includes hardware, firmware, and software design along with hardware and software integration of the whole system.

The funds will be used to purchase additional fixed assets and help FTD execute its business expansion plans.

FTD Group was founded in August 1994, as Future Techno Designs Pte Ltd, and offered integrated circuit (IC) & printed circuit board (PCB) design services. It has grown steadily over the years from a small unit to a group of eight companies with revenues in excess of SGD 20 million for the current fiscal year. The FTD Group has 280 employees worldwide, with operations in Singapore, USA, and India.

The company has won several industry accolades including Enterprise 50 Award 2000 and 2002, and was ranked one of Singapore's top corporate achievers in SME 500 in 2000/2001.

"FTD is a good example of the type of company JAFCO Asia actively seeks to invest in," says Bradley Chew, director and executive vice president of JAFCO Asia. "It is a well managed and award-winning company with a wide spectrum of impressive capabilities and products, and a long list of industry leaders as satisfied customers. We are confident that the Group will continue its upward momentum."

The FTD Group strategically aligns itself with industry leaders to provide services and designs that are in the 'future market' such as digital TV and cameras, DVD writer and next generation of mobile phones. It has capabilities in high speed analog IC and mixed signal design with proven working silicon coupled with software driver skills, analog front end capability such as modeling, and quick deliverables. The Group also possesses several proprietary IPs (intellectual properties) in the area of wireless technology.

(Note to Editor: Please refer to 'About FTD' for more information on FTD group of companies).

"JAFCO Asia's investment is a strong endorsement of FTD's vision to be a significant technology player in Singapore and the region. We believe that JAFCO Asia's network in Japan will open new doors to FTD and enable us to penetrate further into the Japanese market," said FTD chief executive officer, Mr P. Bala.

Though headquartered in Singapore, the company also harnesses skilled technical talent in India. This strategy ensures the company can provide and deliver quality solutions at competitive prices.

### About JAFCO Asia

JAFCO Investment (Asia Pacific) Ltd., ("JAFCO Asia") formerly Nomura/JAFCO Investment (Asia) Ltd., is a venture capital firm investing in promising young technology enterprises with high-growth potential in the Asia Pacific region. First incorporated in Singapore in March 1990 as a joint venture between JAFCO Co., Ltd and The Nomura Securities Co., Ltd., JAFCO Asia became a wholly-owned subsidiary of JAFCO Co., Ltd on 31 March 1999.

JAFCO Asia offers in-depth local knowledge in the region, with offices in 5 countries : Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, South Korea & Singapore. To-date, it has invested over US\$700 million in 255 investees in 13 countries in the Asia Pacific, and has successfully achieved 155 exits.

JAFCO Co., Ltd., listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, is the largest venture capital company in Japan, with US\$2.4 billion in committed capital in Asia, North America and Europe. The U.S subsidiary, JAFCO America Ventures, has offices in Silicon Valley and Boston, and is recognized as a leading VC in America. It was ranked as one of the top five VCs in the US by Forbes magazine in February 2000.

Nomura Securities, the co-founding joint-venture partner, is Japan's largest securities house with over 128 domestic branch offices, subsidiaries and affiliates in 27 countries. Today, JAFCO Asia remains an integral part of the Nomura Group Network.

Globally, as at end of March 2003, the JAFCO group has invested in more than 2,612 portfolio companies, of which more than 689 have been listed. This represents a vast wealth of knowledge and experience that is available to JAFCO Asia's entrepreneurial partners.

### About FTD Technology Pte Ltd

FTD Technology Pte Ltd ("FTD") - founded in August 1994, as Future Techno Designs Pte Ltd - is a leading total design solutions provider in electronic design and development in the Asia-Pacific region. The FTD Group provides products and associated services related to the semi-conductor industry, from concept to product.

The business has been growing steadily over the years and the Group currently has 280 employees worldwide. FTD has offices in USA, India, Japan and Malaysia. FTD is dedicated to helping organizations gain a competitive edge through the optimization of technology. Its team of highly trained and committed

consultants and engineers has helped clients time and time again make the right development decision to achieve the results they need. By empowering its customers to meet their business challenges of today and the future, many of them have achieved breakthrough in their design cycles.

#### Highlights / Achievements:

- 1999/2000 - SME 500 Award by DPI
- May 2000 - IT Award by SME Singapore
- Nov 2000 - Enterprise 50 award by Andersen Consulting (now Accenture) and the Business Times
- 2000/2001 - Ranked as one of Singapore's top corporate achievers in SME 500
- Sept 2001 - Strategic investment of S\$1 mil by Toshiba
- Sept 2002 - Strategic investment of S\$4.5 mil by Toshiba
- Nov 2002 - Enterprise 50 award by the Business Times

#### Companies in the FTD Group

Avedis Microsystems provides leading edge technology solutions to enable the convergence of the Wireless connectivity and the Multimedia domains. Avedis technology in the form of semiconductor IP and IC Design solutions will enable portable electronic market segments like Smartphones, PDA's, Mobiles, Laptops, Digital Cameras & Multimedia players. <http://www.avedismicro.com>

Basecomm Pte Ltd is a RF Design and Modeling Services provider. Offers complete and customized solutions in the area of cost-effective RFCMOS/SiGe IC designs, IP integration and technology licensing for short range wireless products meeting the requirements of various standards such as Bluetooth & IEEE 802.11a, b, g. <http://www.basecomm.com>

FTD Solutions Pte Ltd focuses on delivering cutting-edge electronic design solutions to the customers. Set up in 1994, as the distributing arm of FTD for IC Design tools, Software Life-cycle tools and Embedded tools, it is now one of the largest distributors of software development tools in the Asia Pacific region. <http://www.ftdsolutions.com>

Infocomm Solutions Pte Ltd provides professional services that include training and consulting in Embedded Systems Engineering, Systems and IC Design, Communications and Networking, Software Design methodologies and related technologies. <http://www.infocomm-solutions.com>

Nano Silicon - a global Intellectual Property licensing and Design Services provider in mixed-signal and ESD field. Nano Silicon offers a wide range of design services in the area of IC and ASIC designs to clients mainly in the major VLSI and ASIC design houses and software development centres. Headquartered in Singapore, it has distributing offices in Japan & Korea. <http://www.nanosi.com>

Simple Silicon - located in the US - is a leading provider of digital connectivity solutions for the personal and home networking marketplace. With its portfolio of advanced transceiver technology, high speed mixed A/D solutions and silicon level expertise, Simple Silicon products enable high bandwidth data transfer and connectivity between Personal Computers, PDAs, Video, Audio and Information Appliances. <http://www.simplesilicon.com>

Socrates provides turnkey solutions at any stage of the IC design cycle such as resistor-transistor logic (RTL) code development, RTL Verification, Synthesis, Place & Route, Layout Design, Timing Analysis & Verification. Application Specific Integrated Circuits & Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) Design Services and complete ASIC Chip Solutions are provided starting from specification to the working chip. FTD India offers a wide range of design services in the area of IC/ASIC design and has also developed softcores such as Universal Serial Bus, IEEE 1394 High Performance serial bus (Firewire), 8051 Microcontroller, etc, for the global market. It also provides FPGA/ASIC design services to the electronic hardware industry and undertakes on-shore as well as off-shore FPGA/ASIC design services.

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