

A detailed profile of a tiger's head, showing its orange fur with black stripes and white underbelly. The tiger is looking towards the right. This image occupies the left half of the slide.

Optimizing Data Routing via Copper & Optical Interconnects in Scalable AI Hardware Architectures

Matthew Burns
Global Director, Technical Marketing
September 10, 2024

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES • SUDDEN SERVICE • GLOBAL REACH



Optimized Data Routing - How???

Disaggregation

1.21 GW!

Thermal Relief

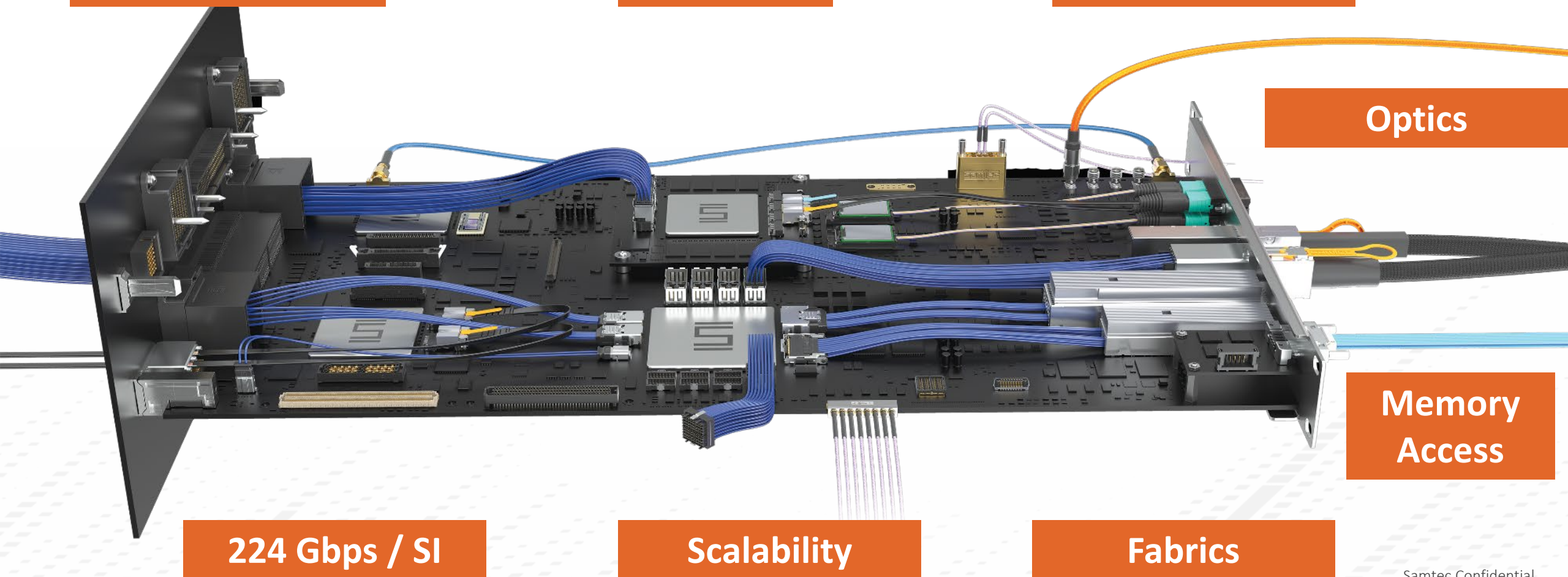
Optics

Memory
Access

224 Gbps / SI

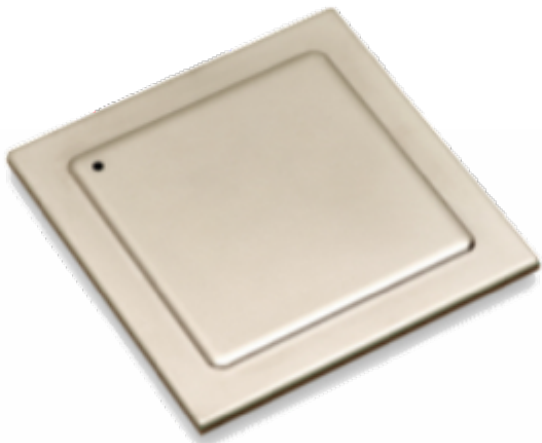
Scalability

Fabrics

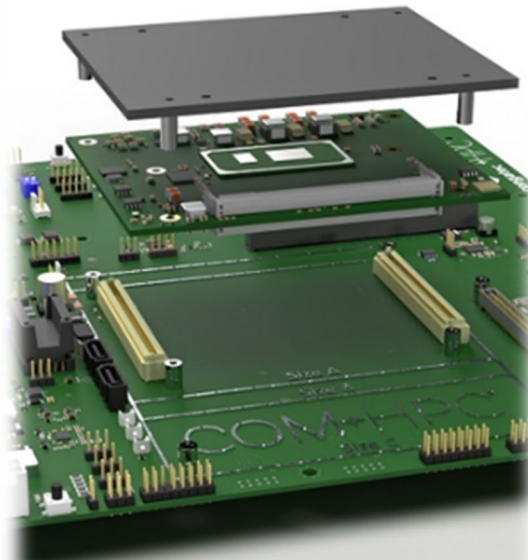




Key AI Hardware Applications



CHIPSETS



SoMs/CoMs



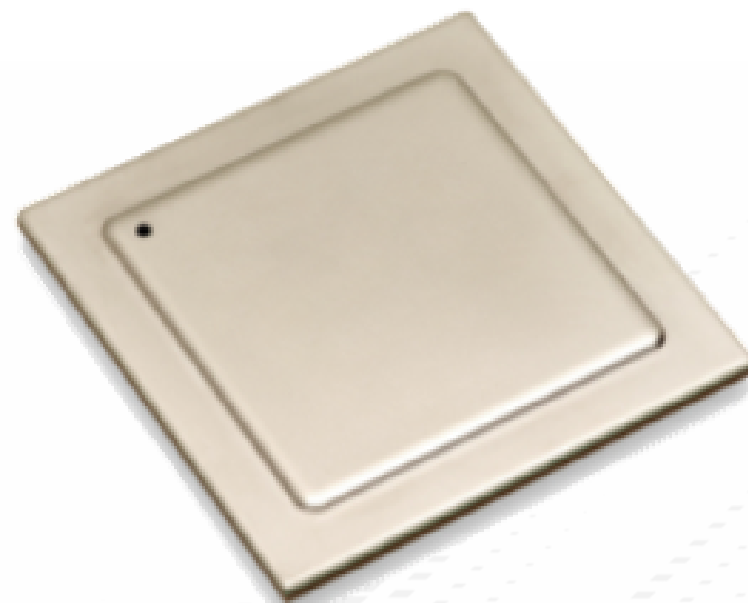
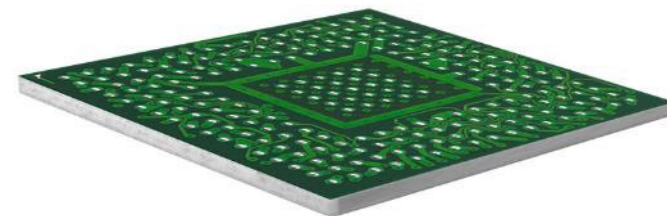
ACCELERATORS



DSAs

AI Chipsets/Characterization Platforms

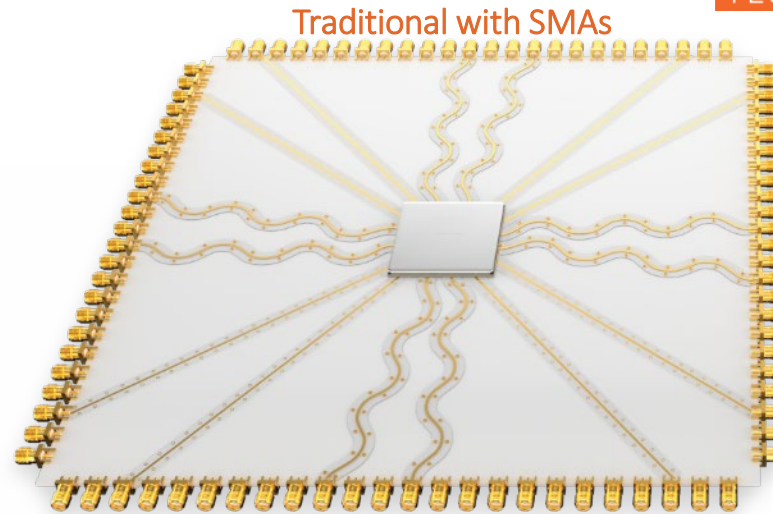
- A number of emerging AI chipset options from a variety of suppliers
- SoCs, CPU, GPU, TPU, Digital Compute, Analog Compute, etc.
- Fine-tuned for training or inference whether at edge or in the data center
- AI system development typically links AI chipset development boards mimicking end applications
- AI chipset I/O expansion opportunities abound



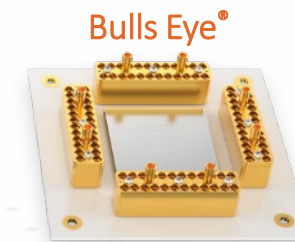
Samtec Bulls Eye® High-Performance Test

- The high-density array designs and advanced cabling solutions support T&M applications to 70 GHz
- 90 GHz solutions in development
- Compression interface provides easy mating/unmating and eliminates soldering costs
- High-density, space-saving design
- Enables smaller eval boards and shorter trace lengths
- Ideal for testing the latest AI chipsets capable of 224 Gbps PAM4

BULLSEYE®
TEST POINT SYSTEM

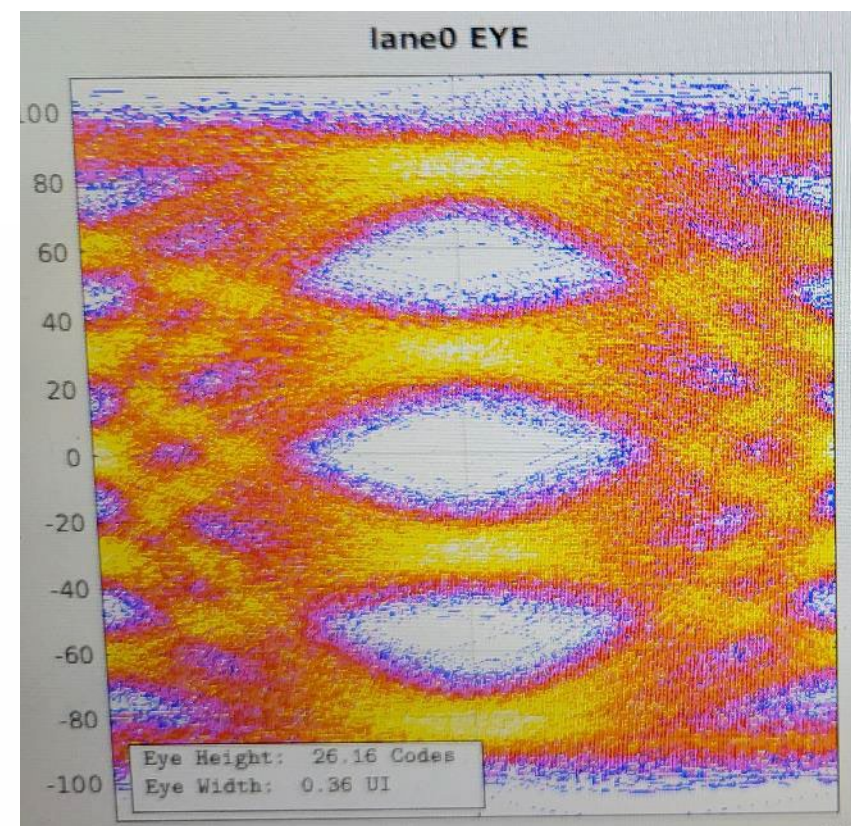
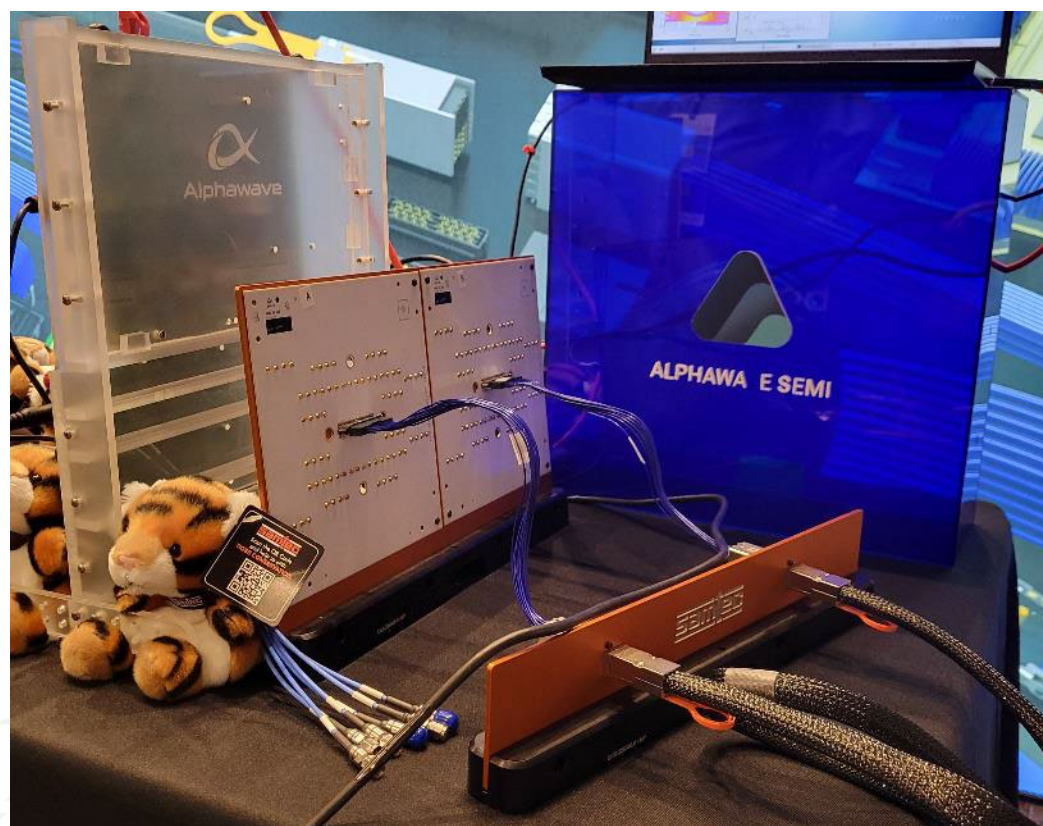


Enables smaller evaluation boards & shorter trace lengths



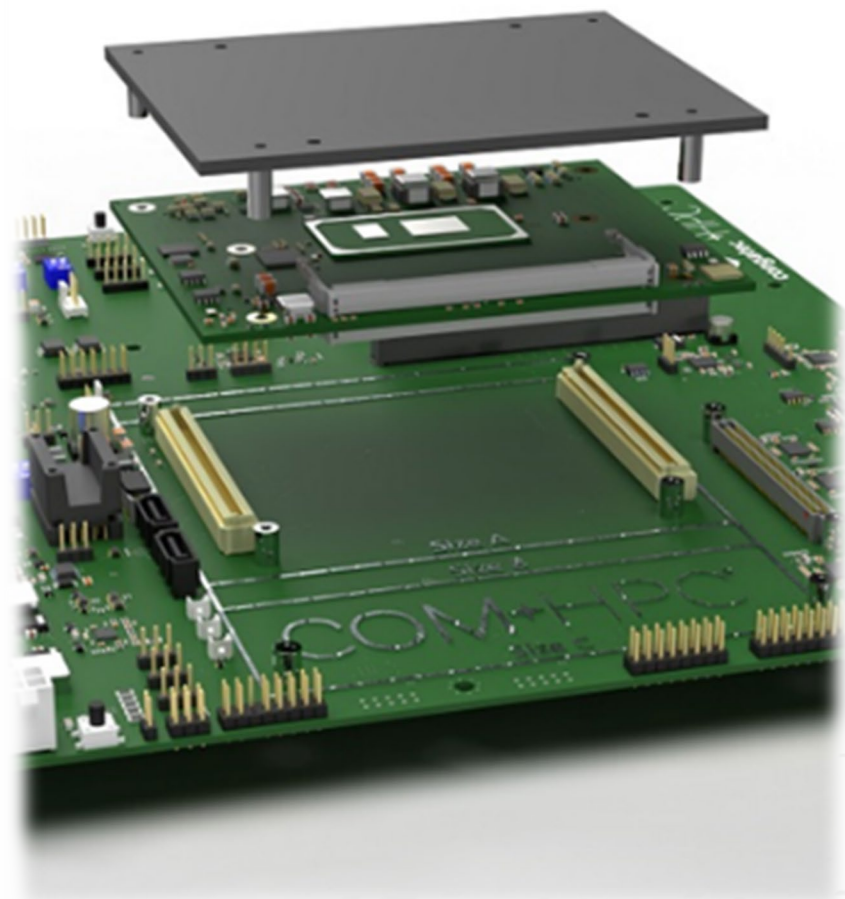


Bulls Eye[®] Case Study



AI SoMs/CoMs

- Complete compute system on a single PCB
- ASIC, RAM, I/O, peripherals, etc.
- System I/O and peripherals routed via connectors to carrier board/baseboard
- Provides a path from prototype to production
- AI systems can consist of multiple SoMs/CoMs
- New SoMs/CoMs feature increased speed and density in small footprints



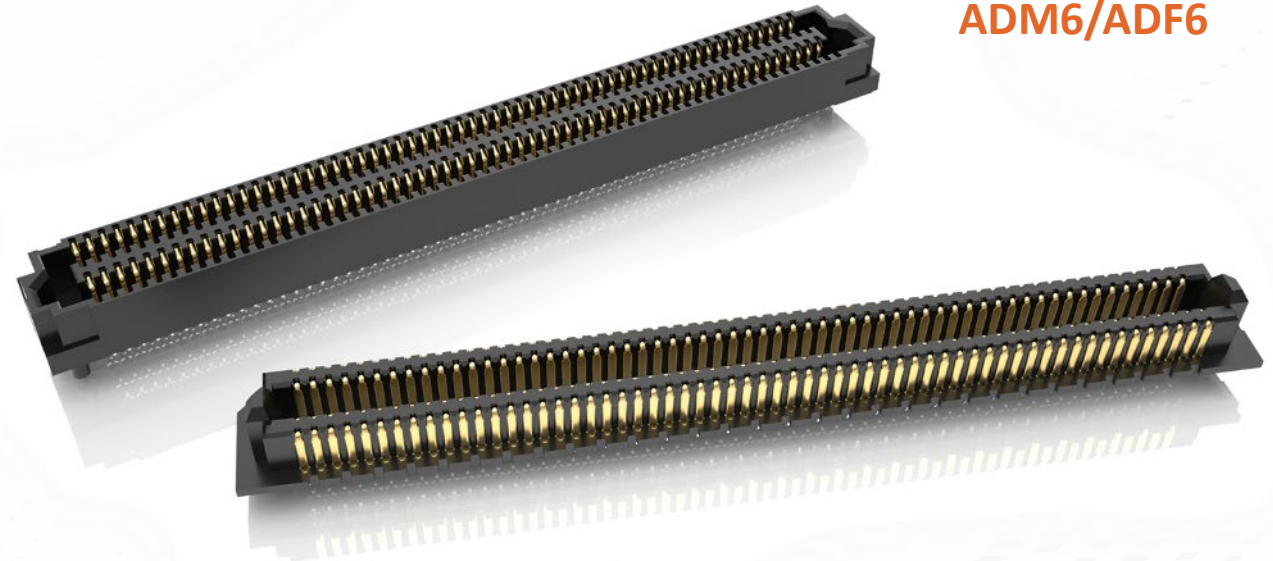
High-Density Slim Body Arrays

- Up to 400 I/Os in a 4-row, open-pin-field design
- 0.635 mm pitch Edge Rate® contacts
- Slim 5 mm body width
- 5 mm to 16 mm stack heights
- PCIe® 6.0/CXL® 3.1 capable
- Solder column termination for improved SI and ease of processing

ACCELERATE®HD



ADM6/ADF6

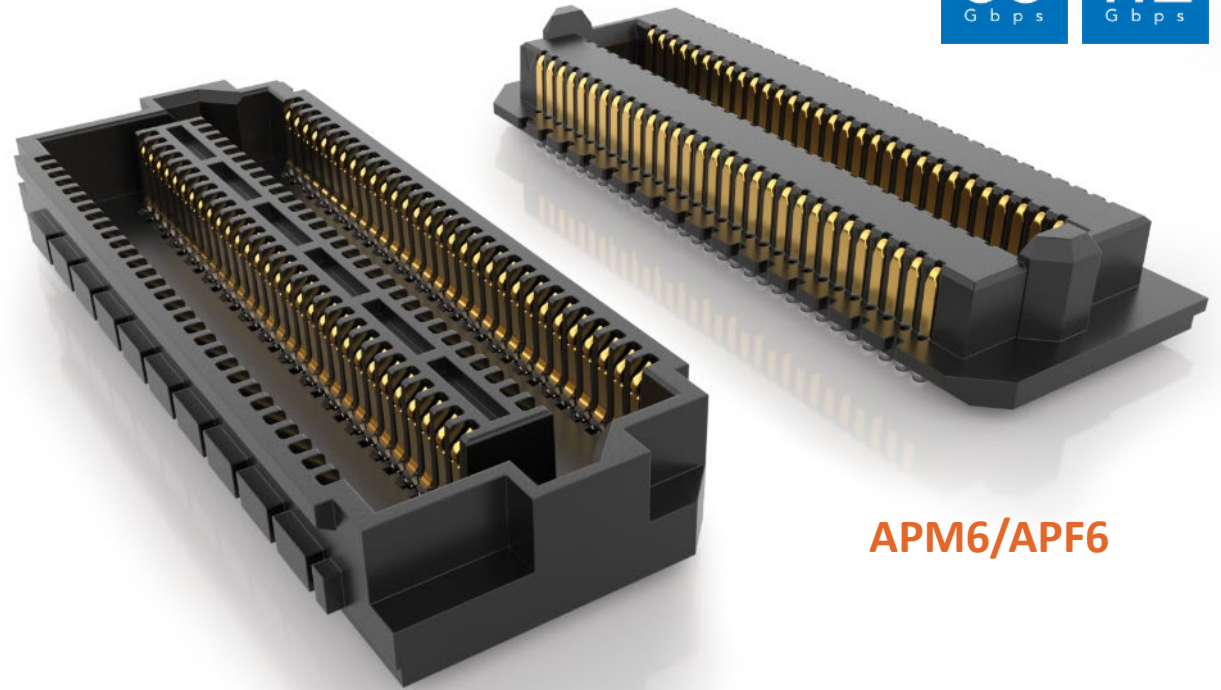


High-Performance Arrays

- Flexible open-pin-field and cost optimized, extreme performance solution
- 5 mm and 10 mm stack heights
- Right-angle socket available (APF6-RA)
- Four row design with up to 400 total pins on a 0.635 mm pitch
- Roadmap to 1,000+ pins
- Solder column termination for improved SI and ease of processing
- Data rate compatible with PCIe® 6.0/CXL® 3.1 and 100 GbE
- Additional row and pin counts in development

ACCELERATE[®]HP

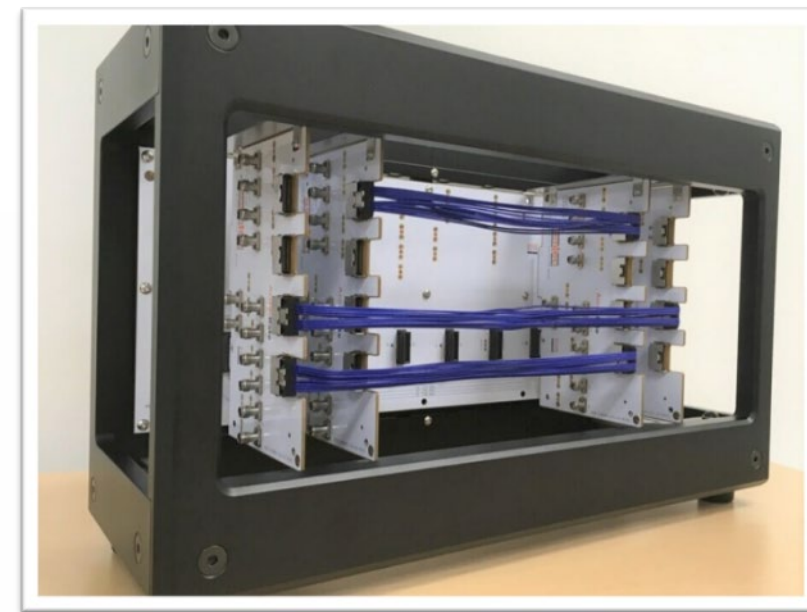
NRZ	PAM4
56 Gbps	112 Gbps



APM6/APF6

AI Accelerators

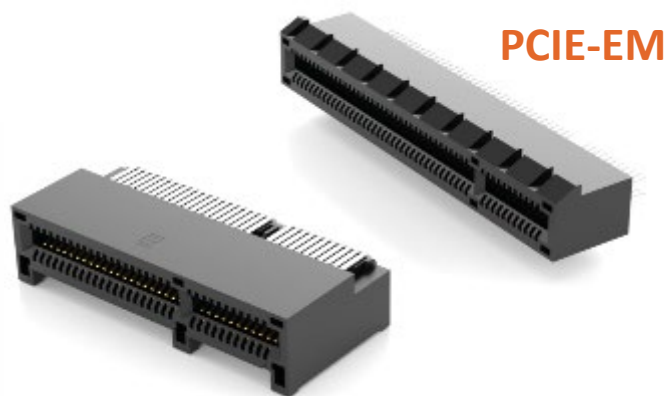
- Used to “Accelerate” parallel computing workloads common to AI/ML
- Industry-standard form factors
 - PCIe CEM AIC, PECFF, M.2, etc.
- AI chipset manufacturers developing their own solutions
- Deliver dramatic acceleration across a broad set of applications
- Reconfigurable to provide an ideal fit for the changing workloads of the modern data center





PCI Express® Edge Card Systems

PCI Express® 3.0 Edge Card Connector



PCIE-RA

PCIE-EM



PCI Express® 4.0 Low Profile Edge Card Connector

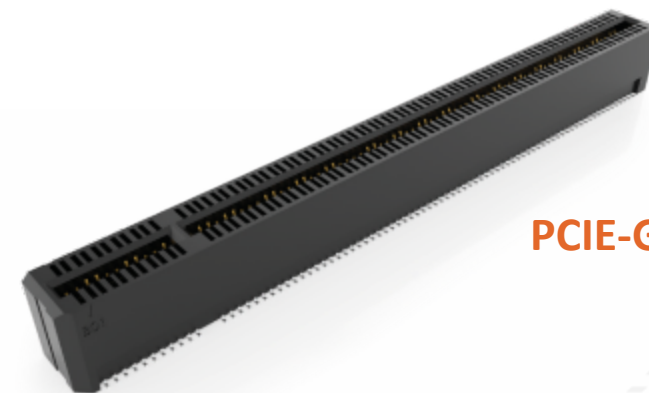


PCIE-LP



8 mm Low Profile Design vs. 11 mm Standard Height

PCI Express® 5.0 Edge Card Connector



PCIE-G5

In Development:
64 GT/s edge card system



PCI Express® Jumper Cable Assemblies

- PCIe® 3.0/4.0/5.0 capable cable assembly
- PCIe® 6.0 under development
- Used for PCIe implementation, evaluation and development
- Configurable as a jumper or an extension cable
- Available in custom lengths to suit any application
- Standard 36, 64, 98 and 164 Positions
- Edge card or connector end options available
- Mates with Samtec's PCIE/PCIE-G4/PCIE-G5 series



Standard RF End 2 options also available

Generate™ High-Speed Edge Card System

- Compatible with SFF-TA-1002 (1C, 2C, 4C & 4C+)
- PCIe® 6.0/CXL® 3.1 capable
- Edge Rate® contacts optimized for signal integrity performance
- Vertical or right-angle cable launch
- Mates with Generate™ 0.60 mm pitch high-speed edge card socket (HSEC6)
- Rugged metal latching system

GC6/HSEC6



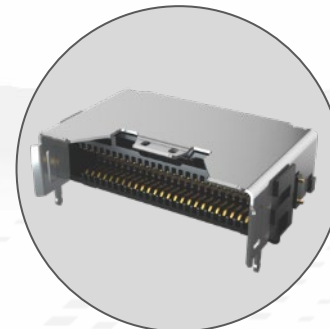
AcceleRate[®] Slim, Direct Attach System

- Slimmest cable assembly in the industry - 7.6 mm width
- 8, 16 and 24 DPs configurations in a high-density 2-row design
- 72 DPs in development
- PCIe[®] 6.0/CXL[®] 3.1 capable
- Contacts directly soldered to the twinax improves signal integrity by eliminating the transition board and its variability
- Rugged metal latching and shielding
- “Reversed Polarity” pinout option for reduced FEXT

ACCELERATE[®]



Right-angle board mate
available (ARF6-RA)



Domain Specific Architectures

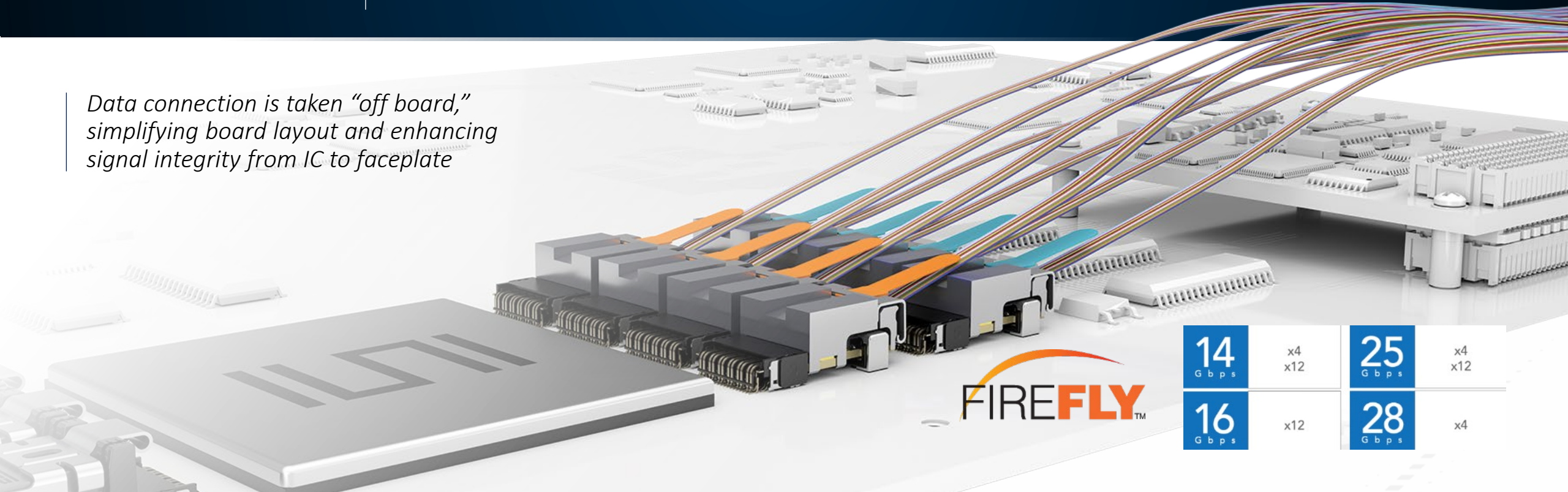
- Evolving AI DSAs require more external cabling
- Reach requirements vary depending on use case
 - 2m – Within the rack
 - 7m – Rack-to-rack
 - 10m+ - Larger clustering
- Several industry efforts underway to answer the challenge
 - Passive DACs
 - Re-timed AECs
 - New PCI-SIG® CopprLink™ Cable Specification
 - Optical Transceiver MSAs
- Is there another way?





FireFly™ Optical Flyover® Technology

*Data connection is taken “off board,”
simplifying board layout and enhancing
signal integrity from IC to faceplate*



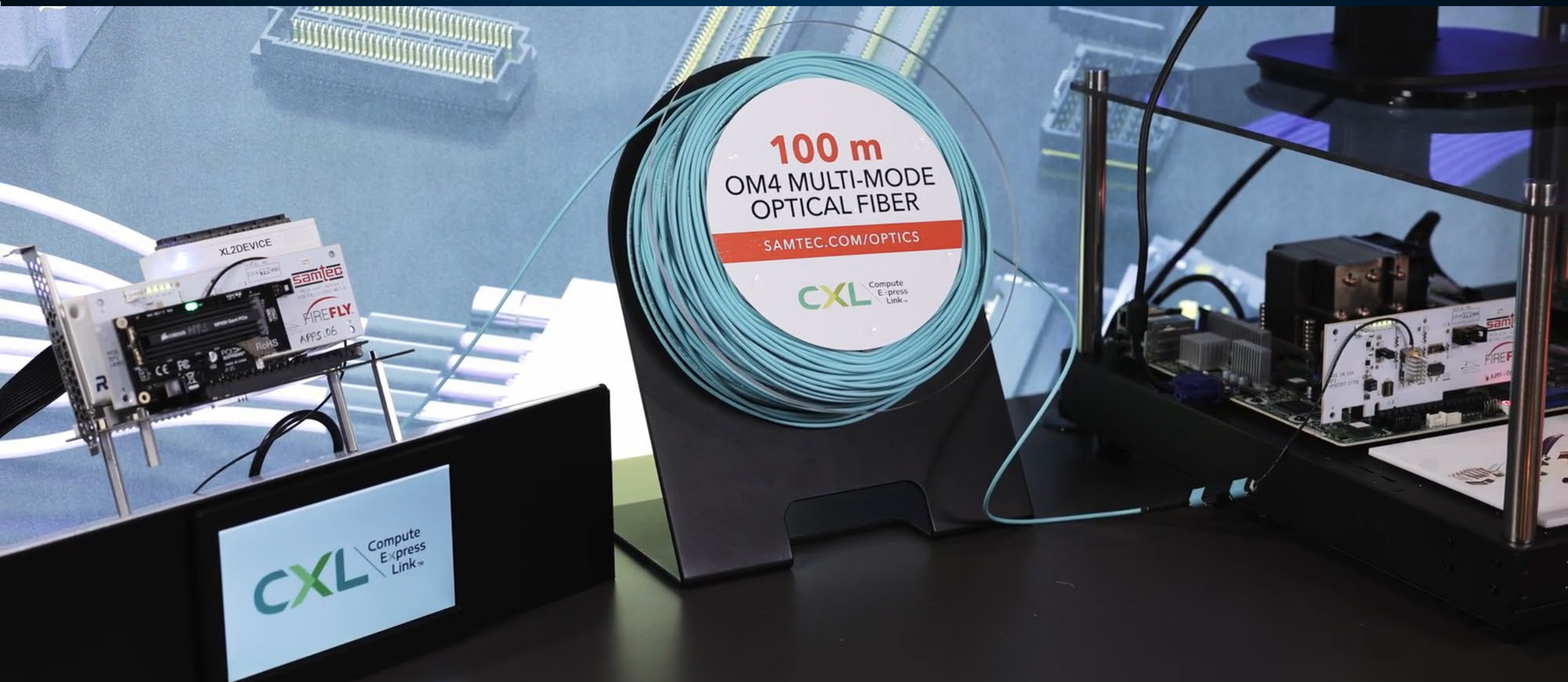
14 G b p s	x4 x12	25 G b p s	x4 x12
16 G b p s	x12	28 G b p s	x4

FEATURES

- Up to 28 Gbps per channel via optical cable for greater reach → 32 Gbps under development
- Industry leading miniature footprint allows for higher density close to the data source
- Protocol agnostic
- Simple to use system with easy insertion/removal and trace routing, no through-holes, and a surface mount connector system
- Supports data center, HPC and FPGA Protocols, including 10/40/100 GbE Ethernet, InfiniBand™, Fibre Channel, PCIe®, CXL™, and Aurora

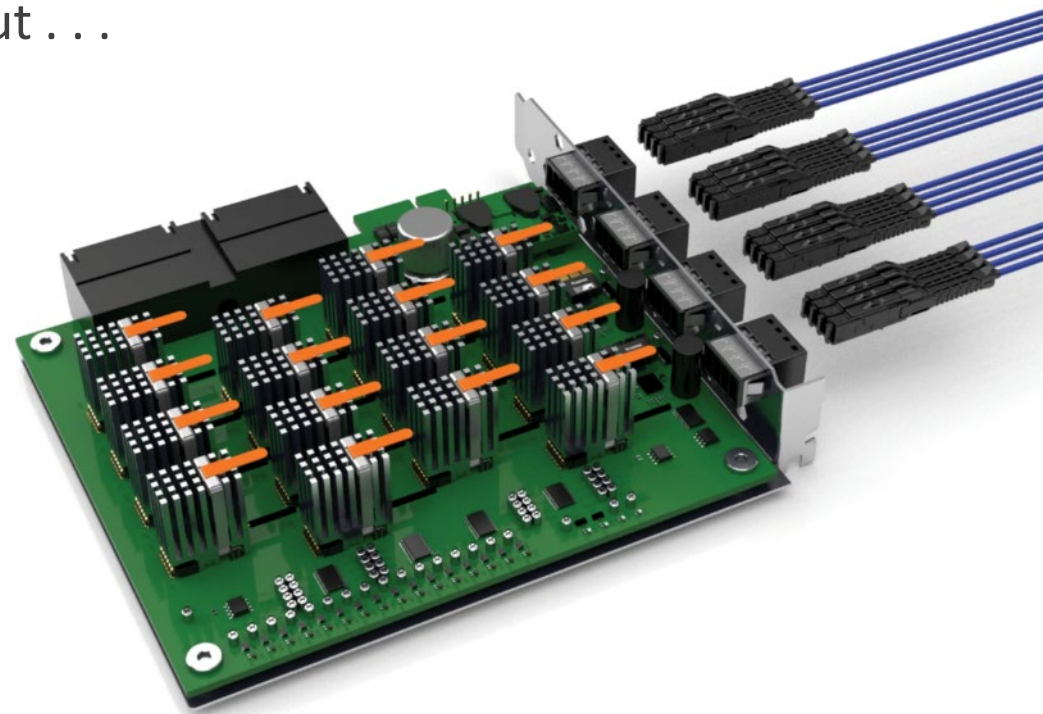


Scalable AI Hardware Optical Solutions



Scalable AI Hardware Optical Solutions

- Mid-board optical transceivers are nice, but . . .
- Many AI HW systems leverage PCB-based interconnect
- Samtec FireFly™ OCP OAI EXP Module
- Features 16x FireFly Optical Transceivers
 - 25 Gbps x4 configuration
 - 400 Gbps aggregate throughput
- Live demonstration at 2024 OCP Global Summit

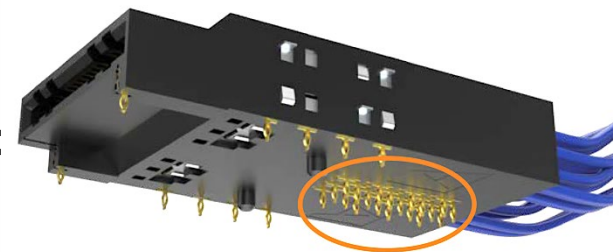


Flyover® QSFP Systems

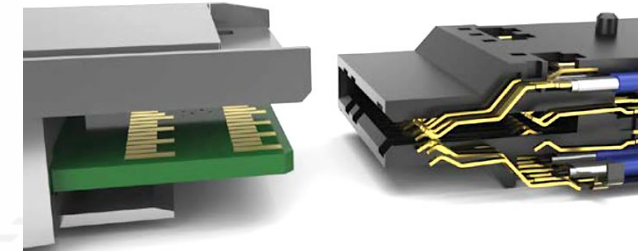
- Up to 800 Gbps PAM4 aggregate data rate
- Various configurations (x4/x8 bidirectional)
- Belly-to-belly mating available
- Multiple heat sink options for optimal dissipation
- Variety of end 2 options
- Additional front panel ports in development:
- Flyover® SFP112/Flyover® OSFP 112 Gbps PAM4



NRZ	PAM4
56 Gbps	112 Gbps



Sideband signals are routed through press-fit contacts for increased airflow



High-speed contacts directly soldered to Eye Speed® ultra low skew twinax

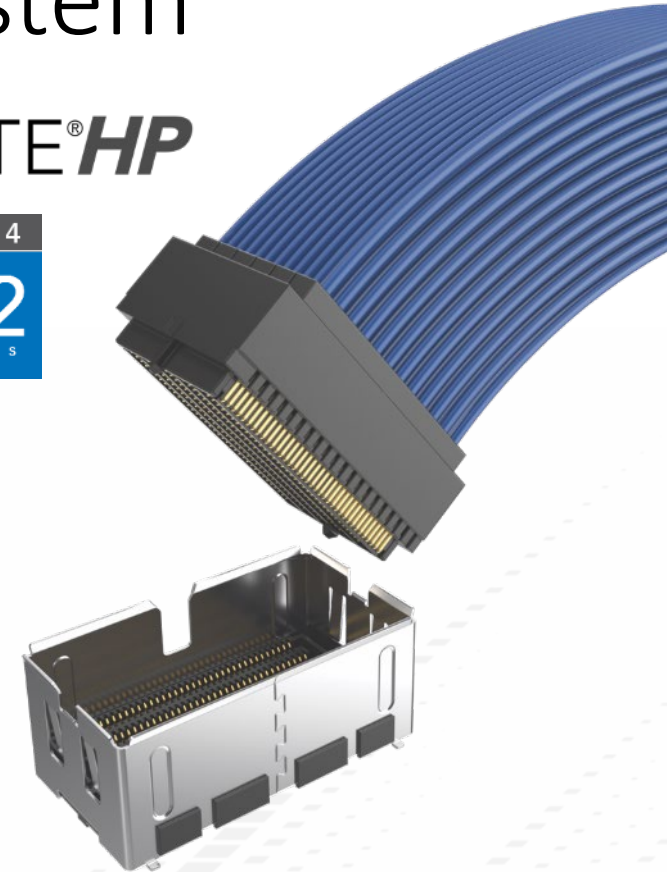
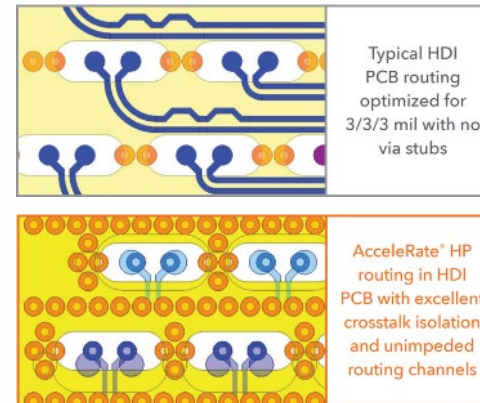
AcceleRate[®] HP Gen 2 On-Package System

- First direct-to-chip package solution with the industry's highest density 112 Gbps PAM4 interconnect
- Double the density in same footprint → 144 DPs
- Vertical cable application provides the highest footprint density
- 2-piece system for high reliability and thermal performance required for co-packaged solutions

ACCELERATE[®] HP

NRZ	PAM4
56 Gbps	112 Gbps

ART6/ATF6

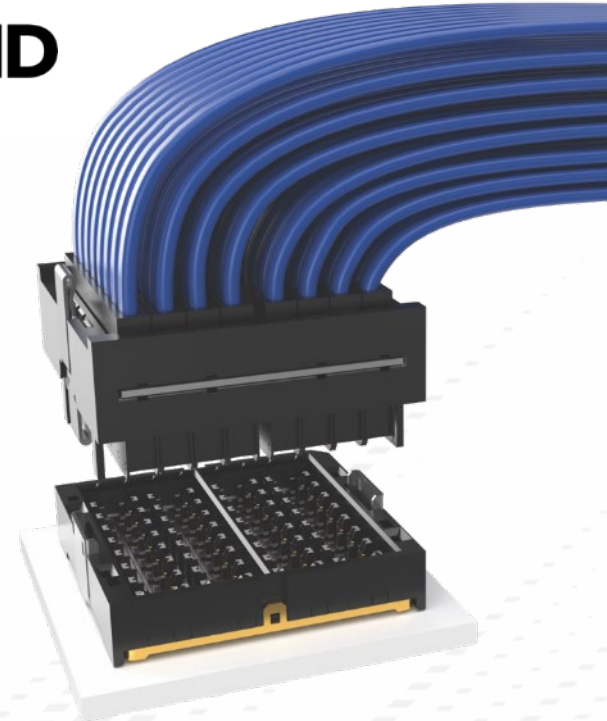


Si-Fly™ High-Density On-Package System

- Vertically launched cables for the highest density package
- 64 DPs in 14 mm x 14 mm footprint
- 0.53 mm (Signal-Ground) and 0.40 mm (Signal-Signal) contact pitch; 1.25 mm row-to-row pitch
- Designed for High Density Interconnect (HDI) and package substrates
- Eye Speed® AIR™ foamed twinax cable for significantly improved signal integrity and even lower intra-pair skew

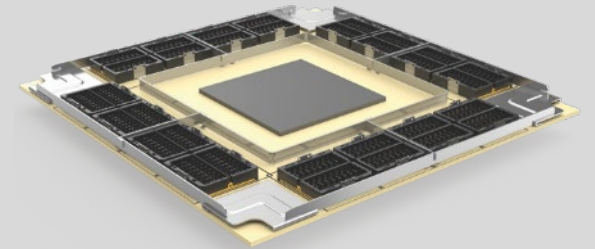
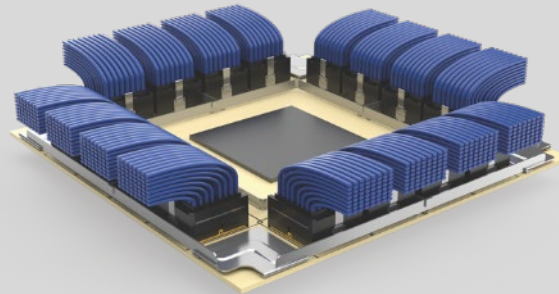
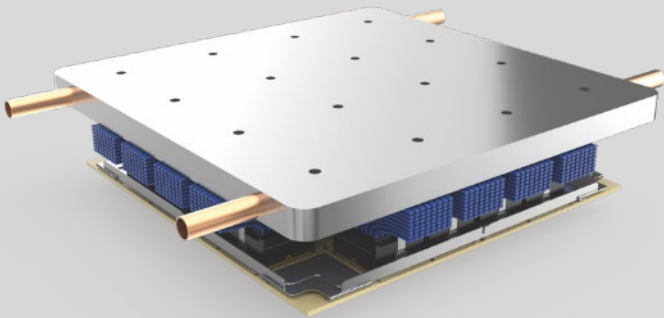
SI-FLY™ HD

PAM4
224
Gbps





Si-Fly™ High-Density On-Package System



Ultra-high-density solution for co-packaged applications.



GLOBAL CABLE FACILITIES



Samtec's global cable manufacturing and assembly facilities are dedicated to R&D and manufacture of precision extruded twinax and micro coax cable, as well as high-frequency RF cable. Samtec has developed multiple proprietary ultra-high performance cable technologies that have been engineered to address the challenges of next generation system designs.

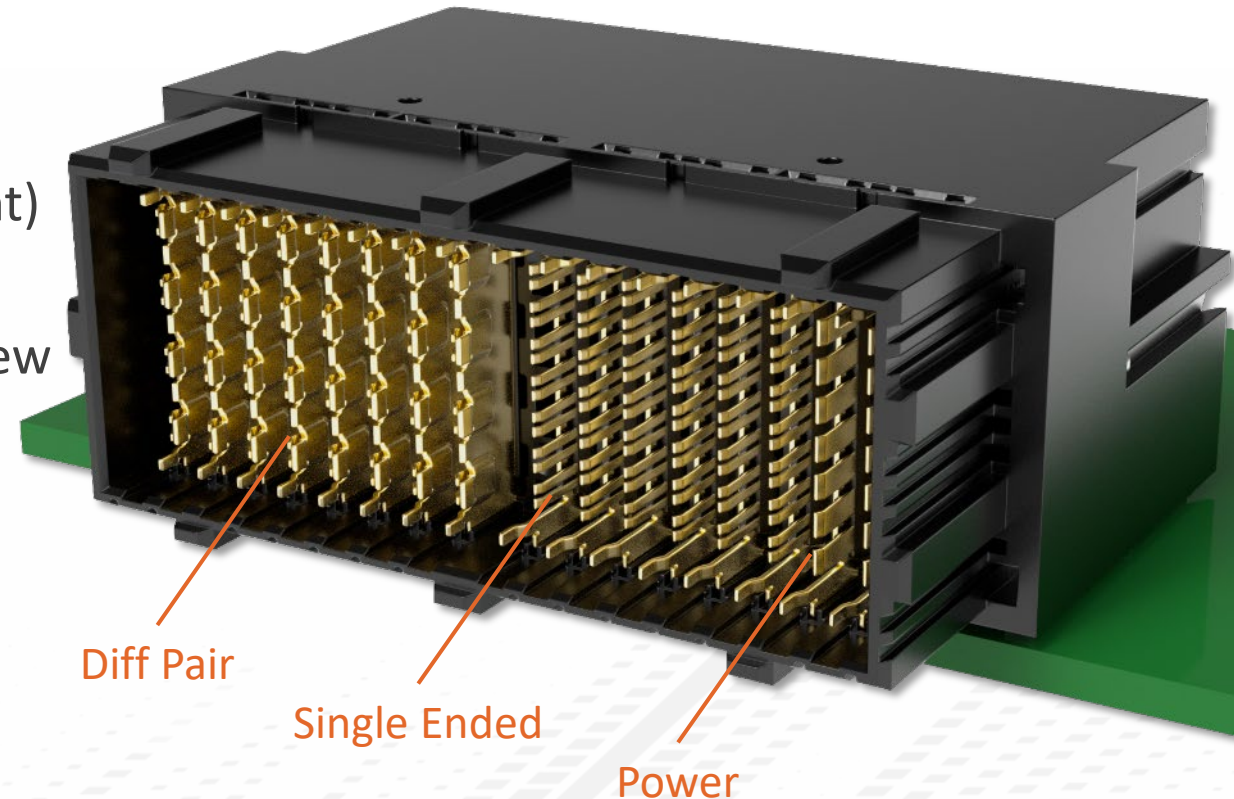
NovaRay™ Micro Rugged Backplane

PAM 4

128
Gbps

- Rugged blind-mate housing design with optional guide posts and keying
- Up to 128 DPs (32 wafers) in one connector
- Supports 1" slot pitch (less than 17.5 mm height)
- Innovative wafer design eliminates intrapair skew
- Offset footprint for optimal SI performance
- Weld tabs for increased shear strength

NVBM-RA / NVBF / NVCM / NVCF



SAMPLES NOW AVAILABLE

Key Takeaways

- Samtec offers a comprehensive portfolio of high-performance interconnect solutions ideally suited for AI system architectures in the data center
- Samtec's global team of SI technical experts, online design tools and world-class customer service are available to support any AI system architectures in the data center
- Samtec's new AI Interconnect Solutions Guide
- For more information:
- www.samtec.com/ai

