



***ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS* MAGAZINE NAMES AKUSTICA'S
MICROPHONE FAMILY 'PRODUCT OF THE YEAR'
--AKU2000 Series Garners Award for Innovative Advancement in MEMS**

Pittsburgh, PA —Jan. 16, 2007—Akustica, Inc., an innovator in microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), today announced it was honored with an *Electronic Products'* Product of the Year award for its family of Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor (CMOS) MEMS digital microphones.

The editors of *Electronic Products*—a leading trade publication for electronic design engineers—evaluated thousands of products launched in 2006 on the basis of innovative design, significant advancement in technology or application, and substantial achievement in price and performance.

The Akustica AKU2000, AKU2001 and AKU2004 devices were lauded as the first and only family of complete microphones—from voice input to digital output—on single surface-mountable monolithic chips.

“Unlike other mics, the devices can be handled exactly like any other chip, so their use improves manufacturing throughput, yield and costs while also reducing space requirements,” wrote Editor Richard Comerford in the current issue of *Electronic Products*.

Using a patented CMOS MEMS technology, the sound-sensing MEMS structures of the Akustica devices are fabricated within a standard CMOS wafer that can be manufactured in any CMOS foundry. It is this use of standard CMOS that enables an acoustic transducer, analog output amplifier, and sigma-delta modulator to be integrated onto each chip.

“The integration provides RFI/EMI immunity,” Comerford continued, “so designers can position the mic chips for optimal sound performance without concerns about electrical interference—for instance, they can be placed along the top of the bezel of an LCD display, which is where you'll find them in many of the latest laptops.”

The 2006 Product of the Year Awards were announced in the January 2007 issue of *Electronic Products* (<http://electronicproducts.com>) with a cover feature and a brief description of each product. 2006 marks the 31th anniversary of *Electronic Products'* Product of the Year Awards, which began recognizing the best products in the industry in 1977.

About Akustica

Founded in 2001, Akustica, Inc. is a privately held company based in Pittsburgh, PA. Through a revolutionary technology known as Sensory Silicon™, Akustica products

enable electronic devices to sense and respond to the world around them. By leveraging standard CMOS processes and MEMS technology, Akustica's acoustic system-on-chip solutions combine the functionality of microphones with microelectronics and software onto a single chip. Only Akustica's CMOS MEMS microphones—pioneered by Akustica chief technologist and co-founder Ken Gabriel, Ph.D., during his tenure at Carnegie Mellon University—enable single-chip solutions with arrays of transducers and integrated signal processing that disrupt both conventional microphone and speaker technologies. Smaller and more reliable than electret condenser microphones, Akustica's silicon microphones can be customized with advanced sound-capture features and noise-reduction capabilities. Akustica digital output microphones are now reaching the market in commercial volumes, helping to fulfill demand for improved voice input in a host of voice-enabled applications, from Internet telephony on notebooks to PC camera modules and mobile phones.

More information about Akustica can be obtained via Phone: (412) 390-1730, Fax (412) 390-1737, Email: contact@akustica.com or Web: www.akustica.com.

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