

March 28, 2007

Press Release

T-Engine Forum

Free Release of μ T-Kernel, the Next Generation Real-time OS for Compact Embedded System Starts

μ T-License facilitates the promotion of Japanese technology to the world: μ T-Kernel as OS for embedded systems in a ubiquitous computing era

T-Engine Forum which standardizes and promotes the ubiquitous computing infrastructure technology (Location: Shinagawa Ward, Tokyo, Chair: Ken Sakamura, Professor of the University of Tokyo; Number of members: 500) starts the public release of the source code of μ T-Kernel realtime operating system kernel for 8 bits and 16 bits microcomputers at the web site (<http://www.t-engine.org/>) from March 28, 2007 for free.

The μ T-Kernel is a member of the "T-Kernel Family" which also includes the "T-Kernel" and "T-Kernel Standard/Extension" etc. for high-performance 32 bit and 64 bit CPUs and have already been released from T-Engine Forum. It is an OS for embedded systems largely used in a wide area of home appliances such as TV, telephones, air conditioners and in-vehicle parts devices as car meters.

The reference source code of the μ T-Kernel supports "ARM7" which ARM Ltd. of England designed and "H8S" which Renesas Technology Corp. developed. A review of T-Kernel has resulted in the final specification of the μ T-Kernel to make it easy to use it on compact embedded systems without requiring advanced functions such as dynamic program loading or MMU. After the review, it is now possible to use a real-time OS which has a high compatibility with the specification of the T-Kernel on smaller compact embedded systems.

In addition, the reference code clearly separates parts which are dependent on hardware and this separation makes porting to various CPUs relatively easy.

In the future, it is expected that many parties will finish porting to other CPUs by using the reference code.

Furthermore, for μ T-Kernel distribution licenses, μ T-License has been newly introduced. The μ T-License is useful in developing compact embedded systems. For example, it permits the re-distribution of the μ T-Kernel distributed by T-Engine Forum, and, if requested by a member of T-Engine Forum, it exempts such developer from the obligation of the indication of usage of the source code of μ T-Kernel.

T-Engine Forum expects to contribute to the increased development efficiency of the embedded systems and to the early realization of the ubiquitous computing environment by providing both Japanese and English web sites so that the source code of μ T-Kernel is used widely both domestically as well as internationally by the T-Engine Forum members at their research institutes in Asian countries such as China, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand as well as in U.S.A., Europe and elsewhere.