



Tripath Technology, Inc.

Corporate Backgrounder

Tripath Technology Inc. provides state-of-the-art Digital Power Processing solutions for a variety of applications in the computer, consumer audio and communications markets. The Santa Clara-based company's first application of its proprietary Combinant Digital™ technology is in the high-end audio amplification market with semiconductor products and system solutions for applications that currently use linear and switching power amplifier ICs.

This audio application, designated as Class-T technology, is a unique combination of adaptive/predictive signal processing and conventional audio amplifier design. Class-T digital power amplifier ICs offer a high-fidelity CD quality sound with high power efficiency (>80%), low distortion (<0.05% from 20 Hz to 20 kHz), low noise floor (>80 dB), wide dynamic range (>102 dB), and a high degree of immunity to power supply noise (>67 dB). This results in a lower system cost and smaller size.

With Tripath-powered amplifiers, listeners will be able to achieve high-fidelity sound in applications where sound quality was poor or output power was limited. These include: consumer/professional audio, portable audio systems, car audio, home theater and desktop/notebook audio. A Tripath amplifier IC product consists of a CMOS signal processing chip and a DMOS driver/power transistor chip. The combination of these technologies allows Tripath products to achieve significant benefits over previous classifications of amplifiers, namely Class-A, Class-AB and Class-D products.

Founded in 1995 by Dr. Adya Tripathi, a veteran of the high-technology industry, Tripath has filed more than 12 U.S. and international patent applications in support of its technology. Tripath raised \$6.2 million of initial funds for its launch in 1995 and 1996 -- mostly through corporate investors. A second round of financing in 1997 raised an additional \$15 million, again from corporate investors, some of which represent the leading names in their respective industries.

The company has established strategic alliances with world-class CMOS and DMOS ASIC foundries, as well as with packaging/assembly houses for high-volume manufacturing to ensure its customers the highest quality and a reliable supply of the products. Tripath currently has a staff of more than 50 professionals with relevant skills including the design of high-performance mixed analog-digital signal processing ICs and power ICs, Digital Power Processing technologies, application engineering and QA/testing.

Tripath Key Personnel

Dr. Adya S. Tripathi, President & CEO, Chairman of the Board

Thomas Nicoletti, Chief Financial Officer

Donald Wile, Vice President of Engineering

John J. DiPietro, Vice President of Finance & Administration

Paul Negus, Vice President of Operations

Everett Roach, Vice President of Sales

Alan Soucy, Vice President of Advanced Products and Applications

Andreas Melder, Vice President of Business Development

Dr. Adya Tripathi, CEO, President and Chairman of the Board

Dr. Tripathi has more than 18 years of technical and management experience at several leading-edge companies. He is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Tripath's operations and for guiding its long-term strategies, with a unique focus on technology. Prior to launching Tripath, he was Chief Technical Officer and Vice President of Engineering at Vitel Communications, where he pioneered the development of sophisticated compression and modem technologies for videophone and computer applications. Dr. Tripathi has also held a variety of senior positions with National Semiconductor, Hewlett-Packard, IMP, AMD and IBM. Dr. Tripathi holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in electrical engineering from Benaras Hindu University in India. He pursued graduate work at the University of Nevada, Reno, and the University of California, Berkeley, receiving his Ph.D. in electrical engineering in 1984. He has also taught as a professor at Berkeley.

Thomas Nicoletti, Chief Financial Officer

Donald Wile, *Vice President of Engineering*

Donald Wile joined Tripath Technology as Director of Engineering in February 1995, six months after Tripath was founded. Mr. Wile has been instrumental in Tripath's growth and was consequently promoted to Vice President of Engineering in August of 1999. Prior to joining Tripath Technology, Mr. Wile worked at National Semiconductor Corp. for 18 years. At National he was both a Design Manager and a Staff Mixed Signal Design Engineer. He holds more than 5 patents and has published several papers. Mr. Wile received his BSEE from Cornell University in 1975 and his MSEE from The University of California at Berkley in 1978.

John J DiPietro, *Vice President of Finance & Administration*

John J. DiPietro has served as the Company's Vice President - Finance & Administration since September 1999. Prior to joining the Company, he was Chief Operating Officer, Vice President of Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of Calypte Biomedical Corporation, a diagnostics product company, from October 1995 to September 1999. He was Vice President of Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of Meris Laboratories, Inc., a full service clinical laboratory, from 1991 until 1995. From 1980 until 1983 and from 1986 until 1991, Mr. DiPietro was a Senior Manager at Price Waterhouse. Mr. DiPietro served as Credit Manager for Motorola, Inc., an electronics company, from 1983 until 1986. Mr. DiPietro also consults with various private companies. He is a Certified Public Accountant and received his M.B.A. from the University of Chicago, Graduate School of Business and a B.S. in Accounting from Lehigh University.

Paul Negus, *Vice President of Operations*

Mr. Negus has a broad set of experience in operations, customer service, and quality in both the systems and semiconductor industries. Before joining Tripath, he was Vice President of Operations and Customer Service at Adaptec where he managed all aspects of Adaptec's Storage System's Division highly leveraged operations model. He was also responsible for its customer support and technical service functions. Prior to Adaptec, Mr. Negus was Vice President of Operations for NetPower, a high performance workstation/server company. His past experience also includes Vice President, Asia Division of Manufacturers Services Ltd., a \$500M global manufacturing firm. He also ran Sun Microsystems Customer

Engineering and Quality operations for the SPARC Technology Business. Previously he worked for Unisys and Philips in Europe.

Everett Roach, *Vice President of Sales*

A Silicon Valley veteran, Mr. Roach's experience demonstrates a proven track record in international sales and marketing. Previously, he was Vice President for Worldwide Microprocessor Sales at National Semiconductor, where he was responsible for strategically directing all aspects of the company's global microprocessor sales. As a Vice President at Cyrix Corporation, Mr. Roach focused his efforts on sales, marketing and engineering activities in the Asia-Pacific area, specifically Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore. Mr. Roach also held the position of Director of Sales for Cyrix's Western (U.S.) Region and he has also held several business unit and market development positions with Weitek Corporation and Intel Corporation. A graduate of the University of California at Davis, Mr. Roach has a Bachelor of Science degree in economics.

Alan Soucy, *Vice President of Advanced Products and Applications*

Mr. Soucy is an accomplished senior technology manager with expertise in digital electronics and Internet markets. Prior to joining Tripath he worked for Philips Electronics as the General Manager of the Mobile Computing Division with responsibility for all strategic and operational aspects of the handheld computing business. While at Philips he also established Mobilesoft, an Internet based electronic software distribution business. Prior to Philips, he was Vice President at Zenith Data Systems with responsibility for the Portable and Mobile Businesses, and previously as the Vice President of Product Strategy and Planning. Mr. Soucy has also held the position of Director of Computing Standards at the Martin Marietta Corporation. A graduate from the University of Rhode Island, Mr. Soucy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in management science.

Andreas H. Melder, *Vice President of Business Development*

Mr. Melder has 19+ years of broad experience in high technology start-up operations, sales and technical marketing. His expertise is focused on translating a unique technical advantage into a strategic and profitable corporate direction. Prior to joining Tripath Technology, Mr. Melder was a founding member and Vice President of Sales and Marketing of Microtune, Inc., a rising star in the RF broadband communications marketplace. Mr. Melder also held several senior



positions at Cirrus Logic, Pixel Semiconductor and VITec, another high-technology startup focused on image processing products. Besides the corporate world, Mr. Melder also has spent time in the academic environment, lecturing at the West Point Military Academy and Annapolis Naval Academy regarding uses of DSP algorithms in electronic counter-measures as well as teaching at the University of Texas in the mathematics and physics department. Mr. Melder received his B.S. in EE and Business from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh and his M.S. in EE and Operations Research from Southern Methodist University in Dallas.