



Black Sand Technologies, Inc.
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BLACK SAND TECHNOLOGIES CLOSES \$10M SERIES C FUNDING

RAMPS VOLUME OF SILICON POWER AMPS FOR 3G PHONES, TABLETS, DATACARDS

AUSTIN, Texas — February 14th, 2011 — [Black Sand Technologies, Inc.](#), a fabless semiconductor company specializing in advanced power amplifier technology for wireless applications, today announced that it has received US\$10 million in third-round (series C) funding, as it ramps volume production of its range of silicon power amplifiers for use in 3G phones, tablets and datacards. The latest funding round was led by existing investors Northbridge Venture Partners and Austin Ventures.

“The enthusiastic commitment of our shareholders, placing \$10 million in cash on the balance sheet, is a powerful endorsement of our strategy and our growing success in the market,” said John Diehl, CEO of Black Sand. “We are already shipping in volume to multiple customers, and this additional investment will allow us to take the company to the next level – in terms of new products and an expansion of the sales and technical team. We have demonstrated technology leadership and commercial performance: our investors have responded to that.”

Black Sand employs industry standard CMOS semiconductor technology in the manufacture of key handset components that have traditionally required specialized process technologies. The company’s products can therefore be made in the world’s largest semiconductor foundries, thus improving quality, reliability and robustness, reducing costs, and giving customers supply assurance.

“The team at Black Sand has performed impressively over the last 24 months, not only successfully productizing the silicon power amplifier concept, but also achieving significant market traction,” said Basil Horangic, Partner at Northbridge Venture Partners. “We’re delighted to continue our association with John Diehl and his team, as they move forward to even further success in the coming months.”

“The market that Black Sand addresses certainly has a compelling need for its technology,” said Clark Jernigan, Venture Partner at Austin Ventures. “Black Sand’s products benefit consumers, handset makers and network operators – with this kind of win-win proposition, we’re confident that the company can move to even greater success.”

The Black Sand BST34 series of power amplifiers is designed as a drop-in replacement for existing 3G [GaAs](#) (gallium arsenide) power amplifiers, improving supply and lowering cost for handset manufacturers; the BST35 series moves the market forward, using another important feature of CMOS process technology

– the ability to integrate more intelligence and functionality on-chip. The overall result is a reduction in the incidence of dropped calls, increase in real-world data rates and reductions in network operators' capital expenditure requirements.

About Black Sand Technologies:

Founded in 2005, Black Sand Technologies, Inc. is a fabless semiconductor company dedicated to building solutions for the wireless industry by combining sensitive analog and powerful digital circuits in silicon. Black Sand's unique combination of patented mixed-signal technology and industry experience will lead the way to new levels of cost and performance in wireless products of the future. Black Sand is based in Austin, Texas, and is funded by Austin Ventures and Northbridge Venture Partners. For more information, please visit www.blacksand.com.

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