

**Userspace starts evaluation of IPFlex's DAPDNA-2 dynamically reconfigurable processor for U.S. Government's NIH-funded project for a life-sciences application in real-time Mass Spectrometry**

Tokyo, Japan and Seattle, USA –April 25, 2005-IPFlex Inc. and Userspace Corporation today announced that it has started an evaluation of IPFlex's DAPDNA-2\* dynamically reconfigurable processor\*\* for a US government funded (NIH SBIR) project in proteomics research. One goal of this research is to build standardized, real-time Mass Spectrometry technology utilizing Userspace's BioInstrument Manager Platform\*\*\*.

IPFlex has successfully launched DAPDNA-2, the dynamically reconfigurable processor, in 2004 in Japan. DAPDNA-2 has repeatedly demonstrated significant performance advantage over existing solutions, mainly in the fields of image processing, network security, and academic research. Over a dozen user systems powered by DAPDNA-2 processors are under development currently in Japan. IPFlex started marketing and sales activities in the U.S. market in January 2005.

In October 2004, Kirkland-based (near Seattle, USA) Userspace Corporation received a two-year "Phase 1 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) National Institutes of Health (NIH)" grant of \$394,000. Second year funding is anticipated based on the progress report. The grant funding will be used for research and development of networked instrument routers for protein processing. Real-time tagging and data modeling of Mass Spectrometry data is a central theme of this project.

Sanjaya Joshi, co-founder and CTO of Userspace and Principal Investigator of the grant, comments: "With protein characterization now one of the cornerstones of Systems Biology, real-time mass spectrometry will spearhead the understanding of disease processes. This means tagging and searching of mass spectral data in real-time. The IPFlex DAPDNA platform would be evaluated as a flow-processor for this standardization."

Koichi Hagishima, President and CEO of IPFlex, states:

"Userspace is the first customer in the US since starting sales and marketing activities in January. We believe the field of life sciences is where much growth is expected, and are excited that our products are adding value to the users in this field. I look forward to a successful working relationship with Userspace."

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#### About the DAPDNA-2 Dynamically Reconfigurable Processor

DAPDNA-2 is a dual-core processor, comprised of a high-performance RISC processor core, called the DAP, and the dynamically reconfigurable core, DNA, a two-dimensional array of 376 processing elements (PEs). DAPDNA-2 can change its hardware configuration to provide the optimal circuitry for an application on demand. This configuration change can take place not only when the system is designed, but also during operation, dynamically, in a single clock cycle, to meet the instantaneous change in needs of applications implemented by the system.

#### Terminology

\*DAPDNA: Digital Application Processor / Distributed Network Architecture

\*\* Dynamically Reconfigurable Processor: A processor capable of dynamically switching among prepared circuit configurations in a single clock cycle

\*\*\*BioInstrument Manager Platform: A device-independent XML based life-sciences process platform.

#### About Userspace Corporation

Userspace Corporation is a life-sciences platform and services company that has specialized in laboratory and clinical process automation in Proteomics and Flow Cytometry. Using its patent-pending XML standards based Bioinstrument Manager platform, Userspace has automated processes for the Institute for Systems Biology, Benaroya Research Institute, Hematologics, Inc. and the University of Washington.

#### About IPFlex

IPFlex Inc. is a fabless semiconductor company specialized in the design of dynamically reconfigurable processor. IPFlex supplies high performance, multifunctional processors that are dynamically reconfigurable, and also provides development software, evaluation boards, and peripheral interface products for the processors. With its DAPDNA series of dynamically reconfigurable processors and design tools, IPFlex provides a platform to shorten development cycle and enable unprecedented flexibility in hardware. For more information, please visit: <http://www.ipflex.com/>

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