

In Brief: Infineon's digital cordless phone chipset

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Infineon Technologies launched a new chipset for digital cordless phones that will allow total system costs to be reduced.

The new chipset incorporates the Step8 DECT baseband controller, an eighth-generation device from the company that pioneered the digital cordless market segment in the early 1990s.

The Step8 leverages Infineon's expertise to provide new functionalities like polyphonic ringing, color-display support and a microcontroller optimized for maximum performance. The Step8 is used along with a radio frequency transceiver and power amplifier to provide a very price competitive solution with an extended feature set for digital cordless handsets.

"There is a great global market potential for digital cordless phones as there is still a high percentage of European and U.S. households using corded and analogue phones, while emerging markets like China and Eastern Europe are driving significant new demand for DECT phones," said Michael Neuhauser, responsible for cordless business at Infineon. "Additionally, previous generations of digital cordless phones will be replaced because of the availability of highly integrated chips offering new features at low prices for the end consumer."

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