

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **CYPRESS RECEIVES QUALIFIED MANUFACTURER LIST CERTIFICATION**

#### **Full QML Certification Enhances Military Program**

SAN JOSE, Calif., May 13, 1996 -- Cypress Semiconductor Corporation today announced that it has received full Qualified Manufacturer List (QML) Certification from the Defense Electronics Supply Center (DESC). The audit team which performed the validation for the certification was comprised of representatives from DESC, the Department of the Navy, and the Defense Nuclear Agency.

QML Certification benefits both Cypress and its customers by allowing the elimination of previously mandated tests/processes that add little or no value to the product. The elimination of these tests can result in higher yields due to reduced handling. In addition, cycle times can be reduced, throughput increased, and screening and test flows optimized. The result is that Cypress can now provide products to its military customers more quickly and less expensively while maintaining the high military standard quality levels. Another benefit is that many customers are not required to perform additional qualifications on QML product, saving them time and money.

Dan McCranie, vice president of sales and marketing for Cypress, stated, "Since our inception, Cypress has been unwavering in support of our military customers. As other suppliers have exited this market, we have stepped up our efforts to meet the rigorous standards necessary for QML certification. Customers can look upon this certification as a continuation of our commitment to the military market."

The MIL-PRF specifies performance requirements and only details requirements for verifying compliance. It does not mandate exact processing procedures, which allows for more flexibility than previous processes. It therefore supports the Perry Initiative for reducing the cost of military IC procurement. Cypress's plastic device production processes are included in the certification, allowing Cypress to sell more economical devices to military customers.

The QML certification is issued to Cypress's Quality Management Plan as defined by the military standard MIL-PRF-38535. It documents Cypress's QML-38535 process. All of the Cypress fabrication locations (San Jose, California; Round Rock, Texas; and Bloomington, Minnesota) are covered by the certification. Cypress's assembly and test operation in Bangkok, Thailand, is also QML certified.

Cypress Semiconductor Corporation is an international supplier of high-performance integrated circuits with worldwide headquarters in San Jose, California. The company provides a broad range of products for leading computer, networking, and telecommunications companies worldwide. The company's product line includes static RAM and EPROM memories, program-mable logic devices (PLDs), field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), data communications products, and personal computer chipsets and timing devices. Cypress shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CY. The company has a site on the worldwide web at <http://www.cypress.com>,

and offers a fax-on-demand service at (800) 213-5120 or (408) 943-2798 outside North America.