

## **Pintail Technologies' SwifTest™ Reduces Cost of Test for Semiconductor Industry**

Real-time, statistical sampling solution receives patent and new name as production successes accumulate

**DALLAS (May 17, 2004)** – Pintail Technologies, a semiconductor test improvement company providing software solutions for reducing cost of test and accelerating time to market, declared success in its quest to apply real-time statistical sampling to advanced mixed-signal semiconductor testing, and was recently granted a patent on the method. Due to the positive customer response to SwifTest™, the new name of the software suite, Pintail has expanded the applications to increase the benefits of its real-time data capture and decision-making tools.

“The application of statistical process control (SPC) sampling techniques that accelerate test time have been elusive for the semiconductor industry where Six Sigma quality standards must be adhered to,” explained Taylor Scanlon, president and chief executive officer of Pintail. “A year after its first introduction, Pintail’s customers have seen significant reductions in cost of test and have confirmed that Six Sigma quality can be maintained. Other benefits have been experienced, especially in the area of real-time monitoring of test floor activity.”

**SwifTest** is Pintail’s patented software solution that performs real-time monitoring and sampling while running on the user’s automated test equipment (ATE) system. Users realize the benefits of accelerated test throughput while using their existing testers, test programs and test procedures. Developed by Pintail over the last several years, SwifTest is licensed in three configurations depending on the customer’s needs for unique, real-time data capture and decision making capabilities.

- **SwifTest-ATE** provides a localized graphical display of test data for on-tester debug, characterization and correlation;
- **SwifTest-Monitor** provides real-time statistics of test results on a lot-by-lot basis. It acts as an intelligent data filter for the typically massive amounts of data generated by the ATE systems. It operates with or without the overhead of traditional data logging. In addition to generating comprehensive reports, it provides the user with real-time triggers and alerts to improve overall test operations;
- **SwifTest-MX** is the company’s premier mixed-signal SPC sampling solution that slashes test time. By increasing production throughput, users can reduce their cost of test, improve time to market and enhance responsiveness to customer requirements. Based on customer preferences, SwifTest-MX can activate sampling techniques for individual tests that are within statistical control and deactivate sampling during the test run if lot statistics begin to drift outside of an acceptable range.

Pintail received patent number 671154 in March 2004 for the unique sampling algorithms implemented in the SwifTest product line.

Scott Bibbee, Pintail’s Director of Marketing reports that increased interest has been shown by customers in the benefits of real-time monitoring. “Pintail’s SwifTest-Monitor software provides test and product engineers with a powerful data capture and analysis tool that does not require large databases

to store historical data. Rather, the tool filters out unnecessary data and produces lot-by-lot summaries in real-time. Users have a wide range of decision-making alternatives using the real-time alerts and triggers included with Monitor,” described Bibbee.

The SwifTest monitoring and sampling solutions are available for most testers including Teradyne, Agilent, LTX and Eagle platforms. Pricing of the products are aimed at assuring the user at least 10 times its annual return on investment (ROI) and are licensed and supported on an annual subscription basis worldwide.

### **About Pintail Technologies**

Pintail Technologies is a semiconductor test improvement and yield learning company that provides breakthrough software to reduce the cost of test and increase production output and quality through existing test equipment and programs. Pintail has created the first test improvement solutions to combine real-time test process control capabilities with innovative analytical programs in an integrated software suite designed for speed and accuracy. Fabless and integrated device manufacturers worldwide, in collaboration with leading assembly and test suppliers use Pintail tools to increase competitive advantage and improve responsiveness to test issues. Pintail has sales offices in Dallas, Austin, San Jose, Seoul, Singapore, Taiwan, Munich and Switzerland. See more information at [www.pintail.com](http://www.pintail.com).

