

Pintail Technologies Secures \$7M Funding Semiconductor Test Innovator Closes Series B

DALLAS (March 8, 2005) – Pintail Technologies, a breakthrough provider in semiconductor test improvement solutions, today announced that it has secured \$7M of Series B venture capital funding bringing its total funding to date to \$11.5M. Participating in the round were Austin Ventures, Agilent Ventures, Duchossois Technology Partners, IVF Ventures and STARTech Early Ventures.

“Leading semiconductor manufacturers are continually looking for ways to reduce their cost of test and improve their quality and yield,” said Clark Jernigan of Austin Ventures. “Pintail’s foundation of real-time software for on-line decision making has opened up a whole new range of opportunities for customers to increase test throughput, improve quality and reduce response time without any changes to their existing capital infrastructure.”

“Pintail is distinguished by the companies it has engaged with during its development phase,” stated Phil Kirk of Duchossois Technology Partners. “Companies like Texas Instruments, Qualcomm, STMicroelectronics and STATChipPAC represent some of the most demanding semiconductor leaders in the world. The conflicting needs for higher levels of quality in markets like automotive combined with lowering cost of test in all consumer products are major challenges to the semiconductor industry. Pintail has developed innovative solutions to these challenges.”

Pintail Technologies’ software products are built upon a platform-independent, real-time data acquisition technology called SwifTest™-Monitor that operates on-line in semiconductor test operations. The real-time data is made available to a variety of Pintail productivity solutions that include:

- SwifTest-MX – for mixed-signal test time acceleration
- SwifTest-AQ – for reducing field defects per new automotive electronics standards
- TestScape™ - an easy-to-use, real-time dashboard that provides global insight to test operations and also provides the basis for a new generation of OEE and life cycle management tools.

Taylor Scanlon, Pintail’s president and CEO added, “Investment in semiconductor test has taken a back seat to the attention paid to improving fab efficiency. We are very pleased to be backed by world-class investors like these in our quest to bring true innovation to test. Our value proposition is very obvious when you hear that our customers are achieving the following benefits:

- 30% test time reduction using existing designs and test equipment with minor test program edits;
- Reduced DPM using advanced parts-average-testing techniques on-line;
- A common solution that works at both wafer probe and final test with no performance penalty;
- Reduced errors and scrap due to real-time, on-line monitoring;
- Rapid access to useful information rather than analysis of volumes of old data;
- Reduced finger pointing between departments and across the supply chain;
- Faster time-to-volume on new product rollouts.”

Pintail's solution works on all leading ATE systems and is now proven in volume production around the world. The new funding will be used to expand the company's worldwide sales and support teams and to finance the development of additional test performance improvement solutions.

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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.

About Austin Ventures

Austin Ventures has been working with talented entrepreneurs to build valuable companies since 1979. With \$2.4 billion under management, AV is the most active venture capital firm in Texas, and one of the most established in the nation. With a focus on enterprise software, computer and communications hardware, and business services, Austin Ventures invests at all stages of company development, from \$100,000 "planned experiments" to \$50 million investments in management buyouts. For more information see www.austinventures.com.

About Agilent Ventures

Agilent Ventures is a business unit of Agilent Technologies Inc. dedicated to investing globally in groundbreaking, privately held, early-stage technology companies. Additional information about Agilent Ventures is available at www.agilentventures.com.

About Agilent Technologies

Agilent Technologies Inc. (NYSE: A) is a global technology leader in communications, electronics, life sciences and chemical analysis. The company's 28,000 employees serve customers in more than 110 countries. Agilent had net revenue of \$6.1 billion in fiscal year 2003. Information about Agilent is available on the Web at www.agilent.com.

About Duchossois Technology Partners

Duchossois Technology Partners (DTEC) is a leading Midwest venture capital firm based in Chicago. DTEC is dedicated to helping entrepreneurs build successful enterprises and takes a value-added approach to investing. DTEC invests in early-stage companies and focuses on networking, semiconductors and software. See www.duchtech.com.

About IVF Ventures

Founded in 1994, IVF is a venture capital firm based in Silicon Valley. In addition to traditional syndicated venture capital financings, IVF focuses on highly structured investments and on providing liquidity to founders and officers of venture backed companies. Additional information about IVF is available at www.indventurefund.com.

About STARTech

STARTech Early Ventures, based in Richardson, Texas, is an early stage venture firm focused on high-tech startups in Texas and Oklahoma. STARTech's mission is to create and grow viable companies in several technology sectors such as telecommunications, enterprise software, sensor networks, bio-tech, nanotechnology and semiconductors. Additional information can be found at www.startechev.com.

