

SELECTING AN EMBEDDED RTOS



FEATURED INTERVIEW:

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QUADROS - RTOS PRODUCTS & SERVICES, 2009

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- Q. First of all, tell us a little bit about yourself and your responsibilities at Quadros.**
- A. I head up the sales and marketing department at Quadros Systems. That means my team is responsible for product development and roadmaps, technology and business partnerships, and the ongoing engagement with customers and prospective customers. I have been engaged the sales and marketing of technology products – hardware software, and systems for more than 20 years and have been with Quadros Systems for the last six.
- Q. If you would, please give us a very brief, bulleted outline of your products. What sorts of real-time operating systems (RTOSes), tools, and/or services does your company offer?**
- A. With the *RTXC RTOS* as our foundation, we offer an extensive set of protocols stacks and middleware to meet the needs of a wide variety of embedded applications
- **RTOS-** four highly scalable and configurable kernels, offering distinct performance advantages for each of the major processing models--control processing, signal/data-intensive processing, convergent processing and multi-processor/multi-core.
 - **Design and Configuration Tools-** *VisualRTXC* is an application design tool tightly coupled with the *RTXC Quadros* RTOS. It can dramatically reduce development time for embedded systems. *RTXCgen* is a kernel and application configuration tool that automatically generates error-free C code to your specifications.
 - **Engineering Services-** Quadros Systems provides a range of engineering services to assist our customers: from driver development to application-ready modules to complete system platforms.
- Q. What is Quadros's "unique value proposition" for the embedded systems engineer or programmer who is considering an embedded RTOS? What do you and your products do to help him get his product to market faster, cheaper, better?**
- A. We provide development-ready solutions that allow you to focus on your application. Each software distribution is customized to the customer's hardware and development tool requirements with all software components integrated into a sample project and tested before shipment. Our engineering team works closely with our customers to get

them up and running as quickly as possible. We also offer detailed, hands-on training with specific focus on getting the most out of the operating system.

- Q. How are you different as a company from competitors? What sets your products apart from those of other RTOS companies?**
- A. Our uniqueness can be summed up in two key points:
1. All RTOSes are not the same. Our multi-modal RTOS family with a common API provides the best foundation for diverse embedded systems
 2. Embedded systems are increasingly complex. Our application development and configuration tools are designed to speed up the development process while allowing a high degree of user customization. We continue to invest developing and integrating communications, stacks protocols and middleware to ease development risk and reduce failure points in the interaction between these complex systems.
- Q. What embedded architectures do you support - e.g., Intel architecture, MIPS, ARM, PowerPC, etc.?**
- A. *ARM 7/9/11/Cortex* (Atmel, Freescale, Luminary, NXP, ST, TI, and others), Analog Devices *Blackfin* family, *Infineon xC16x* and *ST10*, Intel/Marvell *XScale* family, Freescale *DSP 56800* family, Freescale *ColdFire* family, Freescale and AMCC *PowerPC*, Freescale *StarCore* family, TI C54x, C55x, OMAP5912.
- Q. What additional software do you offer such as networking, file systems, TCP/IP, security, IDE, GUIs etc.? What about development tools? Are there particular partnerships with other software companies that are especially helpful?**
- A.
- **TCP/IP- RTXC Quadnet-** Fully featured IPv4/IPv6 Embedded Networking including IPsec/IKE and SSL security modules; and *RTXC Quark-* Micro-Stack for Small-Footprint Embedded Networking (IPv4)
 - **USB- RTXCusb** is a suite of stacks, class drivers and controller drivers for low-, full-, and high-speed USB implementations in embedded devices – Host, Device and OTG
 - **File Systems- RTXCflashfile:** a high performance, fail-safe file system for resident NAND/NOR flash; *RTXCfatfile:* a DOS- and Windows-compatible file management system that supports 12-, 16- and 32-bit File Allocation Tables
 - **GUI Development Tools-** Professional quality graphical user interface libraries, portable embedded GUI library and drivers for LCD controllers and displays
 - **Partnerships-** We have active engagements with leading software and tool providers to support our customers' development requirements. In some cases we bundle software into a customer-ready package. In other instances we work collaboratively to help address a customer's particular situation.
- Q. How are your products sold? What is a typical fee arrangement? Is it royalty free? Per unit royalty?**

- A. Quadros Systems offers a flexible business model to meet the varying needs of our customers. This includes royalty-free, subscription, and a number of other license models.
- Q. Finally, what sort of “try before buy” experiences does your company offer? Are there free demo downloads, webinars, seminars? What web URL's can you point us to for more information?**
- A. We offer a free 30-day evaluation program with full source code. Get comfortable with our software on your chosen platform.
- Also, we offer a 30-day trial of our *VisualRTXC* design tool. Get more information at <http://www.quadros.com/products/tools/visualrtxc/freetrial>
- Q. Thank you for this product interview.**