



NI Announces Strategic Collaboration with SET GmbH and Tech180 Inc.

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New disruptive methodology to help accelerate aerospace and defense test efficiency

AUSTIN, Texas--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Nov. 17, 2020-- NI (NASDAQ: NATI), SET GmbH, and Tech180 Inc., experts in aerospace and defense test systems, announced a strategic collaboration to disrupt the design, development, and maintenance of test systems. Together, the companies will deliver an innovative approach to test systems, including new products, hardware and software frameworks, open systems reference architecture, and a paradigm-shifting System-on-Demand methodology.

"Conventional approaches for aerospace and defense test are badly outdated and in need of disruption. Engineers and enterprises are looking for new ways to leverage test as a competitive advantage, using it to reduce costs and accelerate product introductions while maintaining agility and equipment utilization," said Luke Schreier, Vice President and General Manager of NI's Aerospace, Defense and Government Business Unit and new board member for SET. "We are confident that NI's collaboration with SET and Tech180 will deliver the right approach and system-level capability necessary for our customers to meet test requirements at an accelerated rate."

Aerospace and defense companies face soaring development costs and complexities from embedded software, design, and integration challenges required in manned/unmanned aircraft, space launch vehicles, and new urban air mobility approaches. Simultaneously, the pressure to develop faster continues to rise while dated test approaches and equipment further exacerbate problems, making adaptability to changing requirements and early product life cycle tests difficult. The System-on-Demand and model-based test approach delivered through the new collaboration will shorten time-to-market schedules, reduce operational expenses, integrate labs, and optimize data and assets, resulting in more time spent ensuring the quality and safety of future products and less on building test systems.

"As both a developer and manufacturer for flight certified electronics and a specialist in aerospace electronics test systems, SET brings a deep understanding of the full development process," explains Frank Heidemann, founder and CEO of SET. "Customers can no longer afford long processes as they strive for a faster time to market. Through our collaboration, we expect to find answers and fill a critical gap in the industry."

"Incremental improvements to the status quo are not good enough," adds Chris Bakker, CEO of Tech180. "Currently, there's an enormous amount of duplicate engineering spent on test, consuming resources that should be going towards research and development. Achieving the velocity of innovation companies require means a fundamental shift in the approach to test. A streamlined test strategy is the key to a better product strategy, and this collaboration provides the path to this evolution at scale."

About NI

At NI, we bring together the people, ideas and technology so forward thinkers and creative problem solvers can take on humanity's biggest challenges. From data and automation to research and validation, we provide the tailored, software-connected systems engineers and enterprises need to Engineer Ambitiously™ every day.

About SET GmbH

SET is committed to making our customers successful by integrating cutting edge technology with tried and true best practices for test. The technology company is revolutionizing the way the aviation industry develops and tests controls products and unlocking new potential in semiconductor reliability testing. SET is specialized in Hardware-in-the-loop (HiL), functional and power semiconductor test systems, and in the development of electronics for the aviation industry. Since its foundation in 2001, SET has been growing continuously and today employs over 100 people at four locations in Germany and the US. www.smart-e-tech.de

About Tech180, Inc.

Tech180 is a fast-growing tech company advancing the future of aerospace engineering. We provide the aerospace and defense industry with modular, reconfigurable test systems that reduce the burdens of complexity, allowing our customers to focus less on test equipment and more on innovating for the future. www.tech180.us

National Instruments Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements of NI, including statements: that together, the companies will deliver an innovative approach to test systems, new products, hardware and software frameworks, an open systems reference architecture, and a paradigm-shifting System-on-Demand methodology; about being confident that NI's collaboration with SET and Tech180 will deliver the right approach and system-level capabilities to help our customers to achieve test coverage requirements at an accelerated rate, and; that the Systems-on-Demand and model-based test approach delivered through this new collaboration will help customers shorten time-to-market schedules, reduce operational expenses, integrate labs, and optimize data and assets. These statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including the ability of the parties to realize the expected benefits of the strategic collaboration; foreign exchange fluctuations; component shortages, and delays in the release of new products. Actual results may differ materially from the expected results. All information in this release is as of the date above. NI undertakes no duty to update any forward-looking statement to conform the statement to actual results or changes in NI's expectations.

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