

STEC First to Deliver MLC-Based Enterprise-Class Solid State Drives (SSDs), Enabling Broader Enterprise SSD Market Adoption

New Lower-Cost MLC-based version of ZeusIOPS SSD Incorporating Proprietary Flash Management Techniques and Flash Controllers Reach Enterprise Levels of Reliability and Performance

SANTA CLARA, Calif., Aug 10, 2009 – STEC, Inc. (NASDAQ: STEC), today announced at Flash Memory Summit (FMS) that STEC has shipped samples to OEM customers of multi-level cell (MLC)-based ZeusIOPS Solid State Drives optimized to meet the stringent demands of Enterprise storage and server applications. These versions of STEC's core SSD product families achieve previously unattained reliability levels using MLC NAND Flash. MLC NAND Flash components are generally considered to be more widely available at competitive pricing, leading to significant cost reductions for SSDs built using these parts. STEC's MLC-based drives will be offered with enterprise SAS 6Gb and 4Gb FC connectivity and in 2.5" and 3.5" form factors with capacities up to 800GB. These products are expected to be shipping in volume by the first quarter of 2010.

Until now, MLC NAND has not been considered a practical storage media for SSDs used in the Enterprise applications due to the rigorous endurance and reliability demands of those markets. However, STEC designs and implements high performance flash controller technology and proprietary advanced Flash management algorithms to render Enterprise-grade performance and endurance that is superior to hard disk drives (HDD) and consumer-grade MLC SSDs. In addition, utilizing sophisticated Flash management algorithms, STEC's MLC-based SSDs ensure constant Enterprise-level performance across demanding workloads and data sizes. By achieving these critical thresholds, these drives are well-suited for the requirements of demanding enterprise environments where SSDs will be deployed.

As the rest of the industry continues to work towards solutions to enable MLC in the enterprise, STEC is relying on its core developed technologies, adaptable to both SLC and MLC Flash, to deliver early-to-market MLC-based solutions to its customers. While not quite as fast as their SLC-counterparts, these lower cost MLC versions of our SSDs have the potential to significantly expand the size of our markets by creating cost-performance advantages in certain sectors of the market that have until now been reticent to adopt SSDs for cost reasons alone.

"While we believe our core customers will continue to rely on and demand our industry-leading SLC-based SSDs, it is apparent that several of our price-sensitive OEM customers are now looking for SSD alternatives which only a true MLC-based SSD can deliver," said Manouch Moshayedi, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of STEC. "STEC continues to lead the way in developing innovative SSD solutions for today's Enterprise markets. Our introduction of MLC-based SSDs is an important next step in the enablement of even wider spread adoption of SSDs and will open doors to new and exciting markets for us."

For more information regarding this announcement and other important SSD topics, please visit the company's web site at www.stec-inc.com/ssd/technology.

About STEC

STEC, Inc., with headquarters in Santa Ana, California and offices around the globe, designs, manufactures and markets high performance storage solutions. The company's product portfolio

includes the industry's broadest SSD offerings. For more information, visit the company's web site at <http://www.stec-inc.com>

The STEC logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=1079>

STEC is a registered trademark of STEC, Inc. in the United States and other countries. All other trademarks referred to herein are the property of their respective owners.

Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, statements concerning: ability to enable broader enterprise SSD market adoption; ability of products to achieve reliability and performance levels; potential for significant cost reductions from MLC NAND Flash components; expected volume shipments in 2010; potential of lower cost MLC versions of our SSDs to significantly expand the size of STEC markets. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and involve inherent risks and uncertainties, including factors that could delay, divert or change any of them, and could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially from current expectations. Although STEC believes that the forward-looking statements contained in this release are reasonable, it can give no assurance that its expectations will be fulfilled. Important factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements are detailed in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission made from time to time by STEC, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K, its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and its Current Reports on Form 8-K. The information contained in this press release is a statement of STEC's present intention, belief or expectation. STEC may change its intention, belief or expectation, at any time and without notice, based upon any changes in such factors, in STEC's assumptions or otherwise. STEC undertakes no obligation to release publicly any revisions to any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

CONTACT: STEC, Inc.

Mitch Gellman, Vice President of Investor Relations
(949) 260-8328
ir@stec-inc.com