

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

Tidal Engineering Corporation
2 Emery Avenue
Randolph, NJ 07869
973/328-1173; Fax: 973/328-2302
www.TidalEng.com

Contact: Craig Borax,
Craig@tidaleng.com

**Tidal Enhances Synergy™ Environmental Test Chamber Controllers
to Support Rapid Setup and Configuration with Barcode/OCR Reader Technology**

*Controller's Robust New Macro Features and Capabilities Enhance the Speed and Accuracy of
Temperature/Humidity & HALT/HASS Testing Processes*

Randolph, NJ, August 31, 2006...Tidal Engineering, a leader in the design and development of embedded hardware and software for test and measurement and data acquisition applications, announced the addition of a barcode/OCR reading feature to their multi-channel, microprocessor-based Synergy™ Controller. Engineered to support virtually all hand-held OCR (Optical Character Recognition) and/or barcode readers for maximum utility, the environmental chamber controller's new macro capability accepts the digital data from a part's barcode/OCR label, then selects and implements the appropriate test profiles without further operator intervention. This singularly unique feature was designed to address the requirements of OEMs and test labs to speed throughput while ensuring the accuracy of the temperature and humidity, as well as HALT (Highly Accelerated Life Testing) and HASS (Highly Accelerated Stress Screening) testing processes. Easy to install, there is no need to change the controller's settings to deploy the barcode/OCR scanning application. Users simply connect the scanner cable's PS/2 connector to the keyboard input on the controller, and configure the scanner for the OCR/barcode font specified. The Synergy Controller, which utilizes the Microsoft® Windows® CE. NET embedded operating system, and boasts a front- or flush-mounted 320 x 240 (color STN) touch screen, retrofits the industry's more popular controllers/programmers.

The Synergy Controller is confidently used in a broad range of environmental testing applications where multi-channel, multi-loop temperature control is required for the precise control and measurement of temperature, humidity, altitude, and vibration. Included among the most common market segments for which it is appropriate are electronics, aerospace, automotive, medical and pharmaceutical sectors, and in any application where controlled environments are essential for the testing, screening, and calibration of critical systems and components.

Tidal's Synergy Controller notably assumes complete command of environmental chambers' conditioning systems to facilitate the total programming of temperature, humidity, altitude, and vibration versus time. Additionally, operators are able to program up to six custom outputs to accommodate unique applications and optional features. Two of the instrument's control channels can function for temperature control in temperature shock applications, or one channel can

control temperature while the second or third manage humidity, altitude and vibration. Temperature is measured using a 100-Ohm platinum RTD or a thermocouple whereas humidity is measured by an electronic sensor.

The controller's varied and sophisticated communications capabilities include RS-232, RS-485, 10/100 Base-T Ethernet, and GPIB, along with built-in remote control/monitoring. Its Web-Touch™ Remote (patent pending) built-in Web server enables total remote control/monitoring from any standard browser. A USB Flash disk, 32 MB on-board Flash and 32 MB SDRAM for data logging, alarm logging and storage, and USB storage are provided standard. Profiling, an unlimited number of set point, auto start, hold, jump loop, and steps, along with eight event/alarm outputs are further supported.

Pricing for the Synergy Controller starts at \$2,750. each. Delivery is from stock to 4-6 weeks. A free, 30-day demo is available.

To learn more about the Synergy controller, which now supports barcode/OCR readers, visit

http://tidaleng.com/appnotes/SCAN04-ConfiguringBarcodeScannerRev_A.pdf, or contact Craig Borax at Tidal via either phone (973/328-1173) or e-mail (craig@tidaleng.com).

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About Tidal Engineering Corporation:

Headquartered in Randolph, NJ, Tidal Engineering Corporation has been designing and building award-winning embedded hardware and software for test and measurement and data acquisition applications since 1992. The company further provides product development services together with engineering support, and is recognized for technical expertise in such areas as environmental test control and data acquisition, Embedded IEEE 488, and turnkey SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) systems. Tidal's products are available exclusively through ADI American Distributors Inc., an ISO-9002 certified distributor of electronic and electro-mechanical components and assemblies.