# Laboratory Instrumentation Controller with Stepper Motor Drive

# **Design Note #47**



Modern laboratory equipment integrates a high degree of automation. Laboratory control technology from Orchid assists researchers in the discovery process.



"Orchid worked hard to understand our needs – from our viewpoint. Then they implemented the perfect controller for us. Orchid Technologies, we'd use them again in a New York minute – they really listen!"

- R&D Manager
- Laboratory Systems Division



ORCHID TECHNOLOGIES
ENGINEERING & CONSULTING INC.

#### **Laboratory Instrument Controller**

The coordination and integration of multiple, unrelated electronics is a daunting task. Multiple electrical interfaces together with connectivity, isolation, noise immunity, and precision operation made this instrumentation controller special. Working closely to understand the end application, we made certain that every facet of the design was covered – with contingency planning just in case we missed something.

#### **Stepper Motor Drive**

Saving cost was paramount. Third-party stepper motor controllers are expensive, take up large amounts of physical space, and often have difficult power supply needs. Orchid implemented an embedded precision stepper motor controller on a single circuit board. Overall product cost was reduced, product integration was simplified and weight was successfully managed.

#### **Instrumentation Controller Feature List**

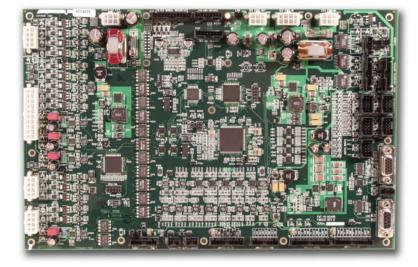
Orchid integrated the following features onto this single circuit board:

- 4 Thermistor Channels
- 4 Brush DC Motor Channels
- 48 General Purpose IO's
- 4 PWM Heater Channels
- 2 Timer Channels
- Real Time Clock
- 1 RS232 Channel
- 4 Precision DAC Outputs
- 1 USB Channel
- HiPot Isolation

- 4 RTD Channels
- 1 Stepper Motor Channel
- 2 Low Noise Laser Power Supplies
- 4 General Purpose Analog Inputs
- $\bullet$  Non-volatile Parameter Storage
- Daughter Board Expansion
- 1 RS422/486 Channel
- 4 Valve Driver Outputs
- 1 Bluetooth Channel
- Agency Approvals

## Orchid Technologies — Instrumentation Leader

The development of custom electronics technology solutions for our OEM clients is Orchid's entire business. High-performance Custom Instrumentation Design with rapid design cycles, demanding technical requirements, and unforgiving schedules set us apart. Call Orchid Technologies today. We'll put a custom instrumentation system in you hands tomorrow!



### **Custom Engineering From Concept to Production**

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