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US Air Force Selects DfR Solutions for Reliability Predictions of Lead-Free Solder *Physics of Failure (PoF) Approach will be Developed in the Study*

College Park, MD – November 5, 2009 – DfR Solutions is very proud to announce it has been awarded a SBIR by the United States Air Force to study Physics of Failure (PoF) based reliability predictions of lead-free solder. The Air Force chose DfR Solutions because it has identified the firm as a Center of Excellence in the area of Physics of Failure.

The perception that the reliability of lead-free is poor in military environments can be explained using physics to help determine the effect of geometry, material properties, and environment on the failure behavior of the solder. This will greatly reduce the risk of using lead-free in military type environments.

“DfR Solutions is developing assessment tools to determine the robustness of lead-free solder in high reliability systems,” said Dr. Nathan Blattau, Vice President and Chief Scientist at DfR Solutions. “There is a critical need to evaluate risk, and physics of failure may be just the approach that would allow for a risk-neutral incorporation of lead-free electronics into those systems. “

Further information about the lead-free research study may be obtained by contacting Dr. Craig Hillman (chillman@dfrsolutions.com) or Dr. Nathan Blattau (nblattau@dfrsolutions.com).

About DfR:

DfR Solutions has world-renowned expertise in applying the science of Reliability Physics to electrical and electronics technologies, and is a leading provider of quality, reliability, and durability (QRD) research and consulting for the electronics industry. The company’s integrated use of Physics of Failure (PoF) and Best Practices provides crucial insights and solutions early in product design and development and throughout the product life cycle. DfR Solutions specializes in providing knowledge- and science-based solutions to maximize and accelerate the product integrity assurance activities of their clients in

every marketplace for electronic technologies (consumer, industrial, automotive, medical, military, telecom, oil drilling, and throughout the electronic component and material supply chain). For more information, visit www.dfrsolutions.com.