



## Products: Memory

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### Half megabit FRAM facilitates increased data collection in meter applications

[Henri Arnold](#)

[EE Times Europe](#)

09/28/2006 9:12 AM

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#### Ramtron extends its serial memory portfolio with new 512 kilobit FRAM

Colorado Springs, USA – Ramtron International Corp. has expanded its portfolio of serial memory products with the launch of the FM24C512, a half-megabit non-volatile FRAM product with an industry standard 2-wire serial interface. The FM24C512 is targeted for use in applications that require high capacity data collection such as utility metering and real-time configuration storage.

"The FM24C512 provides our 256 kilobit FRAM customers with a footprint-compatible upgrade path that doubles their data collection capacity," says Mike Alwais, Ramtron VP of Marketing. "In particular, many of our metering customers have asked for more FRAM storage capacity to support the trend of collecting more energy consumption data. Having supplied 256 kilobit FRAM products for the largest metering installations in the world, and with new advanced metering infrastructures on the horizon, the 512 kilobit FRAM is a natural extension of our offerings to the meter market."

#### Product features

The FM24C512 is a 512 kilobit non-volatile RAM with a 2-wire interface that is pin-compatible with industry standard 24C512 EEPROMs for ease of development. The device performs read and writes at bus speeds up to 1MHz for NoDelay™ writes, and operates from a 5-volt power supply, drawing 250 micro amps for reads and writing at 100kHz. This half megabit FRAM offers 45 years of data retention and is rated over the industrial temperature range of -40°C to +85°C.

#### Product benefits

Ramtron's FM24C512 is optimised for data collection applications. It reads and writes continuously at bus speeds of up to 1MHz with over 10 billion writes. Similar EEPROM devices require long write delays, polling software, and have endurance limited to less than 1 million write cycles. In addition, this new device features low operating currents.

#### Pricing and availability

Samples of the FM24C512 are currently available in an 8-pin EIAJ SOIC package with pricing starting at \$7.42 in 10K quantities.

#### About Ramtron

Ramtron International Corporation, headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado, is a fabless semiconductor company that designs, develops and markets specialised semiconductor memory, microcontroller and integrated semiconductor solutions used in a wide range of product applications and markets worldwide. Additionally, Ramtron works with various leading-edge licensees and manufacturers to bring its technology to market. For more information, visit [www.ramtron.com](http://www.ramtron.com)

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- [Samsung Ships Samples of High-capacity NAND Solution](#)
- [Half megabit FRAM facilitates increased data collection in meter applications](#)
- [High-frequency serial Flash in 8- and 16-Mbit densities comes in small package](#)
- [Ramtron's 512Kb FRAM offers high-speed SPI interface](#)

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#### Study: Europeans spend more time online than on print media

European Internet users are spending more time surfing the Internet than they do reading newspapers and magazines, according to a new study of 5,000 Western Europeans conducted by Jupiter Research.



#### Airships, balloons set to deliver broadband

The results of a three-year project to develop a network that will use airships to bring broadband communications services to remote areas, and even to moving trains, are due to be unveiled at a conference later this month in York, England.



#### State of the Engineer: The young and the restless

The single, young, energetic, upwardly mobile engineer constantly angling for better pay and greener pastures was for decades a Silicon Valley stereotype. But that image no longer holds true in the Valley or in Europe.



#### The top 50 IC companies ranked

The leader board in the semiconductor world hasn't changed much in the last five years. Intel Corp. is the perennial No. 1 but it is always interesting to scan down the rankings. We show the top IC companies ranked by sales down to position 50.