

# **U of T opens advanced digital lab**

**CMC Microsystems Corp.,(CMC), Ottawa, the University of Toronto (U of T) and industry, government and academic leaders officially opened the Advanced Digital Laboratory on campus, representing the first of four specialized test labs in Canada's unique \$23-million National Microelectronics and Photonics Testing Collaboratory.**

Together, these labs will address access to sophisticated and costly equipment required to test and validate high-performance microsystems, a prerequisite for moving new, multi-disciplinary discoveries more quickly into the market. The estimated value of the digital lab at U of T is more than \$8-million. It represents a key building block in Canada's 'cyber-infrastructure' that will help bring world-class test expertise in Toronto to microsystems researchers in Ontario and across the country.

Researchers at 21 Canadian universities will use this world-first virtual laboratory and its interactive, multimedia connections to access some of the best available test tools and technologies in the world. Managed by CMC, this pan-Canadian initiative will ultimately provide companies a competitive edge in the multi-billion dollar microsystems and photonics sectors.

"The Collaboratory brings scientific research into the 21st century" says Dr. Brian Barge, President and CEO of CMC Microsystems. "Regardless of physical location, researchers will have access to the same advanced capabilities to validate concepts faster, thereby increasing their R&D output and narrowing the gap between technology development and market deployment. Microsystems technologies enable products and services in all sectors from health care to aerospace, energy, automotive, environment, and information and communications."