

Xcell journal

THE AUTHORITATIVE JOURNAL FOR PROGRAMMABLE LOGIC USERS

Cover Story

Xilinx CEO Wim Roelandts Reveals How to Survive a Recession and Gain Market Leadership

ANALYSIS

Total Cost Management

TECHNOLOGY

How to Build Efficient FIR Filters

Xyron Inc. Makes RTOS Breakthrough

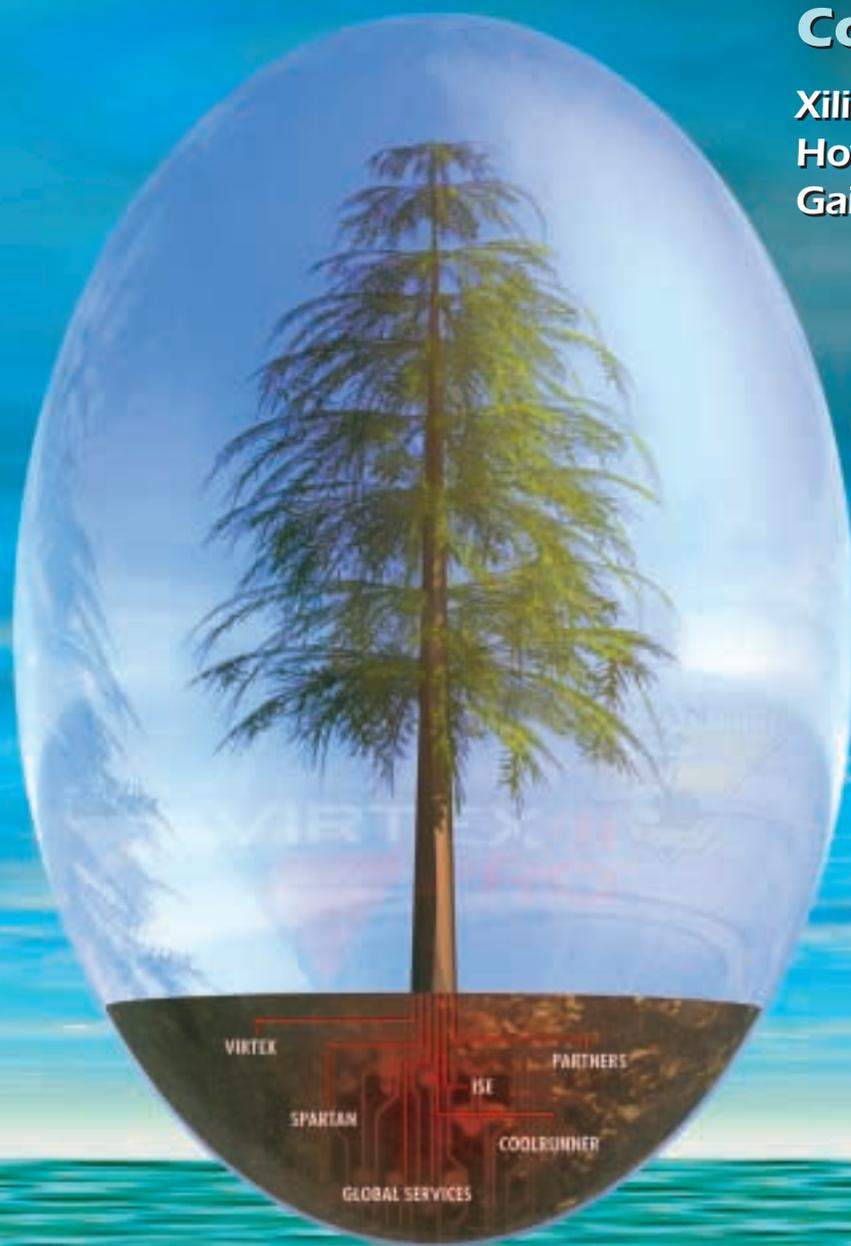
PERSPECTIVE

Using DSP in Real-Time Video Processing

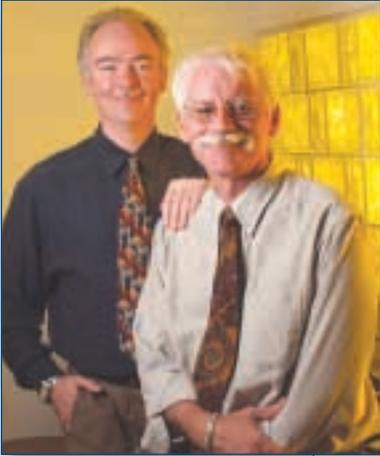
NEWS

IBM ASICs Incorporate Xilinx Technology

Virtex-II Pro – New Products, Reduced Pricing



We Did It Again — Only Better This Time



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Last year, Xilinx debuted at #14 on the *FORTUNE* 100 Best Companies to Work For™ annual list. This year, we broke into the Top 10 with a ranking of #6 – the only Silicon Valley/San Francisco Bay Area company to make the Top 10.

To help determine the new rankings, *FORTUNE* weighed how companies reacted to the economic downturn of 2001. Although revenue at Xilinx declined by 50 percent over the course of 2001, the company decided employee layoffs would come only as a last resort. As a result of significant cost-cutting measures – including tiered salary cuts for everyone except the lowest paid employees – Xilinx managed to avoid layoffs, continued to bring remarkable new products to market, and became larger than all other public programmable logic companies combined.

We believe the *FORTUNE* magazine ranking reflects the strong values we hold at Xilinx:

- Customer focus
- Respect
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Teamwork
- Integrity
- Very open communication
- Enjoying our work.

"MANY XILINX EMPLOYEES HAVE TOLD ME HOW PROUD THEY ARE TO RECEIVE THIS RECOGNITION. IT SPEAKS AS MUCH ABOUT THE GREAT CULTURE WE HAVE CREATED AT XILINX AS IT DOES ABOUT THE QUALITY OF PEOPLE WHO WORK HERE."

— WIM ROELANDTS, CEO, XILINX INC.

These CREATIVE values are a vital part of our culture, and they make a positive difference for our employees and our customers. Our values make Xilinx a great company to work for – and a great company to work with. Our technology, our service, and our customer satisfaction continue to lead the industry. We are always seeking new ways to make a real difference in our world. And, though technology drives our business, we've built our success on the strong partnerships we've created with our customers, our suppliers, and other technology leaders in our industry.

To learn more about the *FORTUNE* magazine's top 100 companies to work for, go to: www.fortune.com/lists/bestcompanies/.

Tom Durkin
Managing Editor



How to Survive a Recession and Gain Market Leadership

"I said from the beginning that we wanted to emerge from the recession a greater company — and I think we have achieved that."

When Total Cost Management Counts, Xilinx PLDs Pay Off

CoolRunner-II CPLDs, Spartan-IIe FPGAs, and Virtex-II EasyPath Platform FPGAs can give you total system cost solutions superior to those of traditional ASICs.



Exploring Hardware/Software Co-Design with Virtex-II Pro FPGAs

To explore the possibilities of hardware/software co-design, the Xilinx Design Services team created a reference design for a real-time operating system for telecommunications.

Customize Virtual Private Networks with Spartan-IIe FPGA Solutions

Spartan-IIe FPGA solutions can help you to customize your virtual private network for highest performance, greatest security, and lowest cost.



How to Build an Efficient FIR Filter Using System Generator

Xilinx System Generator 2.2 software enables high-level modeling and implementation of DSP systems in Xilinx Platform FPGAs to outperform traditional DSP processors.

Develop MicroBlaze Applications with Three Flexible Hardware Evaluation Platforms

MicroBlaze Development Kits from Memec Design demonstrate the versatility of the MicroBlaze soft processor core in a variety of Xilinx FPGAs.



CoolRunner-II Data Sheet

RealDigital CPLDs consume only microwatts of power, yet provide very high performance — take a look at what's "under the hood."

How to Survive a Recession and Gain Market Leadership.....	4
IBM ASICs Incorporate Xilinx Technology.....	7
Total Cost Management.....	8
New Virtex-II Pro Devices — Lower Cost.....	12
Virtex-II FPGAs Deliver Advanced Data Security.....	15
CoolRunner-II CPLDs Go All Digital.....	18
If Disaster Strikes, Xilinx Is Prepared.....	21
Xilinx Software Improves Your Productivity.....	22
Hardware/Software Co-Design with Virtex-II Pro FPGAs.....	24
Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA Drives Convergence.....	27
Xilinx Offers End-to-End Solutions.....	30
FPGAs — Enabling DSP in Real-Time Video Processing.....	32
FPGAs Provide Flexibility in Digital TV Development.....	36
Xilinx Technology Can Disable Stolen Cell Phones.....	39
Customize Virtual Private Networks.....	42
Build Secure and Robust Wireless Communications.....	44
Leading Technologies for Wired Home Networking.....	48
You Can Take It With You: On the Road with Xilinx.....	52
Build an Efficient FIR Filter Using System Generator.....	55
Xilinx Software Tools to Reduce Line Echoes.....	58
SystemIO Solution Expands with Bandwidth Demands.....	59
Develop MicroBlaze Applications.....	62
Xyron Semiconductor's RTOS Breakthrough.....	64
Power Supply Solutions for Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs.....	66
Nallatech's DIME-II Architecture Goes Pro.....	68
Platform FPGAs Take on ASIC SOCs.....	70
CoolRunner-II Data Sheet.....	74
Reference Pages.....	86

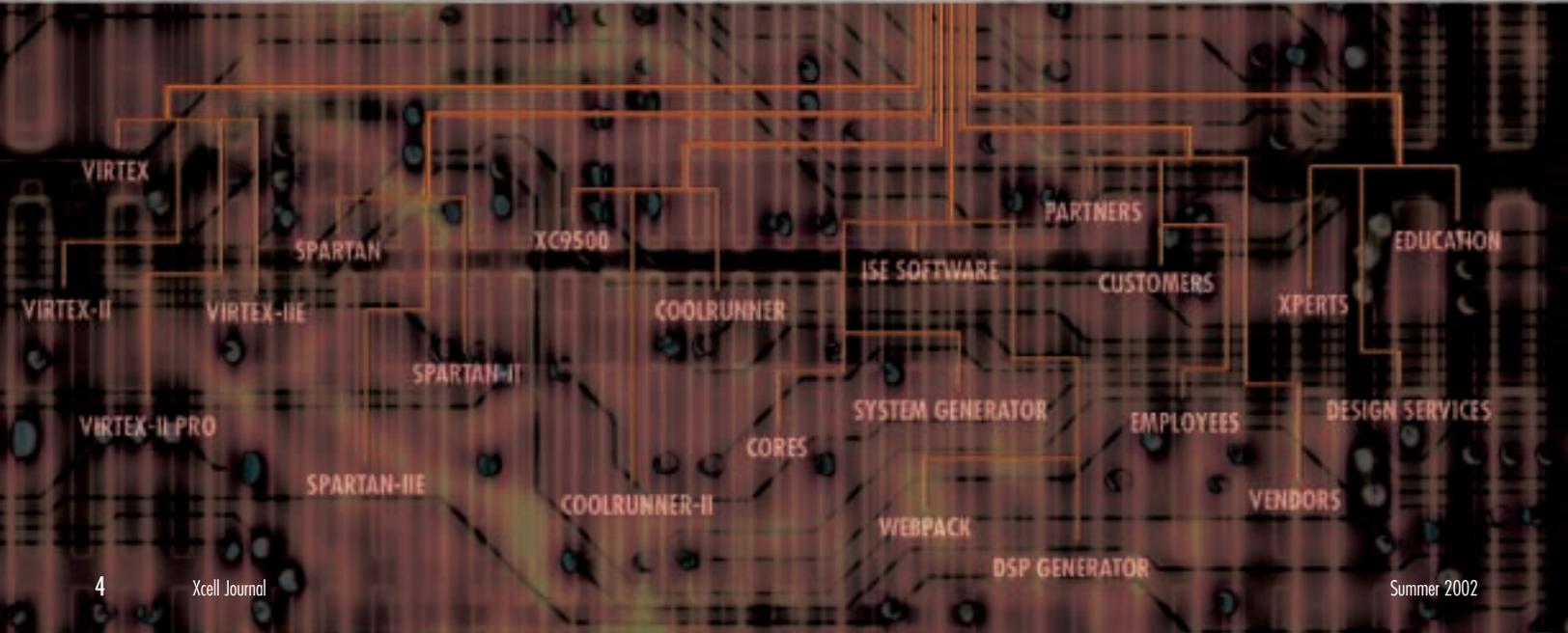
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How to Survive a Recession and Gain Market Leadership

"I said from the beginning that we wanted to emerge from the recession a greater company — and I think we have achieved that."





by Wim Roelandts
CEO, Xilinx, Inc.

Last year was a very difficult year for the semiconductor industry. In fact, it was the worst recession ever in the history of semiconductors. In 1985, the industry decreased in a year-over-year basis by 17% to 18%. In 2001, the decline was 32% to 33% – almost twice as bad as 1985.

Nevertheless, I believe that it's in the recessions that the good companies distance themselves from the not so good companies. Even though our business was very weak, we gained market share during this recession in quite a dramatic way. Last quarter, for the first time in our history, we became larger than all the other public programmable logic device companies combined.

From a strategic point of view, we want to win through product leadership. That means we have to have the best products – always from the customer's point of view – which means the highest densities, the fastest performance, and the software and service to support them.

When you are an industry that is new and that is still changing very rapidly, you have to continue to innovate. You have to continue to bring new products into the market.

Despite the recession, the last part of 2001 and the early part of 2002 was one of our most productive periods for new product introductions. In about five months' time, we introduced a new family in every one of our product categories – Spartan™, CoolRunner™, and Virtex™. Each, in its own way, is unique in its capabilities. In fact, two of these new products – the CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLD and the Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA – have no competition. Literally, there are no comparable products on the market that can compete directly with them.

Total Solutions

I'm very excited about the programmable logic industry. It's an industry that's still in the early phases, but over time, it will become the dominant way to implement integrated circuit designs.

The inherent flexibility of programmable logic allows you to gain time to market, to introduce new products very quickly, and to upgrade your product, even after the sale, through field-upgradeable technology.

We're not just focusing on the chips, however. Our chips must also have the software, the intellectual property cores, the training, and the support to deliver total solutions to our customers.

And we have to continue to be innovative in all these areas of IC technology. My whole belief is that Xilinx must excel in a continuous push to innovation – throughout the company, be it in chip design, software development, or marketing. Innovation is absolutely critical – especially in times of recession.

No Layoffs – Not Just a Nice Thing to Do

This recession has put a tremendous strain on the industry. When I saw this decline coming, I concluded that it would be best for us if we could avoid layoffs – even though the economic consequences would be very difficult. I wanted to avoid layoffs, because once you start layoffs, people get worried – and if people are worried, they cannot innovate.

Innovation means that you have to take risks that some things are not going to work, and therefore, if you are worried about your job, the mantra becomes, "Don't rock the boat. Don't push yourself or make yourself too visible" – which is totally opposite from what we want to see happening.

If people are worried about their jobs, clearly, they're not going to be as productive. Layoffs affect not only the people who get laid off. Very often the people who are still there go through trauma, because they see their friends disappear – and they always have this fear: "Maybe next time it will be me."

Whenever you lay off employees, some of the accumulated knowledge of the company – its "intellectual capital" – is going to walk out the door. Especially in the high-tech industry, the value of the company is in the heads of its engineers and support staff. At Xilinx, 70% or 80 % of our employees are highly educated people working in engineering and marketing and supply-chain management. They are all experts and specialists in their own way – and that's why it's so important to keep these people happy at Xilinx. Once people like that leave, that intellectual capital goes out the door with them, and that's a lot of value for a cutting-edge company to lose.

Several compelling studies have proved that if you go back two years later, the companies that laid off employees are generally in worse shape than companies that didn't. Layoffs have a very profound impact on the morale and the trust between management and employees. Furthermore, a lot of know-how has left the company. And it takes a long time to get it back.

For these reasons, and more, I decided to try to avoid layoffs.

Pay Cuts – An Innovative Approach

The reality of economics is that when business drops, you have to bring your labor costs in line. With layoffs not being an option, the way we cut our labor costs was by a very innovative program where we had a tiered salary reduction that was proportional to the size of each worker's salary. The lowest paid people had no reductions, and the highest paid people had the biggest reductions (myself included).

In implementing this policy, we discovered that we should give people some choices and make sure they get something in return. People had the choice to either take the salary reduction or to take vacation time – or take stock options. Stock options aren't money, but it is compensation for the work people put in. We can't ask the employees to sacrifice unless we can compensate them for the extra flexibility we're asking from them.

The tiered salary reduction was extremely well received in the company. The vast majority – and I’m talking about close to 100% of the employees – felt this was the right thing to do.

People even volunteered for the plan, which was important in Europe, because in Europe, companies cannot mandate salary reductions. It must be done on a voluntary basis. If people hadn’t volunteered, we could not have done it, but pretty much all of our European employees volunteered for the salary reduction, because they felt solidarity with the company.

With an acceptance of fair pay cuts and a promise of no layoffs, our employees felt safe to continue to risk and innovate. They have kept their attention full-time on their jobs. The net result has been that we have been able to maintain our aggressive schedule of new product rollouts – and this in a period when our business was off by 50% in three quarters.

Moreover, we were not only able to remain in the black from a profit point of view, but during all this period, we were also able to remain cash-flow positive for the company.

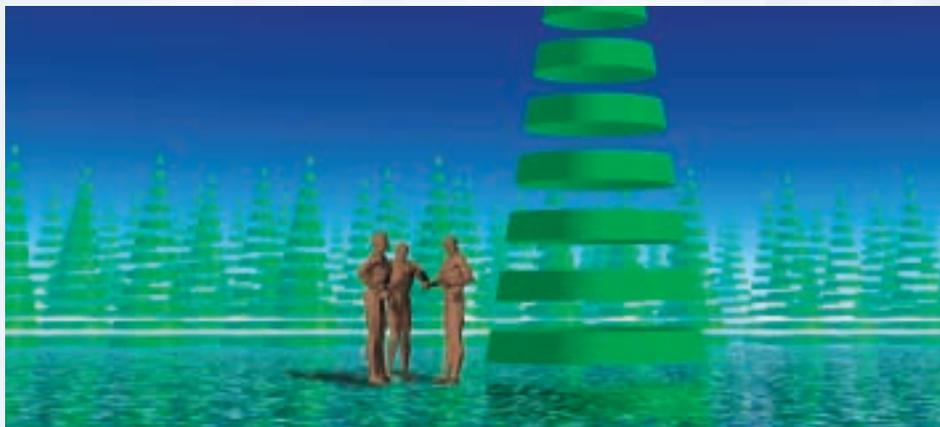
The Importance of Being “Fables”

One of the reasons we could afford to stay in the black is because Xilinx is a “fables” semiconductor company. We don’t own fabs [fabrication plants]. We don’t have this big problem of having a fab that we need to keep busy. For us, if business goes down, we just buy fewer wafers.

The same thing is true for our sales force. We don’t have a Xilinx sales force. We work through distribution and sales reps, which again means that our sales costs are by and large variable. Sales people get paid a commission. If they don’t sell, there’s no commission.

These two factors helped us tremendously in remaining in the black and remaining cash-flow positive, because a lot of our expenses go up and down with the business climate.

The good news is that we reached our lowest quarter in September of 2001.



Since then, business has been starting to improve. We were able to eliminate salary reductions early in 2002, and as of this moment, all salary reductions have been eliminated. The company continues to do very well from both a new product generation point of view, as well as a business point of view.

Innovation – Not Just for Engineers

Innovation is not just the engineering department. Even in the way we manage the company, we are very innovative – and it really has paid off for us. Morale is very high, and the attrition rate is extremely low. People have kept their attention on their jobs of designing great new products and marketing them and supporting them.

In general, I think Xilinx is very much an admired company in our industry. I think we are perceived as a leader in our industry – not just from a product point of view or a financial point of view, but also from a management point of view.

I want to stress, however, that all of this is possible because we are a fables company. If we had our own fabs, I don’t know if we could have done this.

Nevertheless, as a fables company, our business model lends itself very well to go through these economic cycles that are infamous in the semiconductor industry. This last recession was the worst, but it also served to prove that our business model is a very, very solid model that allows us to go through these ups and downs without too much hurt.

Conclusion

In high technology, things change very, very rapidly. And companies often get in trouble because they don’t change quickly enough. One of the reasons they don’t change quickly is that the people who see the change happen don’t act on it, and the people who can act on it don’t even know the change is happening.

Therefore, what we are creating at Xilinx is an environment where everybody says: “Hey, if it changes, let’s change with it. Let’s anticipate change. Let’s make the change happen ourselves. Let’s be in charge of the change – not the victim of the change.”

It is this kind of thinking that got us through the recession, and now that we are emerging from the recession, there is a tremendous sense of pride in the company. People are saying: “Hey, this is unique. We have done something that very few other companies have done. Even companies that didn’t lay people off didn’t do it the way we did.”

There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that there is a much, much higher spirit of belonging, of community within the Xilinx people than there was before. When you go through a tough time together, it creates solid bonds.

And it shows that, indeed, if you can manage a company during a recession in a correct way, you can really differentiate yourself from the competition. You can gain market share and emerge a stronger company with a creative, dedicated – and intact – workforce at the end of recession. **Σ**

IBM ASICs Will Incorporate Xilinx FPGAs

New ASICs from IBM will contain Xilinx programmable logic technology.

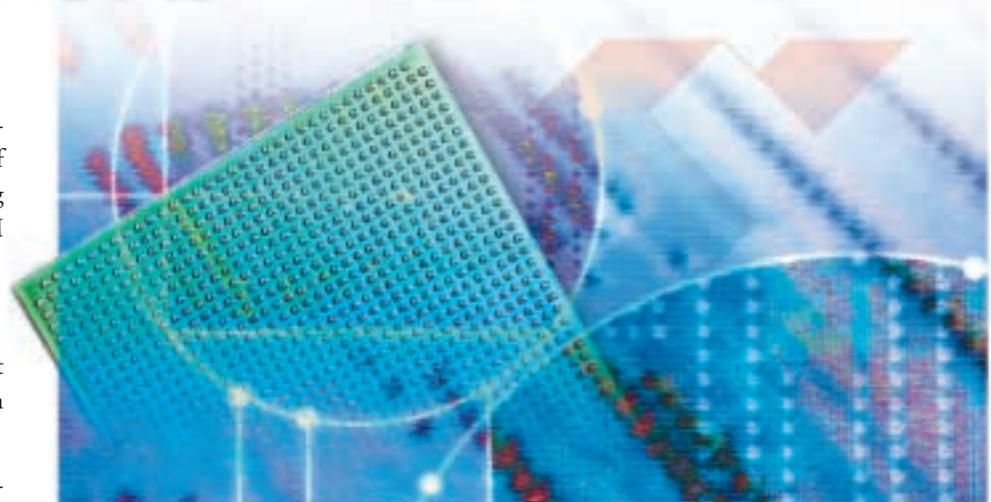
by Xilinx Staff

IBM and Xilinx recently signed an agreement that could help you shave hundreds of thousands of dollars off the cost of creating custom chips. Under the agreement, IBM has licensed FPGA technology from Xilinx for integration into IBM's recently announced Cu-08 application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs). Cu-08 will support circuits as small as 90 nanometers – less than 1/1,000th the width of a human hair.

This news underscores our joint commitment to a technology relationship aimed at bringing innovative and flexible new “hybrid” chips to market, combining the best attributes of standard ASIC and flexible FPGA technology for use in communications, storage, and consumer applications.

Engineers working on complex chip designs have been clamoring for ways to achieve high levels of integration, yet still have the ability to change “on the fly” late in the design cycle. By combining FPGAs (circuits that can be configured to perform a wide variety of digital electronic circuit functions) with standard ASICs, you get the flexibility of the FPGA, with the density, performance, and overall cost advantages of an ASIC – all on one chip.

“Savings here could be dramatic,” said Michel Mayer, general manager, IBM Microelectronics Division. “When an ASIC takes on more function, you can reduce cost by eliminating one, two, or even more separate chips. With this technology, customers would be able to tweak designs and integrate new changes immediately, eliminating the need to restart a whole new design cycle, bringing tremendous time-to-market advantages.”



Mayer said changes that force an additional chip prototype can easily cost hundreds of thousands of extra dollars and can stretch design cycles out for several additional months. “This approach is expected to change the landscape entirely,” he said.

Cu-08, with as many as eight layers of copper wiring separated by an advanced low-k insulation, will support up to 72 million gates for high-complexity IC solutions. As many as 400,000 ASIC gates may be dedicated to one or more of the FPGA cores on the ASIC.

“We’ve improved upon our delivery of programmable hardware by allowing reconfiguration using the same chip. Flexibility is the beauty of combining ASIC and FPGA technology,” said Wim Roelandts, president and CEO of Xilinx. “Our latest agreement with IBM is a natural extension of and a significant milestone in our existing relationship that allows us to address new opportunities in the high-end ASIC market.”

Even after this new custom chip is built into a product, you can add to its functionality, simply, easily, and effectively. A

good example would be in the communication industry, where various protocol and interface specifications are constantly evolving. Cell phones, printers, set top boxes, and other consumer electronic products also are well suited for this new approach.

IBM is the number one ASIC manufacturer worldwide. Xilinx is the number one PLD manufacturer worldwide, with more than 15 years experience in FPGA design tools.

IBM and Xilinx already have a productive business relationship. IBM supplies embedded PowerPC™ processors for Xilinx Virtex-II Pro™ FPGAs. In March of this year, Xilinx signed a high-volume, multi-million dollar manufacturing agreement with IBM to manufacture these FPGAs using IBM's advanced 130 nanometer and 90 nanometer copper-based chip-making technology.

The new FPGA cores for the Cu-80 ASICs are now in development. They are expected to be available from IBM, embedded in an ASIC, in early 2004, following IBM's full release of its standard-setting Cu-08 technology. **Σ**

When Total Cost Management Counts, Xilinx PLDs Pay Off

CoolRunner-II CPLDs, Spartan-II E FPGAs, and Virtex-II EasyPath Platform FPGAs can give you total system cost solutions superior to those of traditional ASICs.



by Eric Thacker

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Rapidly changing markets and new technologies are subverting traditional system design paradigms. Historically, in electronic systems development, the standard design procedure was to prototype a system using

programmable logic devices (PLDs), and then redesign the system using ASICs as soon as possible for cost reduction. The idea was to leverage the flexibility and development time advantage of programmable logic until the design stabilized and then to convert the design to a lower-unit-cost ASIC to reduce overall system cost.

In the past, programmable logic was lower density, lower performance, and more limited in capabilities. When systems followed traditional product life cycle behavior, the PLD-to-ASIC design strategy worked quite well. In fact, in some market segments, characterized by relatively mature technologies, established standards, and a stable competitive environment, this strategy is still optimal today.

In dynamic, rapidly changing markets, however, this strategy becomes questionable. For many advanced electronic products – such as plasma televisions, home networking hardware, and digital audio/video equipment – the market is anything but stable. Baseline standards for advanced products are ever-changing, features demanded by customers shift constantly, new technological capabilities are continually being introduced, and competitors are always trying to gain a better market position – resulting in many short-lived products.

These volatile market pressures give a significant competitive advantage to flexible and first-to-market products. In these markets, ASICs – with their long lead times, high initial costs, high minimum order quantities, higher risks, and inflexibility – are not a compelling solution.

Therefore, many designers are tapping into programmable logic's benefits of instant reprogrammability, short lead times, greatly improved performance, expanded densities, and overall flexibility. Indeed, today's programmable logic devices offer many of the same features found in ASICs. Clock management, embedded processors, high-performance DSP, advanced interfacing, and a plethora of intellectual property (IP) cores all make today's PLDs strong candidates for a system's core logic.

With their emphasis on cost-optimization, the CoolRunner™-II CPLDs, Spartan™-IIE FPGAs, and Virtex-II EasyPath™ Solutions families from Xilinx bring these advanced benefits to your high volume applications.

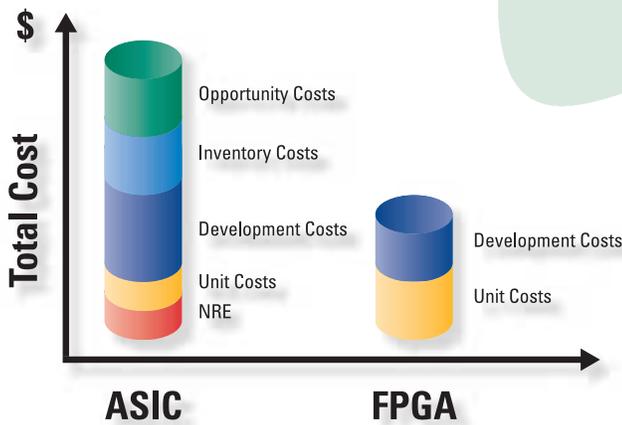


Figure 1 - Cost comparison of ASICs and FPGAs

Total Cost Solution

In the past, the primary motivation in converting a PLD design to one based on an ASIC was unit cost. ASICs, in general, are available at lower unit cost than PLDs. But looking at unit costs alone could actually lead to an overall higher cost solution. That is because unit costs are only one of the factors that contribute to total system cost. Total system costs can be broken down into three broad categories – design and development, production, and life cycle.

Design and Development

Design costs are primarily worker-hour and non-recurring engineering (NRE) costs. PLD designs require fewer worker hours, because design/debug changes can be made instantly, hardware and software can be developed concurrently, test vector generation is unnecessary, and product lead times are practically zero compared to ASICs. PLDs have no NRE costs, which can be a very important consideration as production volumes per design revision are much lower in rapidly evolving markets. In many cases, Xilinx offers free PLD design tools, thus increasing the PLD cost advantage.

There are also lost opportunity costs associated with ASICs. Systems using ASICs lose market penetration due to long development times. Furthermore, the inflexibility of ASIC-based systems prevents upgrading products to meet changing market needs. Overall, PLD design cost advantages alone can often outweigh any ASIC unit cost advantage.

Production

Unit cost is the most obvious cost in this category. ASICs usually do hold the unit cost advantage over PLDs, but this cost differential is shrinking.

Today's PLDs have aggressively driven down both die size and package costs to provide a persuasive ASIC alternative. The advanced system capabilities of modern PLDs allow

designers to integrate discrete component functions into the PLD – reducing board and total component costs.

Finally, unlike an inflexible ASIC, one line of PLDs can be inventoried to supply multiple applications. You can reprogram and redeploy PLDs as needed. Combined with much lower minimum order quantities, PLDs reduce inventory costs, as well as the risk of obsolescence, further offsetting PLDs' unit cost disadvantage. See Figure 1.

Life Cycle

Life cycle costs are probably the least considered costs when designing an electronic system, but they can have a significant impact on the total return from a given design. Using PLDs instead of ASICs means practically no risk of obsolete inventory, because standard-product PLDs can be redeployed to different applications as needed. Unlike ASICs, PLDs do not have to be scrapped if a specific product is cancelled.

In addition, because PLDs can be reprogrammed, it is possible to upgrade products in the field simply by downloading a new hardware configuration file to the PLD. Bug fixes and feature upgrades can be performed remotely without changing any hardware.

Finally, long-lived legacy products using ASICs can face the need for board redesign should the ASIC product or process be discontinued. PLD reprogrammability avoids this problem. Thus, legacy products with PLDs do not siphon design resources from next-generation products, and this presents a significant market cost savings.

As illustrated in the discussion of these three cost categories, we must look beyond unit cost when deciding on logic solutions based on cost. In many applications, the unit cost savings of ASICs are more than offset by the lower risks, design, production, and life cycle costs of PLDs.

Xilinx Solutions for Total Cost Management

Xilinx has taken the lead among PLD suppliers in providing low risk, low cost, high performance logic solutions for today's rapidly changing and highly competitive markets.

Low Power, Low Density: CoolRunner-II CPLDs

CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs combine high performance, ultra low power, low cost, and integration of specialized capabilities to bring you a new class of programmable logic devices. The versatility and low cost of CoolRunner-II CPLDs allow them to serve a multitude of logic, interface, and control functions. See Figure 2.



Figure 2 - CoolRunner-II CPLDs deliver high performance at low cost.

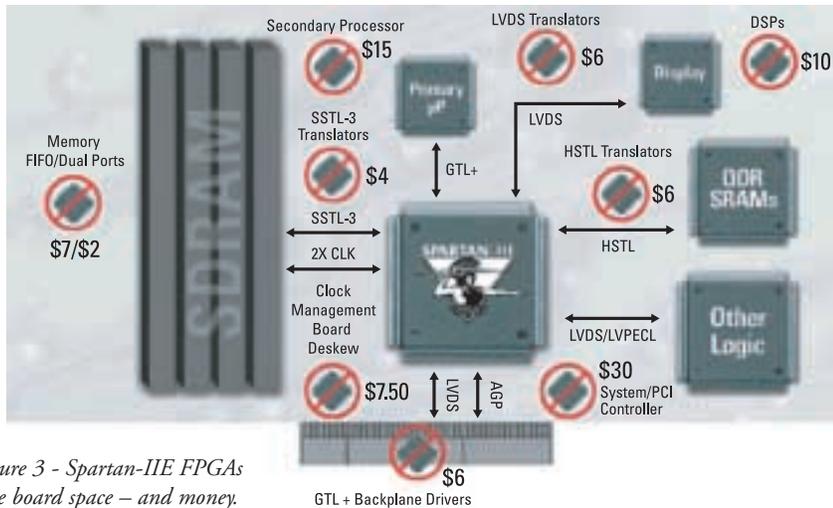


Figure 3 - Spartan-IIE FPGAs save board space – and money.

The 0.18-micron CoolRunner-II family utilizes second-generation Fast Zero Power™ technology for low power, high performance operation. These RealDigital CPLDs feature an all-digital core that eliminates power-hungry analog sense amplifiers. The CPLDs also offer increased capabilities, higher performance, and lower cost – with no performance penalty.

Available in densities from 32 to 512 macrocells, the CoolRunner-II family provides performance over 330 MHz, with standby power consumption of less than 100 µA. CoolRunner-II devices also deliver advanced system features that enable the integration of costly discrete system functions into a single reprogrammable device. This integration results in lower costs, further power reduction, increased reliability, faster time to market, and smaller designs. These system features include superior I/Os, advanced clocking features, and four levels of design security.

The in-system reprogrammable nature of CoolRunner-II CPLDs allows designers to change designs on the fly, correct designs, and test out alternate designs without changing any hardware. This saves significant engineering change orders (ECOs) and NRE charges compared to ASIC solutions.

The CoolRunner-II CPLDs' advanced I/O interface capabilities include DataGATE, a programmable on/off switch for power management; advanced interfaces such as HSTL, and SSTL; and Schmitt trigger inputs for

input signal conditioning. All of these features reduce the need for external components, reducing part costs and board space.

To further reduce system costs and the need for additional components, the CoolRunner-II family provides a unique feature called CoolCLOCK. CoolCLOCK is a combination of a clock doubler and clock divider. The incoming clock is divided by two and then doubled at the output to maintain the same performance, while reducing the internal power consumption.

To increase your cost management advantage, Xilinx provides a free Internet-based ISE WebPACK™ design tool suite and a free WebFITTER™ design fitting tool to give you a complete, pushbutton design solution.

The combination of advanced interfacing, integrated system features, and free design tools makes CoolRunner-II CPLDs a compelling choice for logic functions in cost-sensitive applications. For more information, visit www.xilinx.com/coolrunner2.

Moderate Density, System Integration: Spartan-IIE FPGAs

Cutting-edge consumer electronics markets demand products that provide performance and flexibility in a cost-optimized format for home networking equipment, home theater systems, and other high-end personal electronic devices. These consumer products must accommodate rapidly evolving standards, shifting demand patterns, highly fluid

competitive positioning, and the continuous introduction of new capabilities. Logic requirements for these designs include moderate density, advanced system features, pre-designed and verified IP blocks, and high-quality design tools. Spartan-IIE FPGAs meet all of these requirements and more.

Xilinx designed its next-generation Spartan-IIE consumer FPGA with total cost management in mind. Spartan-IIE FPGAs range in density from 50,000 system gates to 300,000 system gates. To reduce FPGA component costs, Spartan-IIE FPGAs are produced by the industry's most advanced foundry process on 300 mm wafers. This process lowers die cost and enables advanced, low-cost packaging.

To reduce board cost and improve system performance, Spartan-IIE FPGAs have a number of built-in advanced system features that allow you to eliminate costly discrete translators and commodity chips from your boards, as shown in Figure 3.

Advanced interfacing – including LVDS, LVPECL, HSTL, and SSTL – remove the need for specialized interface components on the board. Furthermore, Spartan-IIE FPGAs offer four delay-locked loops (DLLs) for advanced clock management. Spartan-IIE FPGAs also contain both parameterizable block RAM (single or dual port) and distributed RAM (scalable and adjacent to logic). All these features can speed the design process, provide design flexibility, reduce design worker hours, deliver very high levels of performance, and accelerate time to market.

As consumer products increase their digital capabilities, digital signal processing (DSP) capability has become a critical performance factor. The Xilinx XtremeDSP™ initiative enables nearly one billion DSP multiply-and-accumulates (MACs) per second per dollar of performance in Spartan-IIE devices – delivering advanced DSP without the need for specialized board components.

Xilinx offers more than 200 Spartan-family IP cores to speed logic design and reduce engineering resources needed to complete the system. These IP cores are also opti-

mized for die area, which may permit the use of smaller density Spartan-IIE parts, resulting in further cost savings.

Additionally, the free ISE WebPACK software provides the industry's most advanced design tool platform to support the entire Spartan series.

Die and packaging, advanced system features, extensive IP offerings, enhanced flexibility – all these Spartan-IIE cost control features give you the performance, features, and time to market advantage necessary to compete in today's rapidly evolving electronics markets. For more information, visit www.xilinx.com/spartan.

High Performance, High Density: Virtex-II EasyPath FPGAs

The Virtex-II™ FPGA is the first embodiment of the Platform FPGA concept. Virtex-II devices deliver SystemIO interfaces to bridge emerging standards, XtremeDSP performance up to 100X conventional DSP solutions, multi-gigabit transceivers, and Empower! embedded processor technology. Together with the industry's most advanced design tools, Virtex-II Platform FPGAs offer a feature set that is unparalleled in the industry.

Virtex-II EasyPath FPGAs bring the unprecedented capabilities of the Virtex-II family to cost-sensitive applications by reducing the cost of high-density FPGA designs. Virtex-II EasyPath Solutions use the exact same FPGA silicon as the Virtex-II FPGA family, but Virtex-II EasyPath Solutions make use of a specialized testing program to verify the FPGAs for a specific customer application, resulting in higher yields and significantly lower costs.

Virtex-II EasyPath solutions provide an FPGA volume conversion strategy with no risk, no investment of customer engineering resources, and the fastest conversion time of any competing high-volume strategy for high-density FPGA designs. The main benefits of Virtex-II EasyPath solutions are:

- Lower unit costs: Customers can expect a 30-90% price reduction compared to standard FPGAs.

- Lower up-front costs: These costs can be as low as 30% of the NRE costs of an ASIC or gate array.
- No added engineering resources: Unlike other FPGA conversion strategies, Virtex-II EasyPath FPGAs require no additional engineering resources or tools. Customers are not required to contribute any resources for conversion, verification, qualification, or board redesign.
- No risk: Virtex-II EasyPath Solutions have none of the performance, timing, functionality, or architecture match risks of alternative FPGA conversion strategies, because the conversion FPGA fabric is the same as the standard Virtex-II FPGA.
- Minimal lead times: With Virtex-II EasyPath FPGAs, initial orders are filled within six weeks and restocking orders are filled within days of being placed. Compare that to lead times of multiple months for both initial and follow-on orders for alternative conversion strategies.

Because Virtex-II EasyPath FPGAs are tested for a specific design configuration, testing throughput and yields are significantly higher, thus driving down the unit costs of the FPGA, as shown in Figure 4. You can initially design your system using standard Virtex-II FPGAs. Once the design has stabilized, you can use Virtex-II EasyPath Solutions to convert to a lower-cost platform with none

of the risk, lower NRE costs, and none of the additional engineering resources required by conversion to ASICs. For more information, visit www.xilinx.com/virtex2.

Conclusion

From low density, ultra low power CoolRunner-II CPLDs to mid-range, low cost Spartan-IIE FPGAs to high density Virtex-II EasyPath Platform FPGA Solutions, Xilinx presents a portfolio of products that can play a critical role in your total cost management of system design. These advantages include:

- Cost-optimized silicon and packaging to minimize unit costs
- Advanced system features to reduce costs through system integration
- Reprogrammability to streamline design and debug
- No-cost system upgrade capabilities
- Reduced risk of obsolete inventory
- An extensive IP library to improve design efficiency and reduce system components
- Free design tools that maximize design efficiency.

Together, Xilinx CPLDs and FPGAs give you a cost-optimized solution for managing system costs while maximizing system performance, functionality, and flexibility. ❧

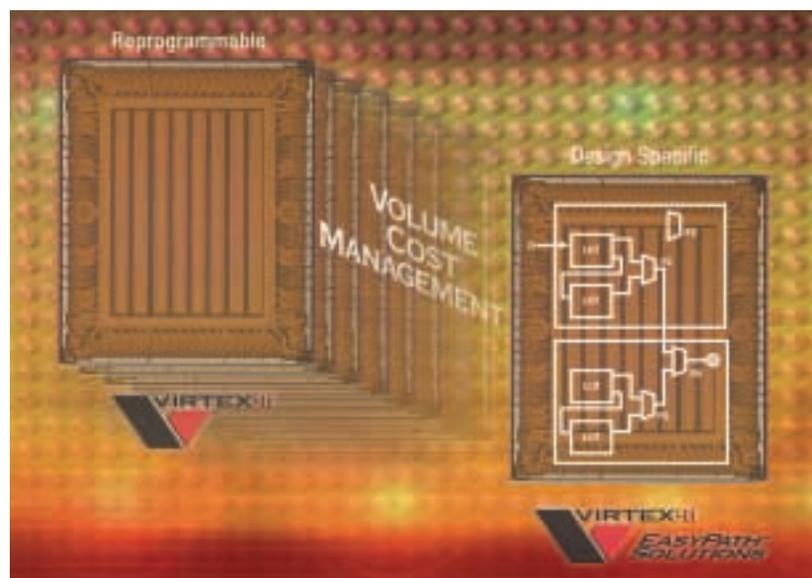


Figure 4 - Virtex-II EasyPath Solutions are design-specific and cost-effective.

New Virtex-II Pro Devices — Increased Capability, Lower Cost

Now you get programmable system features at programmable logic prices.

by Anil Telikepalli, Marketing Manager
Virtex Solutions, Worldwide Marketing
Xilinx, Inc.
anil.telikepalli@xilinx.com

In a significant move, Xilinx recently expanded the Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA family two ways:

- Five new devices offering increased capability
- Lower cost versions for the entire family in a new reduced-speed series.

With this, the new Virtex-II Pro family expands to ten devices, and sets industry records in every conceivable category, providing the advanced system-level features and high performance you need, at remarkably low prices.

The new Virtex-II Pro FPGA solution, illustrated in Figure 1, provides everything you need, on a single, reprogrammable device, including:

- The world's highest logic and memory density
- The world's highest I/O capacity
- The world's fastest DSP capability
- The world's fastest multi-gigabit serial I/O connectivity
- The world's most flexible parallel I/O connectivity
- The world's only embedded processing FPGA solution using IBM® PowerPC™ processor cores.



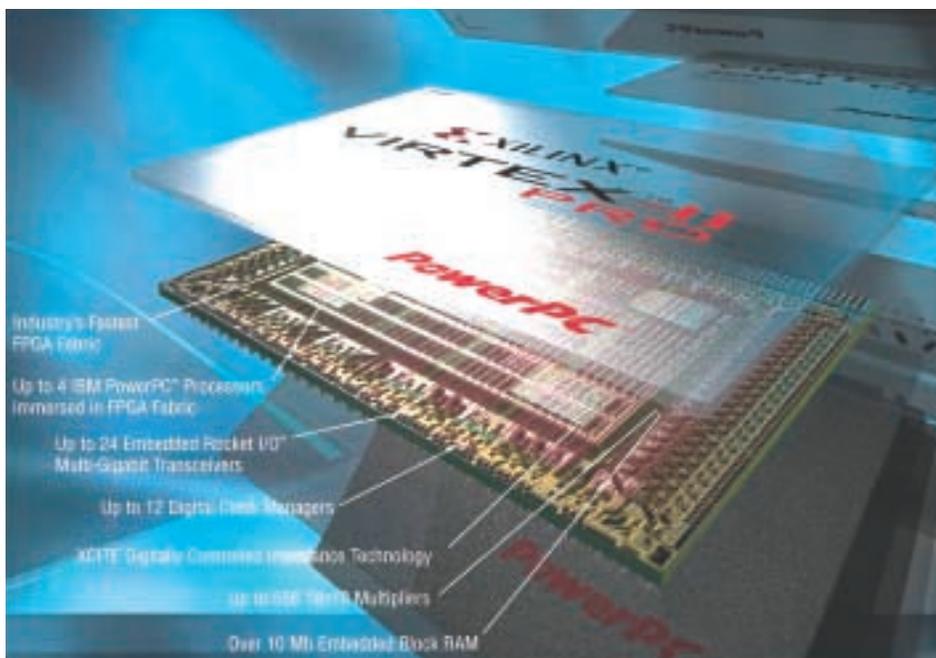


Figure 1 - Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA

Your demands, both for increased capability as well as lower cost versions of our Virtex-II Pro devices, were made clear at our Programmable World 2002 event. And now, we can deliver the performance and the pricing you need due to the success of our initial devices and development tools, as well as advances in our process technology which includes 300-mm wafers.

These new, lower cost devices not only deliver tremendous cost savings over comparable competing programmable device offerings, but they also bring Virtex-II Pro capabilities within the reach of a much wider range of applications. With the Virtex-II Pro family you now get multiple IBM PowerPC processors and multi-gigabit serial transceivers at about the same cost as our Virtex-II™ FPGAs (which don't offer these features), effectively providing programmable system features at programmable logic prices.

The Highest Performance and the Lowest Cost

The new Virtex-II Pro XC2VP125 FPGA, shown in Table 1, is the world's highest capacity, highest performance, and highest capability programmable logic device, delivering unique system performance such as one trillion MACs/sec DSP performance and 120 Gb/s aggregate payload bandwidth. There is no programmable

device in the world that competes with it in features, performance, or cost. With such unparalleled leadership advantage, the Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs put you on a platform of success, closer to your design goals.

"THE VIRTEX BRAND HAS BEEN THE NUMBER ONE CHOICE OF DESIGNERS WORLDWIDE, BASED ON ITS INDUSTRY-LEADING CAPACITY, PERFORMANCE, CAPABILITIES, AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS. IN EACH GENERATION OF FAMILIES, OUR MISSION IS TO DELIVER SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED FUNCTIONALITY WHILE DRIVING DOWN PRICES. WE CONTINUE THIS STRATEGY IN THE VIRTEX-II PRO FAMILY BY INCLUDING STATE-OF-THE-ART MULTI-GIGABIT SERIAL TRANSCEIVERS AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE POWERPC RISC CPUs, IN THE STANDARD FEATURE SET, AT NO CHARGE. THUS, WE ENABLE THE CREATION OF NEXT-GENERATION SYSTEMS DESIGNS AT PREVIOUSLY UNATTAINABLE PRICE POINTS."

ERICH GOETTING — VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF THE XILINX ADVANCED PRODUCTS DIVISION

Expanding the Market and Target Applications

The new -5 speed grade delivers cost-effective 2Gb/s transceiver performance, with over 266 MHz embedded PowerPC processor performance. In comparison, our fastest devices (-7 speed grade) provide up to 3.125 Gb/s transceiver performance, with over 300 MHz embedded PowerPC processor performance. The -5 speed grade is therefore ideal for medium to high-speed applications including stor-

age, digital broadcast, networking, and wireless networking. For example, in networking, as you move from the core of the network to the edge, the line rate and processing speed of the equipment decreases while the need for intelligent processing increases. In addition, price pressure increases, because the edge equipment is more price sensitive than the core equipment. This analogy can be applied to almost any application and market segment. Xilinx is providing -5 devices specifically to address such price-sensitive applications that benefit from system features that include embedded processors and multi-gigabit transceivers.

Virtex-II Pro FPGA Architecture Review

The Virtex-II Pro family, shipping since February of this year, is the world's first 130 nm, 9-layer copper, FPGA family and the first and only one to offer integrated IBM PowerPC microprocessor technology and 3.125 Gb/s serial transceivers. Its architecture is built upon the award-winning Virtex-II FPGA fabric, which already has thousands of satisfied users.

With 10 devices, multiple packages, and multiple speed grades to choose from, the Virtex-II Pro FPGAs give you the right features and performance to meet your specific needs. The family, as shown in Table 1, includes:

- Immersed IBM PowerPC processors (0 to 4)
- Integrated 3.125 Gb/s Rocket I/O™ transceivers (0 to 24)
- The award-winning Virtex-II FPGA fabric.

IBM PowerPC Processors

Each immersed IBM PowerPC processor runs at up to 300+ MHz and 420+ Dhrystone MIPS providing high-performance embedded processing. The PowerPC processor is supported by the IBM CoreConnect™ bus technology. A complete set of embedded software tools are available to help you quickly develop and debug your PowerPC designs – through an OEM agreement, Xilinx provides software tools from Wind River Systems, customized for Virtex-II Pro FPGAs.

“WITH THE IMMERSION OF POWERPC CORES, XILINX HAS DEVELOPED THE OPTIMAL PLATFORM TO IMPLEMENT OUR STORAGE NETWORK DESIGNS. VIRTEX-II PRO DEVICES PROVIDE THE CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF SYSTEM-LEVEL DESIGN, INCLUDING HIGH-SPEED SERIAL I/O, MAKING IT AN IDEAL COMBINATION FOR OUR NEXT GENERATION PRODUCTS. MOREOVER, THE UNIQUE ARCHITECTURAL SYNTHESIS DESIGN ENVIRONMENT ALLOWS US TO MAKE HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE TRADEOFFS THROUGHOUT THE DESIGN CYCLE.”

SANDY HELTON — EXECUTIVE VP AND CTO, SAN VALLEY

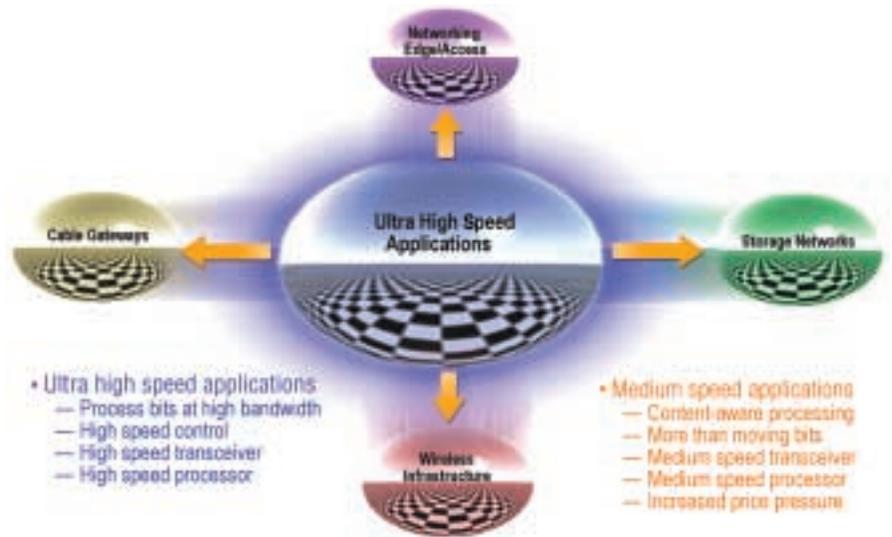


Figure 2 - Expanding the market from ultra-high speed to medium-high speed applications

Rocket I/O Multi-gigabit Transceivers

The Rocket I/O™ multi-gigabit transceivers (MGTs) are based on the Mindspeed SkyRail™ CMOS technology. Each transceiver runs at rates ranging from 622 Mb/s to 3.125 Gb/s, and includes the entire transceiver support circuitry. Each Rocket I/O transceiver consists of both a digital Physical Coding Sublayer (PCS), as well as an analog Physical Media Attachment (PMA), to provide an integrated SerDes (serializer/deserializer) function.

Award-winning Virtex-II Fabric

The Virtex-II FPGA fabric provides features for high-performance system design

that has made it a platform of choice for users. These features include:

- High-performance logic with a wide choice of densities
- Embedded block RAM
- XtremeDSP embedded hardware multiply circuitry
- Advanced digital clock management circuitry
- XCITE technology for digitally controlled impedance matching on I/Os
- Bitstream encryption technology for design protection
- Flexible Select I/O™-Ultra technology for supporting over 20 single-ended and differential I/O signaling standards.

Conclusion

The expanded Virtex-II Pro family provides a broad choice of 10 devices in scalable features and speed grades. It marks leadership in every facet, providing more capability than any other competing programmable logic device. In addition, the new pricing delivers programmable system features at programmable logic prices, making embedded PowerPC processors and multi-gigabit transceivers standard features in high-performance programmable devices. For more information on Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs and design resources, go to www.xilinx.com/virtex2pro. **Σ**

Device	XC2VP2	XC2VP4	XC2VP7	XC2VP20	XC2VP30	XC2VP40	XC2VP50	XC2VP70	XC2VP100	XC2VP125
Logic Cells	3,168	6,768	11,088	20,880	30,816	43,632	53,136	74,448	99,216	125,136
Block RAM (Kbits)	216	504	792	1,584	2,448	3,456	4,176	5,904	7,992	10,008
18x18 Multipliers	12	28	44	88	136	192	232	328	444	556
Digital Clock Management Blocks	4	4	4	8	8	8	8	8	12	12
Configuration Memory (Mbits)	1.31	3.01	4.49	8.21	11.36	15.56	19.02	25.6	33.65	42.78
IBM PowerPC Processors	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	4
Multi-Gigabit Transceivers	4	4	8	8	8	12*	16*	20	20*	24*
Max Available User I/O	204	348	396	564	692	804	852	996	1164	1200
Package										
FG256	140	140								
FG456	156	248	248							
FF672	204	348	396							
FF896			396	556	556					
FF1152				564	692	692	692			
FF1148*						804	812			
FF1517						804	852	964		
FF1704								996	1040	1040
FF1696*									1164	1200

Table 1- Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs Power of Choice (new -5 devices shown in red)

*Note: FF1148 and FF1696 packages support higher user I/O and zero Rocket I/O multi-gigabit transceivers

How to Use Virtex-II FPGAs to Deliver Gigabit Advanced Data Security with Helion Encryption Cores

Virtex-II Platform FPGAs enabled Helion Technology Ltd. not only to deliver on time but to exceed the client's requirements.



by Simon Cocking
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As secure communication data rates increase, software implementations of the key data encryption algorithms present a major system bottleneck. To make matters worse, standard off-the-shelf CPUs and DSPs have failed to keep pace with the computational demands of data encryption algorithms. Besides, CPUs and DSPs just have too many other tasks to perform.

The magnitude of the software performance gap for high-speed data encryption is illustrated by the benchmark results shown in Table 1. These figures are for implementations of the new 128-bit Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) algorithm running on standard CPU and DSP architectures – as compared to how a Virtex™-II Platform FPGA solution based on a Fast AES core from Helion Technology Ltd. can provide the multi-gigabit encryption data throughput required by high-speed interconnect technologies.

The Design Brief

Last year, we at Helion were asked by one of our clients to provide a flexible, high performance FPGA-based data security engine to handle encryption of Internet Protocol (IP) packet-based data for their next-generation network security products. Even though their product was based on a high-performance dual 64-bit MIPS network processor, benchmarking had shown a software encryption solution to be somewhat short of achieving the minimum 600 Mbps throughput our client required.

The system requirement was for a PCI-based engine that could accommodate multiple encryption algorithms: AES and a proprietary algorithm for legacy purposes. The solution had to be low cost, capable of supporting gigabit data rates, and flexible enough to allow for future algorithm changes.

After evaluating the available options, the only solution that met all of the requirements was a PCI card containing the one million-gate Virtex-II XC2V1000 Platform FPGA. The device incorporated a Xilinx LogiCORE™ 32-bit/66-MHz PCI core and Helion-designed encryption cores.

Why Use a Virtex-II FPGA?

From our many years of design experience with leading edge technology, we were well aware of the potential pitfalls, such as inadequate design tool support and unavailable parts. Fortunately, Virtex-II Platform FPGAs use the same EDA toolset as earlier technologies, and the XC2V1000 device was already in production. The reasons for choosing the XC2V1000 instead of the more established Virtex-E family were compelling:

- Costs – The Virtex-II XC2V1000 cost less than half the nearest equivalent Virtex-E(-8) device.
- Performance – Benchmarking with the Helion AES core showed the Virtex-II(-4) FPGA to be 30% faster than the nearest equivalent Virtex-E(-8) device.

- Bigger and wider block RAM – We found 32-bit wide data buffers were more efficiently implemented in Virtex-II block RAM. For example, a 512x32 buffer required only a single Virtex-II block RAM rather than four in Virtex-E technology.
- Enhanced CLBs – The MUXF7 and MUXF8 primitives allowed up to four slices to be combined for fast implementations of any logic function up to eight inputs wide. This led to fewer logic levels and faster critical paths for the very wide logic functions typical of encryption algorithms.
- Digital Clock Manager (DCM) – True clock frequency synthesis allowed the encryption data clock to be tuned to closely match worst-case PAR (place-and-route) timing, optimizing encryption throughput.
- Easier Design Implementation – The raw speed of Virtex-II devices meant no PAR guide file was required for the LogiCORE 66-MHz PCI bus logic.

Encryption Engine Overview

A block diagram of the encryption engine is shown in Figure 1. The only external interface is the LogiCORE 32-bit/66-MHz PCI bus.

All encryption key information and data to be encrypted (plaintext) are stored in PCI system memory and transferred into the FPGA by the direct memory access (DMA)

controller. This configuration allows the encryption keys to be easily changed by software – an important security feature.

The DMA read-and-write buffers use block RAM to support the long PCI burst read-and-write transfers needed to achieve optimum performance. Checksum calculation and buffering is also provided for the encrypted data (ciphertext) to off-load this task from the system software, which reads the checksum(s) at the end of each DMA transfer.

The main data path between the DMA buffers is through the encryption cores. The Helion 128-bit fast AES encryption core had already been developed, so it was simply a case of dropping it into the design. However, it was still necessary to develop a high-performance core for the proprietary algorithm.

Encryption Engine Operation

While the encryption engine is inactive (no DMA encrypt transfer in progress), the PCI interface defaults to “target” mode and waits for the system CPU to initiate a DMA transfer. Once a DMA operation is requested, the PCI interface is switched to “master” mode, and the DMA controller initiates the required bus transfers.

Upon completion, the encryption engine asserts the PCI interrupt request and returns the interface to “target” mode so that the system CPU can read the checksums and/or start the next transfer.

Solution	Clock (MHz)	Encryption Data Rate	Comments
TMS320C62XX 32-bit fixed-point DSP	200	112 Mbps	
MIPS-based 64-bit RISC processor	250	392 Mbps	Assumes fully primed cache and CPU fully dedicated to encryption
Pentium III	1,000	464 Mbps	Assumes fully primed cache and CPU fully dedicated to encryption
Helion Fast AES Core	132	1536 Mbps	Virtex-II XC2V1000-4 target

Table 1 - Typical achievable data rates for 128-bit Advanced Encryption Standard solutions

Because the plaintext data stream written into PCI system memory can be fragmented into multiple IP packets, the system software is responsible for creating a control data structure that details the size, location, and number of fragments, as well as the encryption type to use. This structure is transferred from memory into a block RAM in the DMA controller at the start of each encrypt transfer.

The encryption engine can then read in all plaintext fragments, encrypt them using the selected algorithm, and re-assemble the ciphertext fragments in memory. In the process of writing ciphertext back to memory, a checksum is calculated for each encrypted fragment, and this value is added to a total checksum of all fragments. These checksums are stored in a small distributed RAM in the FPGA, and then read back by the system CPU at the end of each transfer.

Encryption Engine Performance

Our client was delighted to learn that not only was the final encryption engine design delivered on time, but that it also exceeded the required data throughput for both encryption algorithms by a significant margin.

The proprietary algorithm core is clocked at 66 MHz to achieve a raw encryption throughput of 990 Mbps. The AES core is clocked at 132 MHz to yield a raw encryption throughput of 1.536 Gbps.

However, these raw throughput figures are degraded somewhat in the final system due to bus arbitration overhead in the PCI bridge.

In fact, the data throughput of the Helion fast AES core is so high that the maximum available bandwidth on the 32-bit/66-MHz PCI bus acts as a ceiling on its performance.

Frequent changing of the encryption keys will also lead to a reduction in overall data encryption throughput due to the increased transfer load on the PCI bus.

Conclusion

The encryption engine project we've described is a great example of how a combination of third-party intellectual property cores and Virtex-II Platform FPGA technology can yield flexible, high-performance security products in record time.

A large reduction in the effort required to implement such a design relies on the ready availability of intellectual property like the Xilinx LogiCORE PCI products and the range of advanced encryption cores we have developed at Helion. Design blocks like these enable a single engineer to attack a million-gate design and achieve results in a matter of weeks.

Future plans for our encryption engine include the use of a higher bandwidth bus interface, such as HyperTransport™ technology in place of PCI. We also plan the addition of multiple AES cores to provide a full-duplex (encrypt and decrypt), higher performance solution.

The Helion encryption cores allow for even higher throughput: Eight similar Fast AES cores in a larger Virtex-II Platform FPGA could provide encryption at rates in excess of 12 Gbps. This is fast enough to support emerging high-speed interconnect standards, such as OC-192, 10 Gigabit Ethernet, POS-PHY L4, and RapidIO™ Phy.

For more detailed information on Helion and our products and services, please visit the Helion website at www.heliontech.com. ❧

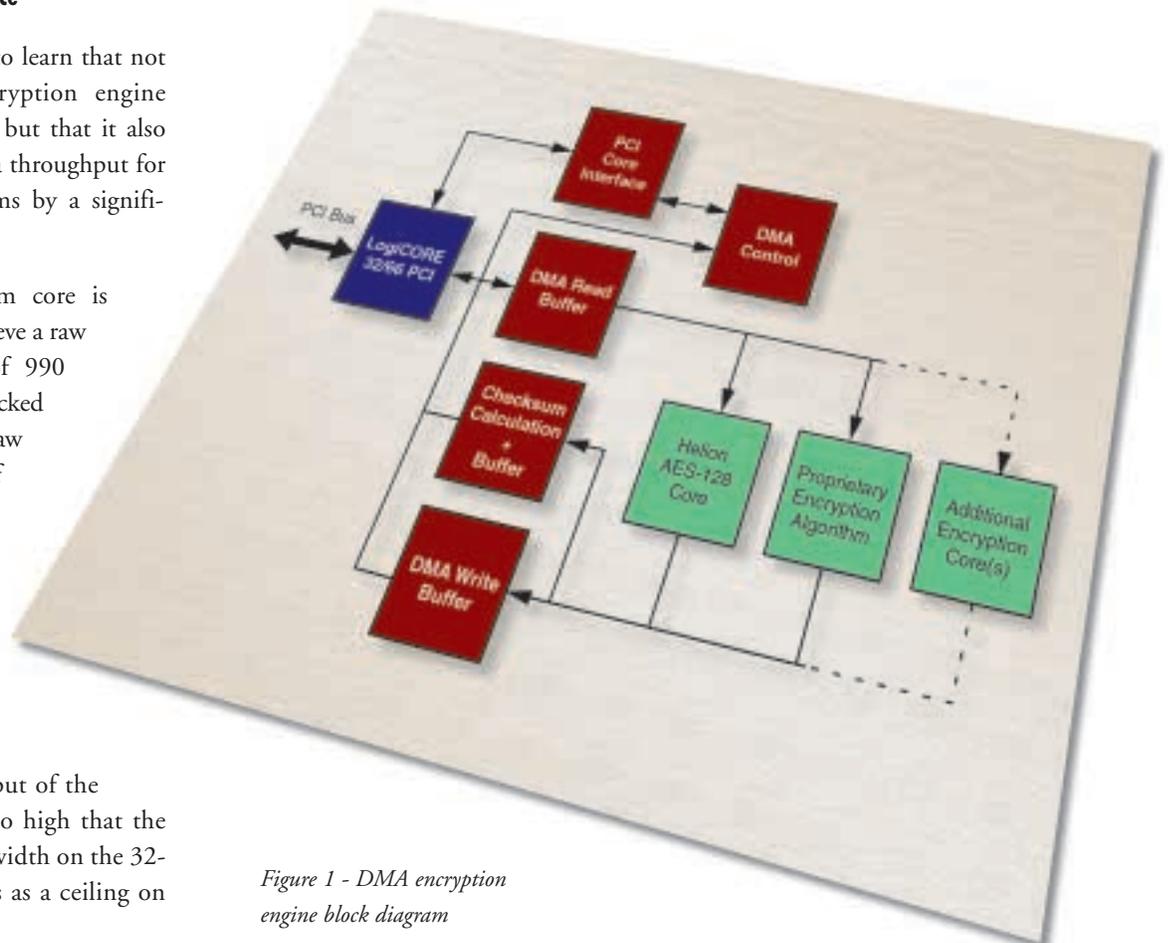


Figure 1 - DMA encryption engine block diagram

CoolRunner-II CPLDs Go All Digital

Xilinx CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs consume less power and offer reprogrammable flexibility with unprecedented design security — without a price premium.



by Steve Prokosch
CPLD Product Marketing
Xilinx, Inc.
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When Xilinx asked design engineers what they expected from the new generation of complex programmable logic devices (CPLDs), their responses showed they pretty much wanted it all:

- Advantages derived from state-of-the-art fabrication processes
- More industry standard I/O features
- System security
- Lower power operation
- Higher performance.

Designers required the next generation of CPLDs to increase performance of battery-powered devices. And, they stipulated that the next generation of CPLDs must improve performance without power penalties — and with the features and functions that would meet the expectations of today's discriminating designers and cost-conscious consumers.

In response to the high expectations of top design engineers, Xilinx has created the CoolRunner™-II RealDigital CPLD. The CoolRunner-II CPLD architecture introduces, for the first time, the advantage of both high performance and low power operation. The CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLD reprogrammable logic solution just may be the defining element of a new era of CPLD-based applications — small form factor, high performance, power sensitive products that are feature rich and protected by multiple levels of security.

CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs

Evolutions of the XPLA (extended programmable logic array) CPLD architecture have led to this ultra low power, ultra high speed, reprogrammable CMOS logic that offers significant improvements over earlier generations. (See sidebar “The Evolution of Low-Power CPLDs.”) These capabilities are aiding in dramatic device size reductions and performance increases that are enhancing the look and feel of both hand-held and high performance products.

The CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLD delivers on several design fronts: low power, high performance, design flexibility, and security. Today, designers can choose high performance devices that do not require extra power for speed.

Process Technology

The CoolRunner-II family of CPLDs has benefited from the leading edge of Xilinx FPGA (field programmable gate array) process technology. The original CoolRunner CPLD architecture began on a 0.5-micron process and then migrated to 0.35 micron.

Today, the CoolRunner-II CPLD family is manufactured using a 0.18-micron process technology – the same as the high-end Xilinx Virtex™-II FPGAs. With this ultra high density process technology, and scalable CMOS architecture, it is now possible to lower power consumption even further than before.

Multiple I/O Features

To facilitate its use in multiple system architectures, various input/output (I/O) standards have been incorporated in the CoolRunner-II interface. These include:

- LVTTTL
- LVCMOS 33, 25, 18
- SSTL2-1, SSTL3-1
- HSTL-1
- 1.5V I/O.

High-speed transceiver logic (HSTL) I/O standards are common in high-speed memory interfaces. Stub-series terminated logic

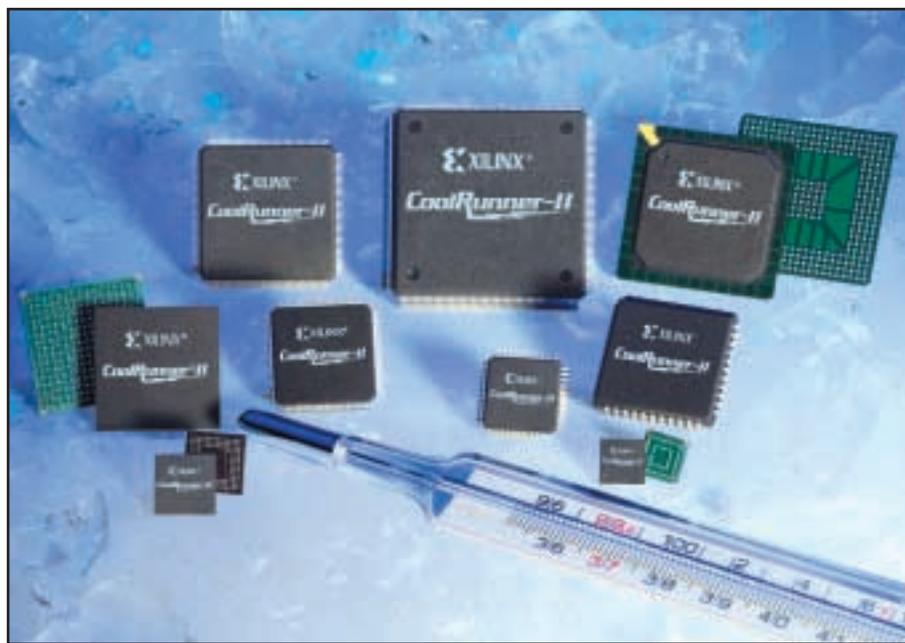


Figure 1 - Xilinx CoolRunner-II CPLD product family

(SSTL) is associated with circuit designs where buses must be isolated from relatively large stubs. With these added I/O standards, CoolRunner-II CPLDs can easily adapt to a variety of interfaces that other low power processors might not be able to handle. This makes CoolRunner-II CPLDs a great system integration solution for microprocessor-based applications.

100% Digital Core

CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs do not use traditional sense amplifier technology – and that means the historical tradeoff between speed and power has been eliminated. RealDigital technology has enabled Xilinx to offer the industry’s lowest power consumption and highest performance on a single device with no price premium.

Low Power Enhancements

Learning that designers of portable products wanted even lower power than CoolRunner XPLA3 CPLDs, Xilinx added architectural features to accommodate tight power budgets. Even with FZP (Fast Zero Power™) technology and voltage reduction, we still had to add two new architectural features to lower overall power consumption in designs for power sensitive applications. Those features are DataGATE and CoolCLOCK.

DataGATE makes it possible to reduce power consumption by reducing unnecessary toggling of inputs when they are not in use. A prime example of this would be a bus interface. These input signals would become active only when information is passed to the CPLD. This eliminates the unnecessary switching from high to low/low to high. As bus interfaces grow, so will the power demand from needless switching of input signals.

CoolCLOCK, another CoolRunner-II low power enhancement, is implemented by dividing, then doubling, a clock signal. Using Global Clock 2 (GCK2) clock input and dividing by 2, then doubling the clock at the macrocell, performance can be maintained while lowering power consumption. The CoolCLOCK method is easily synthesized and is available on 128 macrocell and larger devices.

Schmitt Trigger

When communicating with CPLD design engineers, we discovered they were looking for an easy method to interface to noisy analog components. Thus, CoolRunner-II CPLDs incorporate Schmitt trigger inputs, which are helpful by delaying the switching time on slow rising or falling signals. Schmitt trigger inputs also help eliminate

false switching due to noise spikes. The possibility also exists to form a simple oscillator circuit from these inputs. You must exercise care to assure reliability, but it can save component costs on simple circuit designs.

Security

The loss of intellectual property is always a concern for electronic equipment manufacturers. With CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs, security was enhanced to eliminate the possibility of code theft. The security bits are scattered and affect different modes of operation. If any tampering of the security chain is detected, the device automatically locks down and is erased. Even if the device is de-capped, buried interconnects make it almost impossible to trace security connections without destroying the device. Security details cannot be discussed even under non-disclosure agreements, thus ensuring ultimate protection.

User-Defined Grounds

As voltage levels decrease, noise and ground bounce become larger factors in signal integrity. Now, a few hundred millivolts is the difference between on and off, versus a few volts in legacy devices. We had to take extra care in design and layout to shorten signal paths and minimize potential interference.

Differential signaling (SSTL and HSTL) serves as a good method to reduce noise and increase signal integrity – with the provision that extra pins are available for differential I/O and reference voltage sources.

To simplify the elimination of noise and ground bounce, CoolRunner-II CPLDs also employ software-definable ground pins. These programmable ground pins are an ideal way to reduce noise and ground bounce effects. By using neighboring I/Os as ground pins, CoolRunner-II devices can tolerate a larger amount of potential signal noise.

Voltage Translator Clearinghouse

Due to the availability of various specialty electronic devices, it may be necessary to interface with multiple component voltage levels. With CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs, I/O banking is an easy way to elim-

inate voltage level translators. “Banking” is the ability to separate function blocks within the CPLD so that these blocks can operate independently at different voltage levels.

For instance, one function block could be I/O compatible with 3.3V devices, and another function block could interface with 1.8V devices. This saves board space and eases voltage level design issues.

Conclusion

From process technology to a 100% digital core to added power reduction features,

CoolRunner-II RealDigital devices mark the beginning of a new era for CPLD applications. Many system design concerns – including speed, power, I/O interfaces, clock management, and security – have been consolidated into one reprogrammable logic solution: CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs from Xilinx.

For more information, please visit www.xilinx.com > Products > CPLDs > Introducing CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs, or www.xilinx.com/xlnx/xil_prodcat_product.jsp?title=coolrunner2_page. ❧

A Short History of Low Power CPLDs

The first reprogrammable logic devices have their roots in bipolar PROM (programmable read-only memory) technology, with added logic capacity and features. The first company to generate customer interest was Signetics, with their introduction of the 82S100 FPLA (field programmable logic array).

Monolithic Memories Inc. attempted to be a second source supplier to the 82S100, but failed due to a process technology mismatch. They instead developed the now famous PAL (programmable array logic). This development by MMI led to aggressive process technology shrinks and increased speeds as logic designers pushed for faster state machine operation.

Philips Semiconductors purchased Signetics, and in 1977, acquired a second source license for the PAL from MMI. Philips continued to work on different architectural enhancements and migrated to a BiCMOS (bipolar CMOS) process. When the first 22V10 PAL from AMD hit the market, it was a greater success than anyone anticipated. From this beginning, devices matured into what are now known as CPLDs. Xilinx entered the CPLD market in the early 1990s by acquiring Plus Logic and introduced the 7200 family of CPLDs.

CMOS CPLD products use power for speed improvements by partially turning on (biasing) transistors and by using sense amp technology. In the past, this was an easy way to promote devices and claim a speed advantage. The by-product, however, was heat.

In 1994, Philips Semiconductors made the move to CMOS CPLDs. With this decision, CPLDs broke away from their BiCMOS PROM roots and entered into the scalable process technology arena. These products reflected innovative approaches in circuit design with an awareness of power consumption by removing the old bipolar style sense amplifier from the circuitry.

Xilinx purchased the CoolRunner line of CPLDs from Philips Semiconductors in 1999 to penetrate the low power CPLD market segment. Today, ultra high density CMOS processes (0.18 micron) make possible reduced size and lower power consumption, which directly reduces heat dissipation.

Consumers' demands for smaller, faster, cheaper, better products are the driving forces in today's competitive markets – and the state-of-the-art CoolRunner-II RealDigital CPLDs meet these demands.

If Disaster Strikes, Xilinx Is Prepared

War, natural disasters, terrorism, economic ruin, and other catastrophes can't be prevented, but their effects can be attenuated. Xilinx has in place a Business Continuity Program designed to minimize the impact on your business.

Business Continuity Program



by Alicia Tripp

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Our customers depend on us – and you expect us to provide reliable product and consistent service, even in the event of a disaster or interruption to our business. For these reasons and for the benefit of our stakeholders, we incorporated the Business Continuity Program (BCP) into the Xilinx culture in June 2000. The BCP is a corporation-wide initiative that is supported by our Board of Directors and throughout our employee population.

We began the program by conducting a business impact analysis (BIA) and a threat and risk assessment (TRA) to determine the critical business processes within the company. In addition, the BIA and TRA provided an understanding of the impact of the loss of one or more of the critical functions. Once the analyses were completed, more than 80 departmental recovery plans were developed. The recovery plans are the road maps that will allow us to continue providing products and services to our customers during a major disruption.

Incident management teams (IMTs) are one of the most vital parts of the Business Continuity Program. We have located IMTs strategically throughout the Xilinx enterprise. Each team consists of members of functional business units within the company such as Human Resources, Legal, Purchasing, Security, Facilities, Risk Management, Accounting, and Safety. The IMTs are responsible for handling the event, from the time of a disaster through recovery and restoration activities. The purpose of the IMTs is to protect the health and safety of our employees, to guide the company through a crisis, and to provide a structured organization for overseeing the response. These teams will convene during a major business interruption to assess the situation and determine if a disaster should be declared and whether or not to launch departmental recovery plans.

Incident management teams convened four times in less than 48 hours after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to make plans to assist our employees. We were able to have counselors on site, and

travel representatives helped employees traveling on business to schedule return flights home.

The Business Continuity Program has been successfully integrated into our business culture – in large part, because of the top-level support from executive management. From the very beginning, our executive staff has been onboard to make sure the program goals and objectives are achieved.

The BCP includes an executive awareness and ongoing plan development that helps our executive officers to continue to be involved and ready to respond. This executive awareness plan will allow Xilinx to properly manage any incident from the time a disaster is declared through recovery and restoration activities.

Recovery plans and IMTs are exercised on a regular basis. By developing and actively maintaining the Business Continuity Program, we are prepared to limit the effect a long-term business interruption might have on Xilinx – and to mitigate the impact on our customers.

Please contact your local sales representative for additional information. ❧



Even as Designs Grow More Complex, Xilinx Software Improves Your Productivity

Xilinx Integrated Software Environment (ISE) design tools promise to manage design complexity and, at the same time, ensure your logic design flow is easy to use.



by Lee Hansen
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Your Xilinx programmable logic device offers you more capabilities than ever before, and coming releases of the ISE design tools will help you to handle the pressure that comes from using these complex new features. Come along for a glimpse into the future of ISE.

ISE Delivers a Wealth of Device Features

The most compelling pressure on the logic design flow comes from the added complexity of new capabilities and tool features. Embedded systems, increased clock speeds, verification of high-density designs, new device capabilities, high-speed I/O, a variety of IP (intellectual property) sources, and design reuse – all of these logic trends force more requirements into the design flow.

In 2001, the Virtex™-II FPGA introduced a revolution in clock capabilities with Digital Clock Manager (DCM), and this year, the Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA broke new ground by delivering 3.125-gigabit serial I/O transceivers and embedded IBM PowerPC™ microprocessors. As the demand for more device features continues to grow, engineers must learn all the programming attributes for these new features – and the learning curve escalates with the introduction of each new device feature.

To ease the learning curve, Xilinx ISE 5.1i will offer designers even more interactive architecture and design assistance. In addition to quick and easy dialogs, wizards will automatically step you through configuring advanced device features and inserting those configurations directly into your HDL source code. Upcoming releases of ISE will soften your learning curve, helping to speed design completion.

ISE Enables IP Capture and Design Reuse

As design sizes grow, source management and methods to improve source code productivity must keep pace. In a multi-million-gate design, source code can come from multiple resources, including purchased IP, developed code, and “design reuse” – modules of HDL developed and proved in a prior design.

In upcoming releases of ISE, it will be possible to capture proven IP modules at the floorplan level. This captured IP will not be just a module of code, but it will also have attached relative placement and floorplanning area information that will help speed implementation in later uses.

As time-to-market pressures increase, design change impacts late in the design cycle will become an even larger design challenge. Enhancements to ISE will confine late-cycle design changes to only that portion of the design that is required to change. The remainder of the design will be left intact, thus speeding

overall design completion. This technology is enabled by new floorplanning capabilities along HDL hierarchy boundaries that make it easier to define areas of logic.

High-Speed Design Will Push Innovation

High-speed design pressures will continue to push more innovation into logic design and into the board design flow.



Timing analysis and timing constraints have – until now – lived under two different analysis domains, separated at the FPGA pin. The logic designer has looked to the specification and timing requirements to define design closure, while the board designer has picked up the signal at the logic pin and attempted to lay out and analyze the effects that the PCB trace will have on that signal.

Now, however, the line between logic designer and board designer functions will begin to blur as timing constraint languages become more uniform across the logic tools and among the logic-level and board-level tools. Trace analysis packages also will increasingly use more complex pin models provided by the logic tools, but these complex analyses will also become much faster, dumping slower general analog simulation in favor of specialized transmission line trace simulations.

A Higher Level of Abstraction Is Coming

While high-level languages (HLLs) have been explored in logic and systems design, the pain of existing logic design methodologies hasn't been great enough to force a high-level language or associated methodology into common use.

Verilog and VHDL have served the logic design space well for the last two decades, but now logic design sizes are routinely exceeding one million gates. These million-gate-plus designs require large and cumbersome HDL source code and long periods of debugging time. Emerging embedded processor methodologies are also complicating the design process. Moreover, the need to serve two distinct language-driven design flows (hardware and software) is now making HLL design support imperative.

Xilinx is investing time and technology in the industry-wide HLL efforts through partner technologies such as Synopsys® SystemC™ and Celoxica Handel-C – as well as through Forge Compiler, which Xilinx acquired from LavaLogic™ two years ago. The results are leading to optimized performance for FPGA devices, and to better integration of the co-design and co-verification phases of the embedded systems design flow.

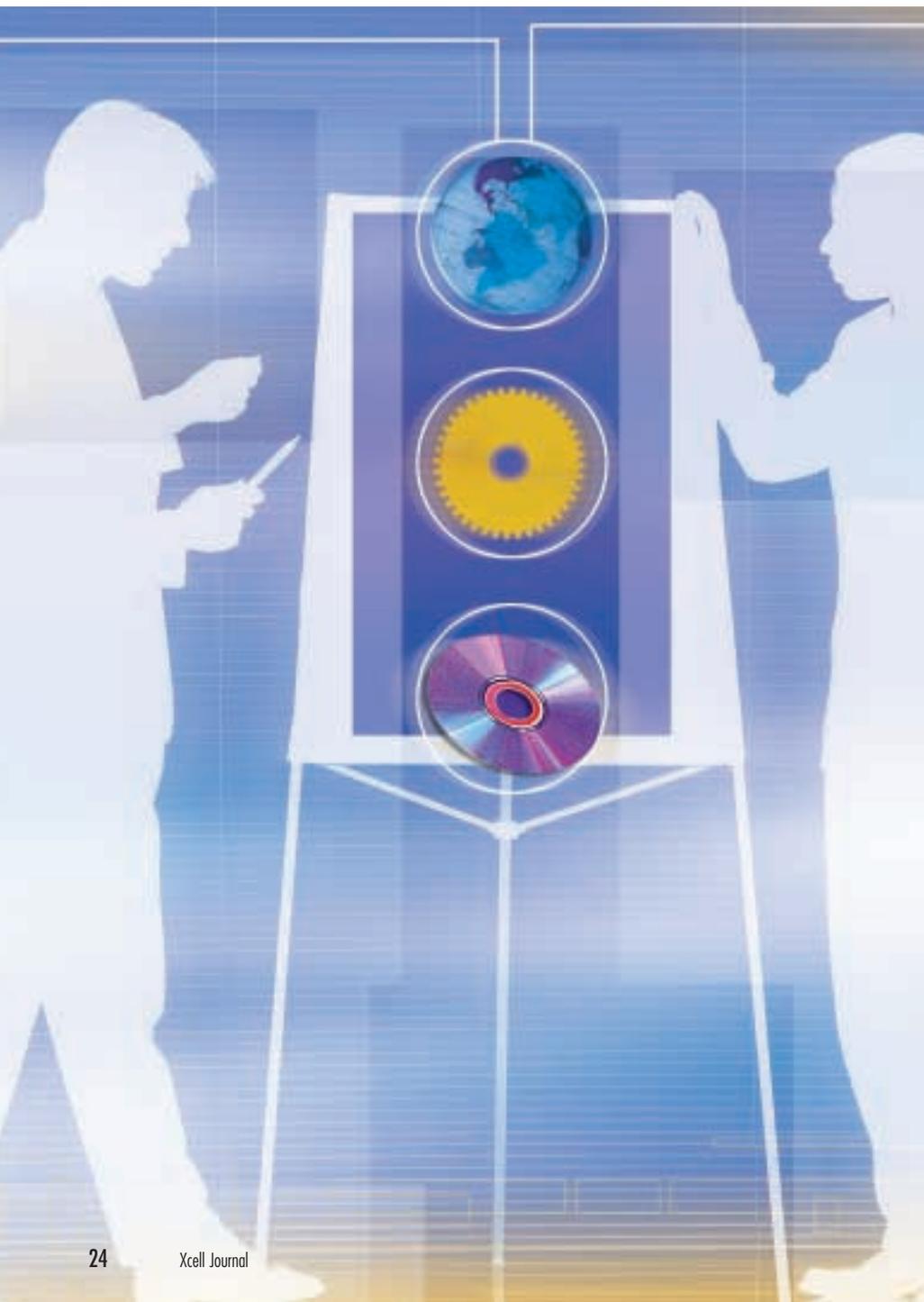
Longer-term technology is also being defined to help you “architect” the potential design at the HLL source code level, analyze what modules should be implemented in the logic design flow, and determine what modules are required in the processor design flow to reach optimum system performance.

Conclusion

New device capabilities will continue to push design complexity. The good news is that Xilinx design tools are keeping pace. New releases of ISE software will help you keep your design time down and your time to market fast. For more information on Xilinx ISE logic software, go to www.xilinx.com/ise – and watch for the release of ISE 5.1i coming in late summer. ❧

Exploring Hardware/Software Co-Design with Virtex-II Pro FPGAs

To explore the possibilities of hardware/software co-design, the Xilinx Design Services team created a reference design for a real-time operating system (RTOS) for telecommunications — here is an interview with the team.



by Jean-Louis Brelet, Manager
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In this interview, Jean-Louis Brelet, manager of Technical Market Research for the Xilinx Advanced Products Division, interviewed Xilinx Design Services (XDS) software and hardware engineers about their practical experience with an RTOS reference design project. Senior Project Engineer Matthew Roche acted as spokesman for XDS.

What is hardware/software co-design?

Hardware/software co-design generally means that the hardware and software are developed at the same time — some software functions may be implemented in hardware for additional speed, and some hardware functions may be implemented in software to free up logic resources.

What does XDS do?

Xilinx Design Services, located in Dublin, Ireland, is part of the Xilinx Global Services Division (GSD). XDS has two functional groups: software engineers who provide custom software solutions, and hardware engineers who provide custom hardware solutions. The combined team consists of more than 50 engineers.

Typically, we help customers with their full product life cycle, from requirements capture, through design implementation and test, to final acceptance and delivery. We work very closely with our customers, and form a team of experts who best match the job requirements.

What are your previous experiences with embedded software?

We have worked on technologies that include:

- Digital video systems – both set-top boxes and head-ends
- High speed digital network communications systems
- Automotive applications
- Real time operating systems
- Board-level designs.

Due to the nature of design services, we have attained experience from many different development environments and methodologies. We have experience with a wide range of designs, for device-level to system-level applications.

How would you describe the Virtex-II Pro FPGA family from a software perspective?

The introduction of PowerPC™ processors into the Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA architecture creates many new possibilities. Now we can design custom co-processors with innovative (and fast) interfaces. Due to the flexibility of the embedded IBM processors, and their surrounding programmable logic, we can offload some parts of our software design into a dedicated hardware implementation that can run much faster.

Previous hardware/software designs have been based around an inflexible hardware/software interface.



Jean-Louis Brelet

When did you start to design for the next-generation Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA?

As soon as the technology became available, it became

apparent that we must evaluate the system in a real project situation – the RTOS reference design. This way we could become aware of the new possibilities offered by the Virtex-II Pro device – and be best placed to contribute our knowledge of the advanced architectures used by our customers.

Project Objectives

What are the main objectives of this project?

The overall and real objective was to gain experience in developing a product in a tightly coupled hardware/software environment. The ability to shift functions from software to hardware, or vice versa, in a very short time frame, creates an environment where the design teams need a much greater knowledge of each other's work.

The smaller and more restricted objective was to identify the speed bottlenecks in the RTOS and remove the bottlenecks through the use of dedicated hardware – effectively implementing large sections of the kernel in hardware.



Before Virtex-II Pro FPGAs, how would you develop a system like this?

The RTOS project is very suited to the Virtex-II-Pro architecture. Given the costs, project time, cycle time, and risk required to develop this project with other technologies – for example, an ASIC – it is unlikely that it would even be undertaken. An ASIC design doesn't offer you the benefit of reprogrammability and flexibility to change/improve or upgrade the system in the field.

What is the expertise required to successfully implement these systems?

Software people must understand the nature of hardware designs and the type of problems encountered by the hardware team. They also must understand the possibilities



Mathew Roche

and capabilities of the hardware.

Likewise, the hardware team must have a good understanding of software and how the application operates. Both teams must have a common language – or a good understanding of each other's language and a willingness to adapt.

Partitioning

What is your approach at the system level to partition embedded hardware and software functions?

We designed and implemented the RTOS reference design project for telecommunications with resource-constrained processors. We built it for state-based SDL (specification and design language) applications.

The application for this RTOS was to be in systems with high numbers of processes with large numbers of context switches. At this level, the overhead of the operating system would be significant and thus, must be minimized.

First, we analyzed the system and identified the time-hungry elements. Our initial performance analysis indicated that processing of the state tables and managing the most heavily used queues (signal queues) were the processor-intensive tasks. The first iterations of the design placed these tasks into hardware with a clearly defined hardware/software interface. This did not completely remove the bottlenecks, but it did have a tendency to move them from the processing into the interface.

Further iterations of the design required much closer integration of the hardware and software teams. This allowed the design of coherent and integrated tasks, which could be completely dealt with in hardware, and required minimal use of the interface.

Having the processor embedded into the FPGA fabric allows a variety of interface techniques, which do not necessarily require the use of the IBM CoreConnect™ proces-

sor local bus. This feature became an important design issue, as the speed of the system was capable of hogging the bus.

In our experience, we have found that there is no distinct division between functions that are suitable for hardware or software. It becomes a trade-off of how fast you want to do something and how many configurable

At the system design level, the division of labor became less important as the project went on. It was necessary for both sides to have a good understanding of what the other team was doing. Design decisions had to be made with knowledge of both hardware and software. This had some interesting implications for the language and terminology used by the teams.

designs with all the performance benefits that entails.

What is the most innovative feature of Virtex-II Pro for a software engineer?

Using multiple processors (both IBM PowerPC 405 hard core and Xilinx MicroBlaze™ soft core processors), on a single chip, allow you to dedicate processes to particular processors for critical tasks. You can easily implement interfaces between the different processors, using hardware-based FIFOs, reducing the communications bus overhead.

How easy is it to partition a Virtex-II Pro design?

Partitions are very flexible in the Virtex architecture. Changes were being made to the interface all the way through the design and implementation of our RTOS system. This allowed us to reduce our design time and minimize design roadblocks.

Conclusion

Could you summarize your experience?

Close cooperation between hardware and software teams is critical.

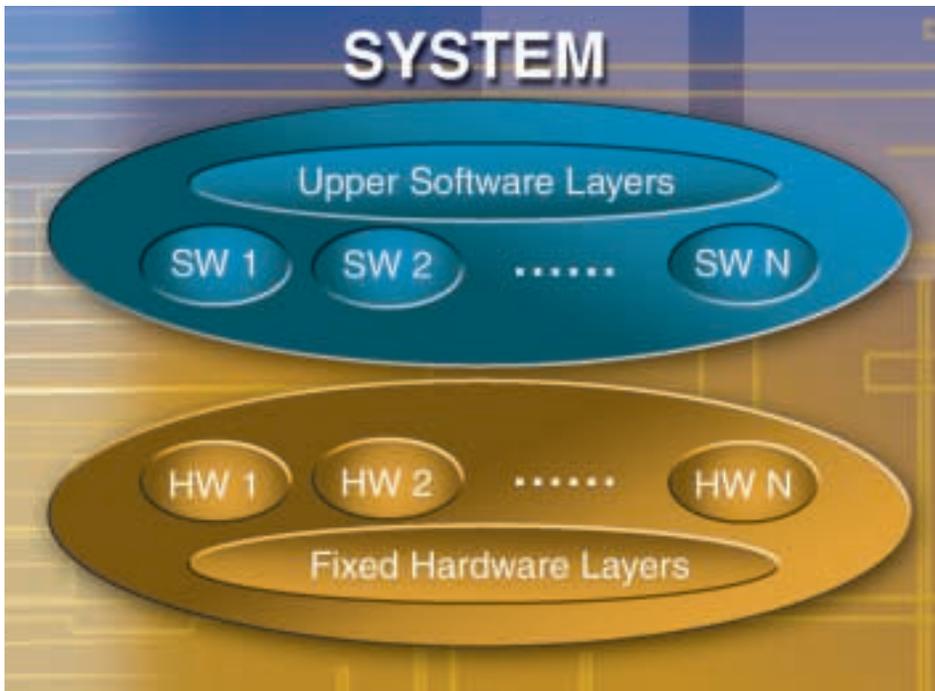
Is this project an example of making the impossible possible?

No. This project does not do anything that has been impossible before. What it does do is make it faster, cheaper, and with reduced risk.

How can Xilinx customers benefit from your expertise?

It is part of our culture to maintain high levels of expertise in advanced and state-of-the-art technological systems and methodologies. As project managers, we are constantly improving our service and quality in dealing with our customers' projects. Increasing competitiveness in the marketplace means that there is a higher emphasis on time to market and quality. XDS continues to improve its skills in order to help our customers achieve these challenging targets.

XDS can be contacted by e-mail at designservices@xilinx.com or by visiting <http://support.xilinx.com/xds/>. ☒



logic blocks you want to spend on doing it. Greater complexity of the function or required speed of operation will bias the design towards software or hardware.

How would you summarize your method for partitioning the system?

We simply integrated the design teams, to avoid a purely hardware- or software-led solution.

How have you split the teamwork?

Most of the software was designed first, because we needed to understand how the system would operate before transferring parts of it into hardware. This gave us the advantage of having functioning prototypes before a full hardware implementation – significantly reducing our theoretical time to market.

Virtex-II Pro Embedded Software

Is it easier to create embedded software for the Virtex-II Pro fabric?

In the first applications, embedded software development techniques will not necessarily be different for Virtex-II Pro devices – they can be viewed as conventional systems with performance improvements and reduced chip count. However, as experience builds, it will become apparent that traditional design methods do not use the full potential of the device. System partitioning will become part of the architectural design process, and the boundary between hardware and software will become less rigid.

The RTOS project gave us an opportunity to examine the project with system co-design as the goal. Virtex-II-Pro Platform FPGAs allow significantly more integrated

Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA Drives Convergence of Programmable Logic and Embedded Systems

The breakthrough technologies embedded and immersed within the Virtex-II Pro logic fabric deliver the integrated functionality demanded by top digital design engineers.



by Michael Worry
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Time to market pressures have ruled out designing an ASIC from scratch, but without a custom ASIC, the discrete FPGA, microprocessor, and off-board high-speed serial I/Os will never fit last year's form factor. You just can't fit 16 channels this year on a board designed for four channels last year.

As a Xilinx XPERTS partner and an engineering services company working in the cross disciplines of FPGAs, printed circuit boards, and firmware, we at Nuvation Engineering often encounter these problems of form, fit, and function. We need an onboard industry standard microprocessor, integrated high speed I/Os, off-the-shelf IP blocks, and double last year's gate count.

Xilinx has delivered on all this and more with their introduction of the revolutionary Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA. It starts with the technologically advanced Virtex™-II infrastructure, supporting up to 8 million gates and I/O serial speeds of 3.125 Gbps. Nestled into this digital workshop is the IBM PowerPC™ 405 microprocessor – the number one embedded CPU for networking and telecom infrastructure. The continued convergence of programmable logic with embedded systems has created a new digital workbench with a wealth of integrated platform standards and rapid co-development tools. The Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA is in a class by itself in the exploding programmable embedded market.

**FPGAs and Microprocessors:
 A Symbiotic Relationship**

Fundamentally, microprocessors and FPGAs fulfill different tasks (see Table 1). Programmable logic is needed for wire speed, high bandwidth, custom digital processing, and hardware acceleration. However, that speed and customization

comes at a price, both in parts and non-recurring engineering (NRE) costs.

For monitoring and control tasks, it is far cheaper and easier to use a microprocessor. Furthermore, microprocessors have existed longer and have a larger base of engineering familiarity. Thus, many product architectures naturally marry an FPGA with a microprocessor. At Nuvation, our complex designs often start with an FPGA and

FPGA	Microprocessor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Configurable and programmable digital logic • Instantiate multiple processing units to run tasks in parallel • Hardware accelerate high speed tasks • Scalable • Coded in HDL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed processing units accessed by predefined commands • Greater knowledge, tools, installation base and engineering familiarity • Faster development time • Lower parts costs • Coded in firmware such as C

Table 1 - Hardware accelerates high speed tasks

microprocessor architecture, then we determine which system functions are best implemented in each. Xilinx takes this to the next level by integrating these functions into a single chip.

A more traditional design would be a microprocessor integrated with dedicated hardwired logic in an ASIC. However, time to market pressures are demanding platforms with full product cycles in months and integration cycles in hours. Compared to the time for ASIC development and potential respins, FPGAs present a highly appealing alternative.

Because the FPGA is reprogrammable after release, using technologies such as the Blue Iguana™ System, a whole new market of revenue streams and business models is opened. Xilinx has risen to these market pressures by systematically driving down the cost of customized hardware acceleration while producing continued innovation in size, speed, and integrated features.

Virtex-II Pro Features

The Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA brings together market-leading Xilinx programmable logic with the industry standard PowerPC (PPC) microprocessors and high-speed I/Os. Truly this is the digital sandbox for the 21st century engineer.

Integrate Off-the-Shelf IP

The Virtex-II Pro device offers as many as 8 million system gates. This allows easy and rapid SoC (system-on-chip) integration of existing IP cores without having to painstakingly code a custom implementation of a standard interface to save a few gates.

The Virtex-II Pro FPGA allows you to choose up to four PPC built-in cores. No longer do you have to meticulously calculate how many clock cycles each firmware operation will take to determine the processor infrastructure. If the first PPC becomes overloaded, just change the part number and add another PPC to the Virtex-II Pro FPGA. You don't have to respin the board or, worse yet, you don't have to deal with an increase in the form factor rippling to mechanical changes.

The off-the-shelf features of Virtex-II Pro devices are matched with on-chip memory of up to 4.5 MB. With this onboard memory, you can get high-speed, on-chip bus connects without being bottlenecked by a memory arbiter to off-chip memory.

Flexible Clocking Infrastructure

Any first year student learns the first rule of digital synchronous logic: never gate the clock. Well, Xilinx has packed that up with the vacuum tubes and created an architecture that allows you to switch – glitch-free – among as many as 16 global clocks. This is a huge benefit for sharing system resources among different clock domains. The Xilinx Digital Clock Manager also provides on-chip frequency and phase control, meaning that an off-chip, phase-locked loop is no longer needed.

XCITE On-Chip Impedance Control

After drawing a thousand-pin FPGA, the last thing a design engineer wants to deal with is adding a few hundred termination resistors. Xilinx Controlled Impedance TEchnology (XCITE) eliminates those resistors with dynamic, on-chip, digitally controlled impedance. The savings in board space, schematic time, and layout time are significant.

Integrated High Speed I/O

It seemed not too long ago that it was cutting-edge to support 64-bit, 66 MHz PCI. Now we are up to PCI-X speeds at 133 MHz. We have support for RapidIO™, POS-PHY4 and SPI-4 interconnect technologies, to name a few. Pick almost any kind of memory you like – ZBT™ SRAM, DDR SDRAM, or QDR SDRAM, for instance – and they can be implemented in the Virtex-II Pro logic fabric. Then we jump into serial I/O space, and the Virtex-II Pro platform can accommodate as many as 16 Rocket I/O™ multi-gigabit transceivers at a whopping 3.125 Gbps. This means applications like OC-48 can integrate SERDES (serializer/deserializers) right into the FPGA – once again, saving board space, cost, and valuable time.

Integrating Customer Hard IP

Hard IP is when digital logic is implemented in hard coded gates, removing the programming capability, but also using much less silicon. Once a design or IP block is stable, it can be converted to hard IP. The PPC 405 microprocessor is currently implemented in the Virtex-II Pro device as hard IP, but Xilinx actually allows customers of sufficient volume to embed their own hard IP. For example, if you wanted to roll out an existing ASIC to provide additional capacity and integrate the micro-

processor, the Virtex-II Pro could embed that ASIC as hard IP and provide programmable gates for new functionality.

Integrated Bitstream Security

The Virtex-II Pro device has on-chip storage capacity for a 3DES key, either with a battery or constant power supply. The stored or delivered bitstream is encrypted, and can only be unlocked with the on-chip key. The on-chip key allows Virtex-II

Pro devices to be designed into military applications that traditionally have required OTP (one time programmable) solutions to remove any chance of code becoming compromised.

Reconfigurability

The Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA can be made even more powerful by enabling remote configuration capabilities. Xilinx IRL™ (Internet reconfigurable logic) technology includes a partnership with Wind River Systems Inc. to produce the PAVE Framework – PLD API for VxWorks™ Embedded System Integration Framework. The framework enables Xilinx FPGAs using Wind River's VxWorks real-time operating systems and Tornado™ integrated development environments to be recon-

figured during development and after deployment in the field. Additionally, Xilinx is in partnership with Blue Iguana Networks Inc., a semiconductor company that provides secure, remote, hardware management. Their patented technology enables secure software and hardware upgrades to in-service equipment over the Internet and without downtime. The Virtex-II Pro Platform

FPGA is an excellent match for Blue Iguana's technology, as the embedded microprocessor could upgrade the FPGA, or vice versa.

Conclusion

Because microprocessor and FPGA functionalities differ, as applications become more complex and diverse, it is often insufficient to utilize just one or the other. The development of the Xilinx Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA resulted from the natural integration of FPGAs and microprocessors. In the past, the only solution would have been to utilize multiple, discrete ASICs. However, because of the time to market requirements – in addition to the

potential expenses associated with an error – reconfigurable processing has become an ideal alternative.

With digital design engineers facing the pressures of increased flexibility, shorter time to market, and higher clock speeds, they will continue to drive the demand for integrated standard platforms. The Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA does a masterful job of combining a highly technologically advanced FPGA architecture with the industry standard IBM PowerPC microprocessor. As a member of the Xilinx Early Adopters Program, as well as a Xilinx XPERTS partner, we at Nuvation look forward to implementing this breakthrough technology for the benefits of our clients. For more information, please visit us at www.nuvation.com. 



Xilinx Offers End-to-End Solutions

For anyone who has been following the history of programmable logic, it's pretty clear that the industry has seen more changes in the course of the past year than it has perhaps in its entire 19 years of its existence.

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With the recently introduced Virtex-II Pro™ product family, the much awaited and highly debated immersion of a micro-processor into a programmable logic fabric has finally occurred. With up to four IBM® PowerPC™ 405 microprocessors in the highest density family members, Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs deliver more than 2,000 Dhrystone MIPS, a number that is unchallenged in the industry.

Complemented by the integration of multi-gigabit serial I/O signaling technology capable of supporting more than 3 Gbps per I/O pin pair, the Virtex-II Pro family delivers the industry's first truly high-performance Platform FPGAs. These advanced programmable logic devices are unparalleled in their capabilities not only to address a wide range of the most demanding applications – but also to adapt and adopt emerging I/O standards and protocols as they become available.

Advances in semiconductor and programmable logic fabrication have not only made families like the high-end Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs possible, but on the other end of the spectrum, technology advances have also enabled the recent delivery of Spartan™-IIE FPGAs and CoolRunner™-II RealDigital CPLDs. The Spartan-IIE family sets a new standard for low cost within the programmable logic industry, and the CoolRunner-II series sets an equivalent benchmark in the industry for ultra low power consumption.

This premiere portfolio of programmable logic solutions gives Xilinx the power to address a wide range of new markets and applications, including consumer electronics and handheld devices. In this issue of Xcell Journal, we discuss some of the markets we've opened and applications we've enabled.

Metropolitan Area Networks

The hottest areas in networking today are metropolitan area networks (MANs) and “edge access” markets. Driven by the explosive growth of data traffic in metropolitan regions, this networking market segment is expanding at a 34% CAGR (compound annual growth rate).

New products and technologies based upon standards proposals that leverage the combined benefits of Ethernet and SONET are now being rushed to market to address this rapidly growing demand for data services. However, the uncertainty surrounding the overall acceptance of these new standards – and the rigorous requirements of supporting line rates in excess of 10 Gbps – have given rise to the need for solutions like Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs that offer both flexibility and high performance.

In addition to articles discussing the challenges of developing solutions for the MAN, we are also pleased to present – in conjunction with Avnet Design Services, Avnet Cilicon, and Reed Electronics Group – an industry-wide event: the Metro-Optical Networking Forum to be held July 25 at the Santa Clara Convention Center in California. This free one-day event (which will be simulcast to more than 40 North American venues) is focused entirely on the latest developments in metropolitan and edge access networking. For more information, see the article and ad in this issue of Xcell Journal. To register for this event, visit www.xilinx.com/metro.

Consumer Electronics

Consumer electronics continue to grow at a very healthy pace, fueled by the trend towards digitization. Consumers perceive that anything digital is better. This consumer perception started with the introduction of the digital clock. The digital clock was more accurate than the analog clock and over time, more desirable.

Miniaturization drove the development of the digital watch, handheld calculator, and a myriad of other consumer products based upon digital technologies. Naturally, a plethora of new standards and protocols have emerged.

Multiple standards, changing protocols, high-performance processing, low power requirements at cost-conscious consumer prices – these are the challenges where the low cost Spartan™ series of FPGAs and the ultra low power CoolRunner™ CPLDs shine.

Digital TV

With a heightened awareness and demonstrated demand for digitized electronics, the television industry logically went about defining a new television format based

consumer electronics products in history. According to International Data Corp, DVD had penetrated 23% of US households by end of 2001.

The success of the DVD is attributed to several factors: the significant improvement in image quality, the industry-wide standardization that reduced consumer confusion, and high-volume sales, which led to accelerated cost reductions. Another key factor in the widespread acceptance of DVDs was that they can be viewed on existing analog televisions.



entirely upon digital technology. The results of high-definition digital TV (DTV) were astounding, but the price tag was prohibitively expensive, and consequently, consumer interest was low. Until just recently, it was hard to pinpoint exactly why consumer interest in DTV languished – was it because of price, or did consumers just think that digital video was not interesting?

Actually, it has only been in the past five years that the story has slowly unraveled. Consumers have, in fact, voted strongly in favor of digital video – but this has come, not in the form of an end-to-end digital system, but rather in the form of a single video component: the digital video disc, or DVD. Never, in the history of any consumer electronics product, has there been such a wide and rapid acceptance of any new medium or format as there has been with the introduction of the DVD. The DVD represents one of the most successful

Now, as digital video has grown in popularity, it is spawning a host of new digital products – and formats – including plasma displays, personal video recorders, read/write DVDs, and set-top boxes.

DTV has also spawned a widespread concern in the “infotainment” industry over video piracy. This concern is giving rise to a suite of new encryption standards, including 5C, 4C, CPTWG, and TCPA (to mention a few) that are being proposed by a wide range of interested parties, including the motion picture industry.

Conclusion

In this issue of *Xcell*, we discuss some of the exciting Xilinx solutions for consumer electronics, with a special emphasis on digital video applications, such as video image processing, navigating changing standards, and addressing encryption challenges. We hope you enjoy these articles. ❧

FPGAs — Enabling DSP in Real-Time Video Processing

With Xilinx FPGAs you can create DSPs that are much faster than any off-the-shelf stand-alone DSP device.

by David Nicklin, Senior Manager
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Real-time video processing makes enormous demands on system-level performance requirements and, except for the simplest of functions, is well beyond the capabilities of any general purpose DSP device. Therefore, DSP-based video designs often require several DSP devices to get the necessary throughput, along with the overhead of multiple program and data memory resources. However, designing with programmable logic allows you to implement video signal processing algorithms using parallel processing techniques, giving you the performance you need within a single, highly flexible programmable logic device. By performing video processing functions in real time, you can minimize the need for frame stores and data buffering.

With the industry pushing for higher levels of video quality, and the development of improved compression schemes, system processing rates have increased dramatically. At the same time, we have introduced new programmable logic devices, such as the Xilinx Spartan™-IIE FPGAs, which draw on the architectural heritage of the FPGA devices that are commonly used in professional broadcast equipment today. As FPGA process development follows Moore's Law, our new products can perform the same functionality as their predecessors, with even higher performance and a much lower cost.

By developing systems using our latest cost-effective FPGAs, you can bring unprecedented levels of professional, broadcast quality, video processing into areas of digital video technology such as high-end consumer products, security systems, industrial and machine vision applications, and frame-grabbers.

One driver of this trend, is the combination of networking, broadcast, processing and display technology, in what the industry has termed "digital convergence." The need to send high bandwidth video data over extremely difficult transmission channels, such as wireless, while still maintaining an acceptable quality-of-service (QoS), is extremely difficult. This has led to wide ranging research in how to improve error correction, compression and image processing technology, much of it based on advanced FPGA technology.

Image Compression/Decompression – DCT/IDCT

The main video compression scheme used in digital video systems today is MPEG2. It can be found at the heart of

digital television, set-top boxes, digital satellite systems, high-definition television (HDTV) decoders, DVD players, video conferencing equipment, and Web phones, to name just a few. Raw digital video information invariably has to be compressed so it can be either sent over a suitable transmission channel, or stored onto a suitable medium such as a disc.

blocks that are left undefined. It is within these undefined sections of the standard that a company can truly differentiate its product from its competition and develop its own proprietary algorithms. Many professional MPEG encoders use FPGAs in these sections, such as the motion estimation block, as shown in Figure 1. Because FPGAs are reconfigurable, the equipment

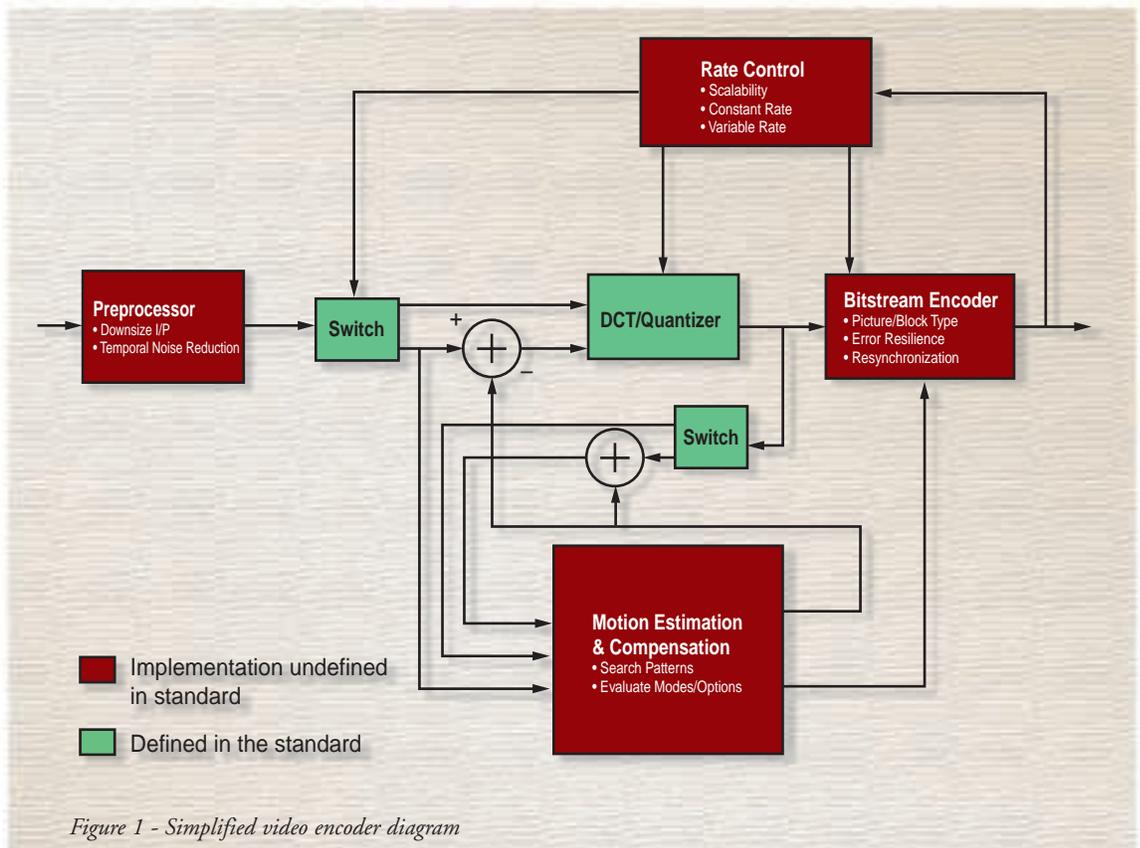


Figure 1 - Simplified video encoder diagram

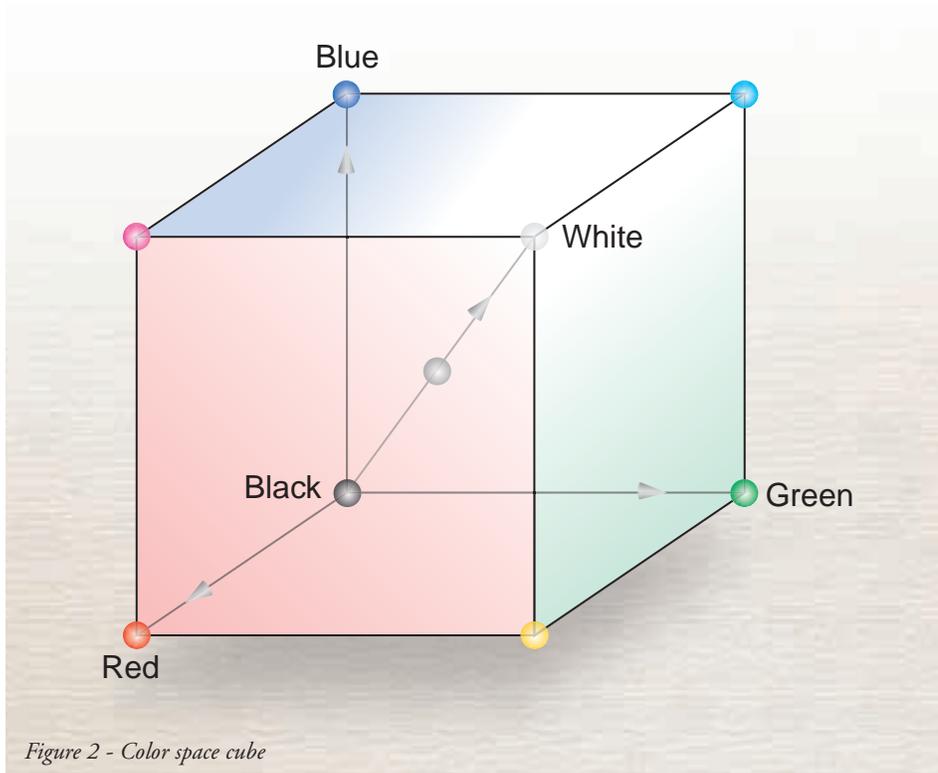
There are also a number of emerging standards, including most notably MPEG4. Most products based around this technology are still in development, although ramp-up to production is expected shortly. At the heart of the MPEG2 and MPEG4 algorithms is a function called the discrete cosine transform (DCT). The aim of the DCT is to take a square of pixel blocks and remove redundant information that is imperceptible to the viewer. To decompress the data, the inverse discrete cosine transform (IDCT) function is required.

While the DCT section of the MPEG algorithms is standardized and can be implemented very efficiently within FPGAs, MPEG encoding has a lot of

can be easily updated to incorporate new algorithms at all stages of development, including in the field after deployment. Companies that rely totally on standard ASSP solutions are limited in their ability to produce products that can make them stand out from the competition, and they therefore run the risk of being seen as just one of a number of similarly specified solutions in the market.

Color Space Conversion

Another important part of a video system is the requirement for color space conversion, a process that defines how an image specified in one color format can be converted into a different color format.



blue channels in effect duplicate much of the luminance information, and hence, this duplicate information can be safely removed. The end result is that the image can be represented as signals representing chrominance and luminance. In this format, the luminance is defined as having a range of 16 to 235 in an 8-bit system, and the Cb and Cr signals have a range of 16 to 240, with 128 being equal to 0.

A color in the YCrCb space is converted to the RGB color space using the equations:

$$R' = 1.164 (Y - 16) + 1.596 (Cr - 128)$$

$$G' = 1.164 (Y - 16) - 0.813 (Cr - 128) - 0.392 (Cb - 128)$$

$$B' = 1.164 (Y - 16) + 1.596 (Cr - 128)$$

R'G'B' are gamma corrected RGB values. A CRT display has a non-linear relationship between signal amplitude and output intensity. By gamma correcting signals before the display, the relationship between received signal amplitude and output intensity can be made linear. The output gain is also limited below certain thresholds to reduce transmission-induced noise in the darker parts of an image.

There are a number of possible implementations – memory, logic, or embedded multipliers – to perform the necessary multiplication functions. It is certainly possible to meet and exceed the 74.25 MHz data rate required for HDTV systems. It is also possible to try different design trade-offs, such as that between system accuracy and design area. For example, for a 3% error in luminance, the design size of a YCrCb-to-RGB color-space-converter can be more than halved. This may be unacceptable in most display products but could be acceptable in other applications such as machine vision or security systems. By using an FPGA, you can tailor the algorithm for the application, thereby maximizing performance, efficiency, or both.

Real-Time Image and Video Processing Functions

Limitations in the performance obtainable with standard DSPs has led to the development of specially designed chips, such as

Receptors in the human eye are only capable of detecting light wavelengths from 400 nm to 700 nm. These receptors are called cones and there are three different types, one for red light, one for green, and one for blue. If a single wavelength of light is observed, the relative responses of these three sensors allow us to discern what we call the color of the light. This phenomenon is extremely useful because it means we can generate a range of colors by simply adding together various proportions of light from just three different wavelengths. The process is known as additive color matching, and is used in color television systems.

It's possible to represent colors of light by plotting the red, green and blue (RGB) components proportions on a 3-dimensional cube, with black at the origin and white at the diagonally opposite corner. The resulting cube is known as the "RGB color space," as shown in Figure 2.

Whether the final display medium is paper, LED, CRT, or plasma displays, the image is always broken down into an array of picture elements or pixels (HDTV, for example, can have 1920 x 1080 pixels). While the mechanics change slightly for each medium, the basic concept is that each

pixel displays a proportion of red, green, or blue depending on the voltage signals driven to the display.

Processing an image in RGB format, where each pixel is defined by three 8-bit or 10-bit words corresponding to each primary color, is certainly not the most efficient method. With such a format, every action on a pixel has to be performed on all the red, green, and blue channels. This invariably requires more storage and data bandwidth than other alternative color formats.

To address such issues many broadcast standards, such as the European PAL and North American NTSC television systems, use luminance and color difference video signals. A requirement therefore exists for a mechanism to convert between the different formats, and this is called "color space conversion."

Realizing these circuits in hardware is a relatively simple task, once the coefficients to map from one plane to another are known. One common format conversion is RGB to YCbCr (and conversely YCbCr to RGB). See Figure 3. It has been found that between 60% and 70% of the luminance information (Y) a human eye can detect comes from the green color. The red and

media processors. However, these devices have often proved to be too inflexible in all but a narrow range of applications, and can suffer from performance bottlenecks. The limitations of a processor-based approach become especially apparent in high-resolution systems, such as HDTV and medical imaging. Fundamentally, a processor solution is restricted in how many cycles can be allocated to each tap of a filter, or each stage of a transform. Once the performance limits have been reached there is often no other way around the problem than to add extra DSP parts.

An FPGA, however, can be custom tailored to provide the maximum efficiency of utilization and performance. It's possible for you to trade off area against speed, and invariably perform a given function at a much lower clock rate than a DSP would require.

For example, Visicom Inc. found that for a median filter application a DSP processor would require 67 cycles to perform the algorithm. An FPGA needed to run at only 25 MHz, because it could realize the function in parallel. For the DSP to match the same performance, it would have to run at over 1.5 GHz. In this particular application, the FPGA solution is

some 17 times more powerful than a 100 MHz DSP processor.

There are a wide number of real-time image and video processing functions that are well fitted for implementation in FPGA devices – these include real-time functions such as:

- Image rotation
- Scaling
- Color and hue correction
- Shadow enhancement
- Edge detection
- Histogram functions
- Sharpening
- Median filters
- Blob analysis.

Many of these functions are both application specific and system specific, and are based around core structures such as 2D-FIR filters. Such functions can be implemented quickly using HDL language design or by exploiting the DSP building blocks found in high-level core design tools such as the Xilinx CORE Generator™ software. It's also possible to reduce both design and simulation time by employing a

system-level design approach, using products such as The MathWorks' MATLAB™ and Simulink™ software, as well as Xilinx System Generator.

Conclusion

With digital convergence, you need to integrate various standards and requirements into one homogeneous product – this demands flexibility in design and implementation.

FPGA technology is addressing the system requirements of new and emerging video applications, bringing with it the features and signal processing performance that have made it the preferred solution for video and image processing in the professional broadcast equipment market for a number of years. The latest generation of FPGAs can provide the same level of performance and functionality, at a fraction of the cost of the FPGAs that were designed into professional equipment just a few years before.

In comparison to ASSP and chipset solutions, FPGAs offer levels of flexibility that designers demand in today's products, while at the same time maintaining a distinct performance advantage over conventional DSPs. ❏

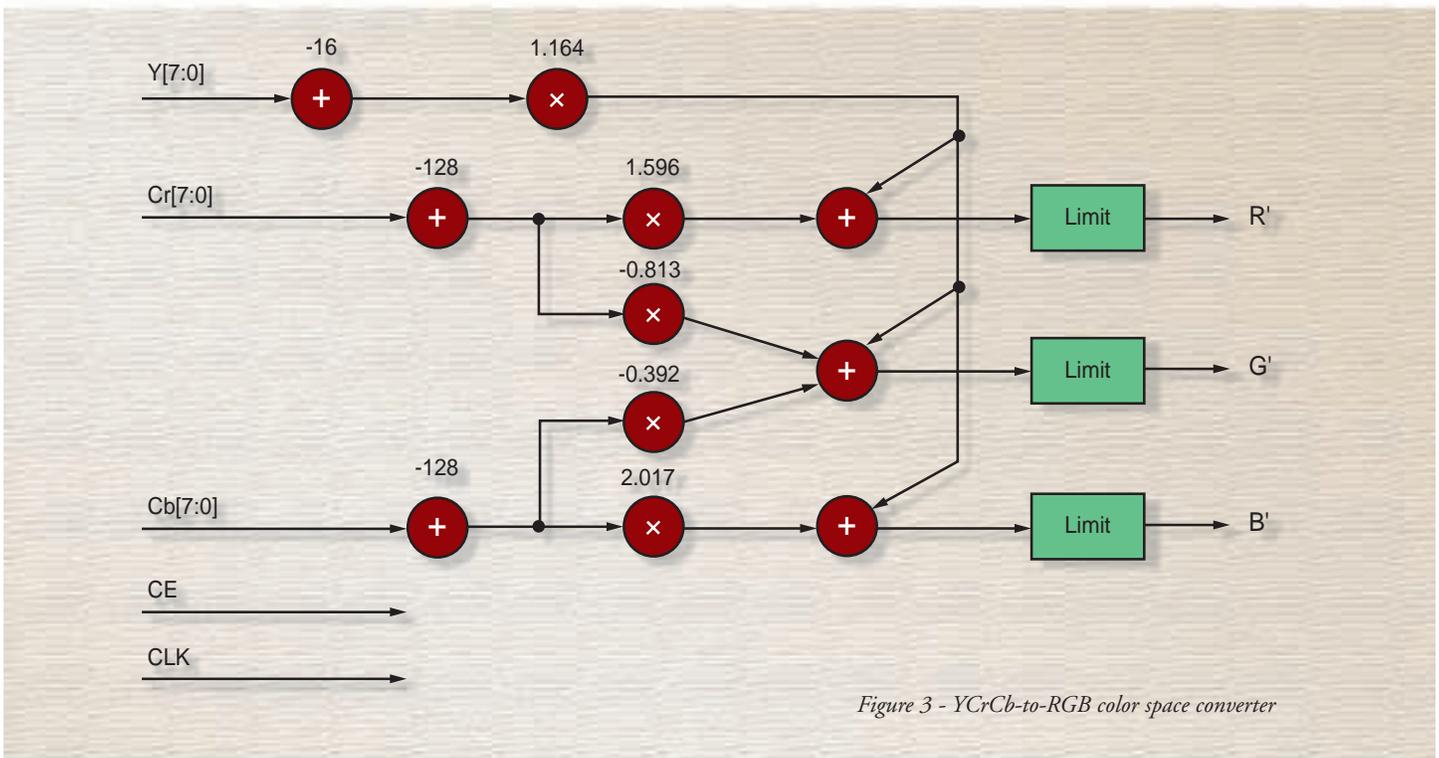


Figure 3 - YCrCb-to-RGB color space converter

FPGAs Provide Flexibility in Digital TV Development

Cost sensitive consumer applications, such as digital TVs, can now benefit from the many advantages of Spartan series programmable logic devices.

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Broadcasters are very interested in creating new revenue from digital television services. However, a vast range of evolving digital television (DTV) standards in transmission, image processing, interconnectivity, and display interfaces can create considerable barriers to speedy implementation. Yet, the industry promotes digital broadcasting, highlighting better video and sound quality to attract new subscribers from the analog world. Consumer adoption of digital TV is important if broadcasters are to adhere to the schedule of analog switch-off.

Bandwidth is precious; to make the most of it, compression schemes have steadily improved and new algorithms are in development to push the envelope even further. As such, system-processing rates have increased over time, and real-time image processing is now an ideal way of meeting these requirements while removing memory overhead. At the same time, Moore's Law has resulted in low cost programmable logic devices, such as the new Spartan™-IIE FPGAs, that provide the same functionality and performance previously only found in expensive professional broadcast products.

Which Standard Do I Use?

The transition from analog to digital technology is providing opportunities for broadcasters to offer new services, and competition is fierce between OEMs to produce cost-effective systems that are attractive to consumers. As with many technology shifts, this introduces many new proposed standards as companies vie for market leadership. It's possible that the first company to market becomes a de facto standard regardless of the efforts of standards bodies to ensure interoperability and fair competition. Even when standards bodies successfully produce internationally recognized specifications, there are often many versions of a standard that can be adhered to as they try to address many member companies' needs. Add to this the

inevitable revisions to standards during development, and it is easy to see why the flexibility of a fully reprogrammable solution is so compelling.

For example, your return on investment would be much greater if you were able to reprogram your system so that it complies with the latest revision of an emerging forward error correction algorithm. Replacing an aging encryption scheme such as DES with a new, more robust version (AES) is another example.

Table 1 shows a summary of broadcast formats defined by the Advanced Television Standards Committee, and is referred to in the broadcast industry as “Table 3” (from the ATSC A53 specification). There are 36 options that equipment manufacturers need to support in this table alone. There are also regional variations to broadcast standards, with DVB, ISDB, and the proposed DMB used in different parts of the world. Although ASSPs (Application Specific Standard Products) are available, it frequently means that different chips are required for each format.

An FPGA solution, easily supporting data rates exceeding those required by HDTV, would enable all the formats to be support-

dramatically. For example, an HDTV display of 1920 x 1080 resolution, 24-bit pixels, and 30 progressive frames per second, requires a total uncompressed bandwidth of around 1.5 Gbps. Even in areas where high-definition images aren't actually broadcast, HD pictures are still used in all post production stages .

The latest low cost programmable logic devices (the Spartan series) now have multiple I/Os with LVDS (low voltage differential signaling) that support these sorts of data rates. Therefore, even uncompressed video data can be brought on- and off-chip and processed in real time. Performing real-time video processing, even at HDTV rates, allows you to reduce external memory requirements.

Multiple frame stores and data buffers are often used in current digital TV systems because the video signal processor portion of the design becomes a bottleneck. Using the parallel signal processing capabilities of FPGAs means that smaller, or even single, frame stores can be used, and data buffers can be eliminated. The limitations of standard DSPs for real-time image processing has led to the development of specially designed devices. Although performance is

integrated, allowing it to receive digital broadcasts. FPGAs can have many areas of responsibility within digital TV sets, as shown in Figure 1. Interfacing between standard chipsets, as “glue logic,” has always been a strong application of FPGAs, but many more image processing tasks (such as color space conversion) and support for network interfaces (such as IEEE 1394) are now possible in low cost programmable devices.

One driver of the trend to offload image-processing tasks to FPGAs is the result of the industry-coined phrase “digital convergence.” This arises from the need to send high bandwidth video data over new and extremely difficult transmission channels, such as wireless networks, while still maintaining an acceptable quality-of-service (QoS). This has led to wide ranging research in how to improve error-correction, compression and image processing technology, much of it based around implementation in an FPGA.

Product Differentiation

By using FPGAs, it is possible for you to differentiate your standard-compliant systems from your competitor's products. With the MPEG-2 compression scheme,

for example, it's possible to offload the IDCT (inverse discrete cosine transform) portion of the algorithm from an MPEG processor, to an FPGA, to increase the bandwidth. IDCT (and DCT

at the encoder) can be implemented extremely efficiently using FPGAs, and optimized IP cores are readily available to include in MPEG based designs.

By integrating proprietary techniques for other image processing functions alongside defined blocks such as DCT, it's possible to produce a low cost, single chip solution that increases processing bandwidth and gives higher quality images than your competitor. By avoiding systems that rely just

Definition	Lines/Frame	Pixels/Line	Aspect Ratios	Frame Rates
High (HD)	1080	1920	16:9	23.976p, 24p, 29.97p, 29.97i, 30p, 30i
High (HD)	720	1280	16:9	23.976p, 24p, 29.97p, 30p, 59.94p, 60p
Standard (SD)	480	704	4:3, 16:9	23.976p, 24p, 29.97p, 29.97i, 30p, 30i, 59.94p, 60p
Standard (SD)	480	640	16:9	23.976p, 24p, 29.97p, 29.97i, 30p, 30i, 59.94p, 60p

Table 1 - ATSC broadcast formats

ed with one device that is reprogrammed depending on the equipment or operational mode it is used in. Such flexibility in a standard, off-the-shelf component reduces your bill of materials and removes any risk of supply problems from an ASSP provider.

Pixels and Performance

With the advent of high-definition broadcasts in many parts of the world, video signal processing requirements have increased

greatly improved, these devices have often proved to be too inflexible in all but a narrow range of applications and can still suffer from performance bottlenecks.

FPGAs in Consumer Digital TVs

FPGAs have historically only been found in expensive professional broadcast systems. However, due to low costs, Spartan series FPGAs can be used in high volume consumer products such as digital TVs where set-top box functionality is fully

on standard ASSP solutions, you no longer need to be perceived as providing just another product in a number of similarly specified products in the market. Plus, with FPGAs you can easily modify your design at any time to meet new standards or fix bugs – even after your product is in your customers’ hands.

Time to Market and Time in Market

As well as enhancing DTV systems and increasing processing performance, FPGAs also get your products to market quicker and keep them generating more revenue once they are in the field. Xilinx FPGAs are based on SRAM technology, which allows you to easily reprogram the device during the development phase. This allows simple debugging of your system, but also enables last minute changes to be made to the product if needed.

Because FPGAs are reprogrammable, there’s no waiting for development of a new ASSP chipset to support the latest revision, or a costly and time consuming ASIC re-spin if chip development is done in-house. New ways of programming devices in the field are giving the added benefit of being able to transmit hardware updates via the Internet or some other communications channel. For example, Xilinx IRL™ (Internet Reconfigurable Logic) technology allows you to automatically reconfigure your product, remotely, at any time. The power of this feature is highlighted in situations where first-to-market is key, such as in consumer set-top boxes. It means that boxes can be shipped to customers without necessarily having a complete design – features can be added later.

Conclusion

FPGAs provide both professional and consumer digital broadcast OEMs with real-time image processing capabilities that address the system requirements of new and emerging video applications. Compared to other technologies, FPGAs offer an unrivalled flexibility that enables you to get your products to market quickly. Remote field upgradeability means that systems can be shipped now and features, upgrades, or design fixes added later.

FPGAs also have significant performance advantages over conventional digital signal processors and have the added benefit of allowing you to differentiate your products from the many solutions on the market. Programmable logic is the ideal balance between the flexibility of DSPs and the performance of ASSPs for digital TV development. ❏

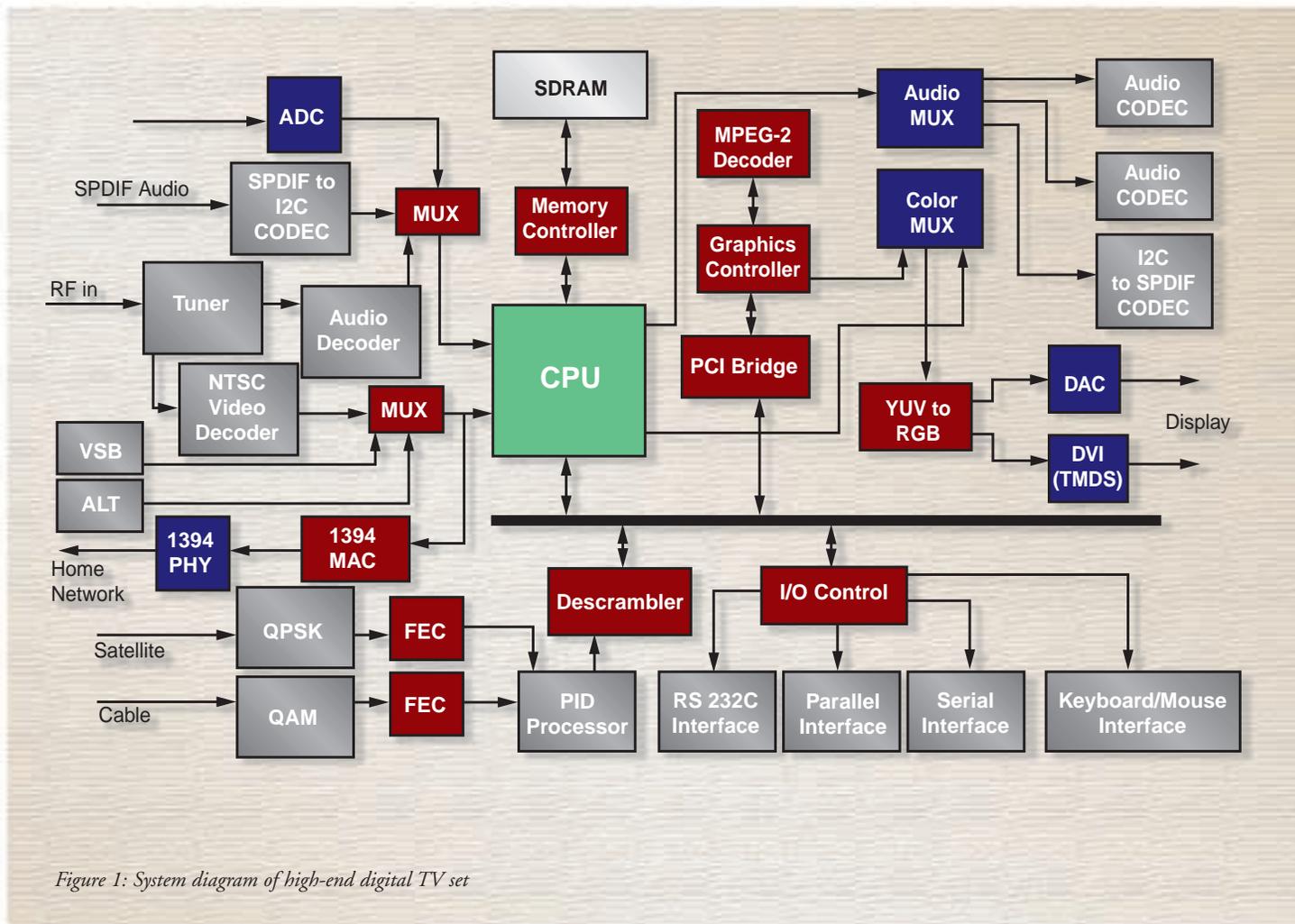


Figure 1: System diagram of high-end digital TV set

Xilinx Technology Can Disable Stolen Cell Phones — and Restore Them When Recovered

Mobile phone theft is on the rise, but cell phones equipped with CoolRunner-II CPLDs, Internet Reconfigurable Logic, and Comprehensive Design Security could remove the incentive to steal.

by Karen Parnell

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Researchers at the University of California at San Diego have found a way to “blow up” silicon chips with an electrical signal, according to a recent article, “Exploding Chips Could Foil Laptop Thieves,” in *NewScientist.com*.

The practical application of self-destroying chips would be the ability to remotely disable stolen laptops, cell phones, PDAs, and other devices using wireless communication and containing confidential information.

According to the *NewScientist.com* article by Duncan Graham-Rowe, when a device is stolen, the victim or service provider could call the device and transmit a self-destruct order to “detonate” a small quantity of gadolinium nitrate. The resulting explosion would destroy the critical chips, rendering the stolen device useless — and irreparable. Unfortunately, information in the device memory might remain intact — and that data could sometimes be more useful than the device itself.



At Xilinx, we have a better idea. With IRL™ (Internet Reconfigurable Logic) technology, Comprehensive Design Security, and CoolRunner™-II CPLDs, we can remotely disable up to four different functions of a stolen device, rendering it inoperable, and with locked-down, tamperproof data. The beauty of the Xilinx

solution is the unit is not damaged in any way – full functionality and data can be easily restored if the device is recovered.

Whose Problem Is It?

Every three minutes in the UK, a mobile phone is stolen, sometimes at knifepoint. This phenomenon is not just confined to the UK. It is a global issue and continuing to rise. For example, in New South Wales, in Australia, nearly 40,000 phones were stolen between October 1999 and September 2000, a 100% rise over the previous year.

But what if the phone hardware could be disabled and effectively rendered useless, then surely the need to steal this much-coveted possession would decline. Wouldn't it? Not necessarily ...

When a mobile phone is stolen, it is relatively easy for the phone operator to disable the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) card inside the phone so that calls can not be made using that particular number. This is of great benefit to the bill payer, but this is not usually why the phone has been stolen. Hackers can install a modified SIM card that fools the phone into believing it is a prepaid, "pay-as-you-go" phone with unlimited credits. This allows the phone to be used indefinitely, free of charge.

What Are Today's Solutions?

In March 2001, the then-UK Home Secretary Jack Straw said that he would meet with the world's mobile phone manufacturers and police to try to stop the growing threat of street robberies that target mobile phones. Among the measures considered were the need for general vigilance, discrete usage, knowledge of security codes to lock the phone, and the use of an International Mobile Equipment Identifier (IMEI) number.

In addition to the SIM card, digital mobile phones connected to the GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) network possess an IMEI identifier that is associated with the handset itself. (GSM is the dominant cellular system used in Europe and Asia.)

Mobile phone owners are encouraged to note down this number so that if the handset is stolen, then the operator can bar that specific phone from working on their network.

But what about the other networks? The handset can theoretically still be used on other networks if a suitable SIM can be found on the black market.



The need, therefore, is to find a way to completely disable the handset hardware on any cellular system – without blowing up the phone itself. Thus, the phone is useless to the thief, but it can be reactivated and restored if the phone recovered and returned to its rightful owner.

This message was again reinforced in January this year with UK ministers considering whether to introduce legislation that will force networks to introduce the aforementioned anti-theft measures, but, they stipulated, this would be "a last resort."

What Is Tomorrow's Solution?

The average mobile phone thief is becoming more discerning, because in the black market, the newer "smart phones" are becoming the target of choice. To date, the growth of mobile communications has been fuelled by voice calls, but voice is becoming a saturated market, with increasing competition forcing a decline in average revenue per user.

To maintain growth and even sustain current income and profits, cellular providers must introduce new services that will be attractive and beneficial to users, who will then need new types of technically sophisticated handsets from the providers' manufacturers.

In order to capture the market for replacement cellular handsets, the next wave of mobile phone handsets must be smarter, lighter, and last longer on one charge. These new smart phones are reinvigorating the flagging mobile market by providing must-have functionality. The cell phone has now moved from being just a humble voice communications device to a combined PDA, Internet access device, MP3 player, and games console.

For instance, Nokia recently unveiled its latest "lifestyle" function phone, the 5510. The phone includes an integrated digital music player (with 64 MB memory) for ACC (Advanced Audio Coding) and MP3 files, a full keyboard to facilitate better messaging functionality, and a handful of embedded games.

Contrary to recent times, the full cost of smart phone will be borne by the customer – not subsidized as a free loss leader by a wireless service provider, who intends to recover the cost of the hardware with inflated air-time rates.

These smart phones are more costly for the owner and/or network operator to replace if stolen. This cost risk has made the mobile phone companies rethink how their products are designed. The hardware of handset must have the built-in capability to be remotely disabled if stolen – but still traceable via GPS (global positioning system) or similar geographic locator systems.

Once recovered, the phones must be able to be reactivated to full functionality when returned to their owners. A phone with blown-up chips isn't worth recovering. To be a viable consumer product, the disabling component of a stolen cellular phone must be small, lightweight, low cost, low power – and capable of fully restoring the functionality of the phone upon recovery.

The Xilinx Solution

With typical forward thinking, Xilinx has already developed the tools to combat phone theft – IRL technology, Comprehensive Security Design, and the CoolRunner-II CPLD.

If a CoolRunner-II CPLD were used to perform the keypad interfacing in a handset, then if it were stolen, the keypad could be disabled remotely by the mobile phone operator using Xilinx IRL technology (Figure 1). When returned to its owner, the handset could then be reprogrammed again via an IRL bitstream to enable the keypad again. (IRL technology enables the remote upgrading or programming process of CPLD or FPGA hardware over any kind of network, including wireless.)

It is virtually impossible for the CoolRunner-II device (Figure 2) to be reactivated or for data to be retrieved from the handset by the thief or hacker. Xilinx Comprehensive Design Security provides an unprecedented four aspects of design security:

It is virtually impossible for the CoolRunner-II device (Figure 2) to be reactivated or for data to be retrieved from the handset by the thief or hacker. Xilinx Comprehensive Design Security provides an unprecedented four aspects of design security:

- Prevention of accidental/purposeful overwriting or read back of the configuration pattern
- Blocking visual or electrical detection of the configuration pattern
- Automatic device lockdown in response to electrical or laser tampering
- Physical implementation of the protection scheme that is virtually undetectable.

These design security aspects are not only buried within the layers of the device, but they are also scattered throughout the die

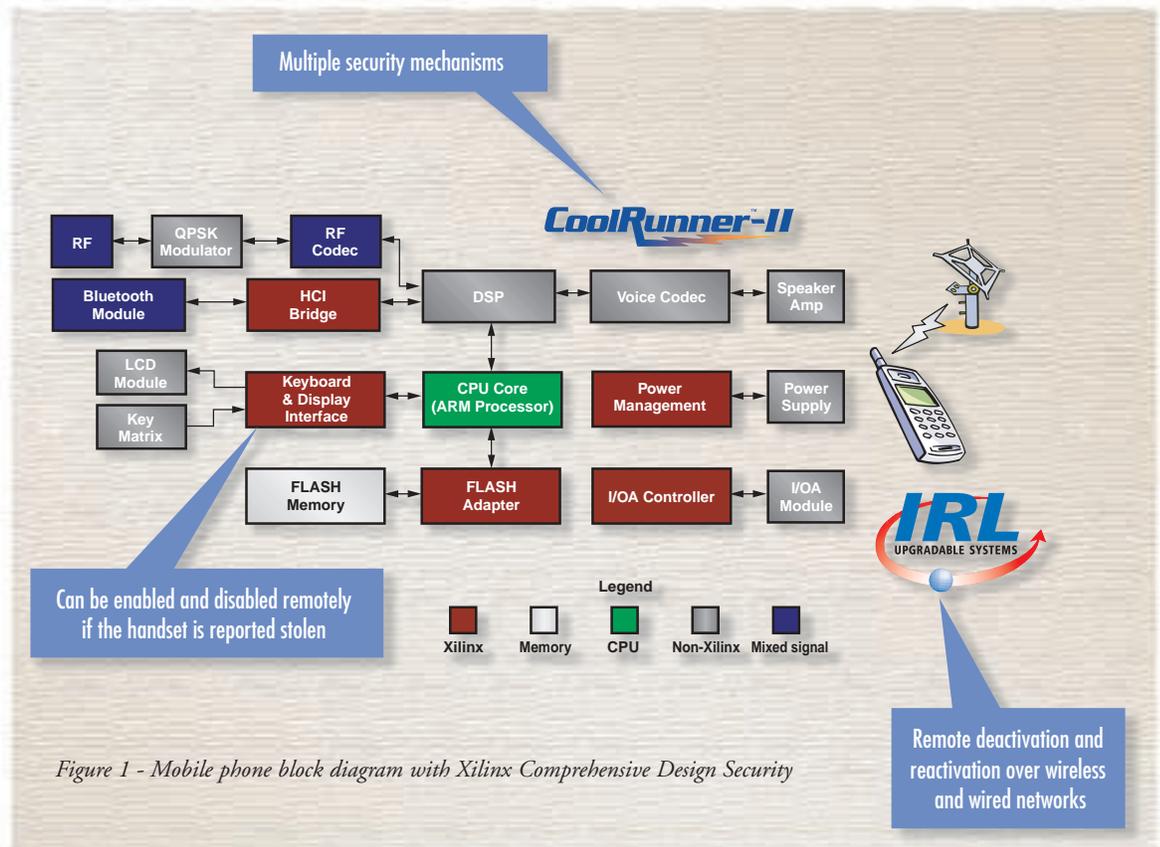


Figure 1 - Mobile phone block diagram with Xilinx Comprehensive Design Security

to make their detection impossible. Designers can now design with the knowledge they are using the best design security available on any CPLD in the industry.

The enhanced features of CoolRunner-II also elevate the CPLD from an ASIC fix to

that of an ASIC replacement. New features include clock doubling and clock division for lower power consumption, various I/O standards support for level translation, selectable Schmitt trigger inputs to solve signal integrity challenges, and bus hold.

Conclusion

By utilizing a combination of IRL technology, Comprehensive Security Design, and ultra-low power CoolRunner-II CPLDs to remotely disable the hardware within a stolen mobile phone, phone operators and manufacturers can remove the incentive for theft – and improve the odds of recovery with geographic locator technology.

Furthermore, the triple-threat security technology of Xilinx-protected products can be extended to any consumer appliance, including laptops, set-top boxes for cable TV, PDAs, and other devices with wireless or wired network connectivity. As the word gets out, consumers will look for the Xilinx brand in the products they buy – and thieves will look the other way. ❌

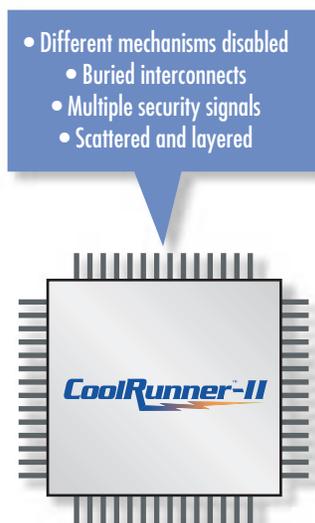


Figure 2 - Multiple security functions embedded in CoolRunner-II CPLD

Customize Virtual Private Networks with Spartan-IIE FPGA Solutions

Spartan-IIE FPGA solutions can help you to customize your virtual private network for highest performance, greatest security, and lowest cost.

by Amit Dhir
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The worldwide VPN (virtual private network) market will reach \$32 billion by 2003, up from \$3 billion in 2000, according to Infonetics Research. VPNs provide highly secure, temporary, point-to-point "tunnels" through the public Internet. These tunnels are created on demand and are removed when a session ends. VPNs offer you the following advantages:

- Lower operating costs
- Extendable networks to respond to changing business demands
- Anywhere, anytime access to e-mail, intranet, and other shared applications.

Essentially, VPNs are private networks deployed over public networks that provide similar levels of privacy, security, quality of service (QoS), reliability, prioritization, end-to-end management, and manageability as local area networks (LANs).

With Spartan™-IIE FPGAs, the right software, and Internet gateways, you get secure data encryption and packet authentication even over the wide-open public Internet.

Furthermore, compared to leased line networks, Xilinx-enabled VPNs are:

- Simpler to set up and easier to administer
- More dynamic and extendable
- Less expensive to create and deploy
- More accessible anywhere, anytime.

How Do VPNs Work?

VPNs use the bandwidth of public, packet-routed networks – typically the Internet or a service provider's backbone network (Internet Protocol, frame relay, or ATM). Corporations have company headquarters, remote offices, mobile workers, independent contractors, and business partners connected to a network service provider's local points of presence (POP). Remote users and the company's LAN(s) connect to the provider's network using dial-up, DSL, cable, ISDN, T1/T3, and wireless.

The key to VPNs is “tunneling” – the practice of repackaging data from one network to another. At the originating end of a tunneled transmission, a data packet is “wrapped” or encapsulated with new header information that allows an intermediary network to reorganize and deliver the packet. At the terminating end, the terminal protocol “wrapper” is removed, and the original packet is delivered to the destination.

Tunneling does not ensure privacy or security – just delivery. To secure a tunneled transmission against interception and tampering, all traffic must be encrypted. Therefore, VPNs must include additional functional features to enhance transmission security, ensure quality of service (QoS), and protect the VPN perimeter with a firewall.

Security and privacy features include tunneling itself, data encryption, packet authentication, firewalls, and user identification. Tunneling uses IPsec (Internet Protocol Security), and encryption uses DES (Data Encryption Standard), Triple DES, and Diffie-Hellman cryptographic algorithms.

VPN QoS and bandwidth management make possible delivery of high transmission



quality, mission-critical applications (such as financial reporting and order processing), and real-time voice/video applications (such as distance learning and videoconferencing). Packets are tagged with priority and time sensitivity markers to allow traffic to be routed based on delivery priorities. Tagged packets take precedence over bandwidth-consuming applications (such as Web surfing).

Network management features simplify the addition, deletion, or changing of users; software upgrades; and policy management for security and QoS assurance. These features make scalability and interoperability possible.

Xilinx Spartan-IIE FPGAs – Providing Encryption with Flexibility

VPN gateways secure Internet-based communication, perform user identification, authenticate data integrity and confidentiality, and reject all non-tunneled IPsec traffic. Encryption and authentication lie at the heart of VPN products, and speeding up the processing of encryption algorithms boosts the performance and scale of VPN solutions.

Spartan-IIE FPGAs programmed with proprietary and/or standard encryption

cores provide flexibility without compromising cost or performance – and reducing time to market.

Implementing encryption in programmable hardware significantly improves performance over software solutions. By using parallel computing, FPGAs encode and decode larger transmission blocks more effectively. The encrypted key can be changed within the FPGA fabric, and if a key is ever broken, the Xilinx Spartan-IIE solution can be reconfigured instantly with new algorithms.

Spartan-IIE FPGAs give you the power to to choose and optimize just the right feature set and intellectual property cores you need to implement your designs. You can integrate functionality, such as PCI, memory controllers, and other components, within the Spartan-IIE device to customize your product and reduce costs. This flexibility comes at a significantly lower cost compared to ASSPs (application specific standard products).

Conclusion

VPNs improve the productivity of remote workers and hence, their organizations. VPNs promote flexible work styles, extend workplaces beyond office walls, connect remote offices with the headquarters, and foster competitive advantages with strategic partners – all at reduced costs, compared to other options.

Using the Internet and/or service provider backbones to transfer confidential data requires state-of-the-art encryption and privacy solutions. Spartan-IIE FPGA-based encryption and security give you the scalability and flexibility you need to implement the perfect virtual private network for your enterprise. ☒

Leveraging Bluetooth Technology to Build Secure and Robust Wireless Communications

Programmable logic is used to design wireless products that address the needs of data security and integrity.

by Mamoon Hamid, Manager
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Although Bluetooth™ wireless technology promises to be a ubiquitous, low cost solution – perfect for a very wide range of data communication – there are two major areas that further need to be addressed: data security and data integrity. These two areas will serve to limit range of applications where Bluetooth can be deployed.

Bluetooth Data Security

The Bluetooth specification has defined a set of security mechanisms to provide a very basic level of protection for short-range wireless communication. Each Bluetooth device is required to implement key management, authentication, and encryption. The Bluetooth Generic Access Profile (GAP) divides security into three different modes. In addition, Bluetooth technology implements a frequency-hopping scheme that also serves as an additional security measure against eavesdroppers.

Key Management

Bluetooth security uses several different keys in higher layer software to ensure secure transmissions. Figure 1 shows a block diagram for key management.

Device Authentication

Authentication is a critical security component of Bluetooth systems, allowing a domain of trust between an ad-hoc network of Bluetooth devices. Bluetooth authentication is based on a challenge-response scheme that secures the connection between two devices. When a device is not authenticated, a period of time must pass before a new attempt for authentication can be made.

Encryption

Bluetooth Encryption is used to ensure the privacy of a connection. Prior to encryption, an authenticated link must be in place. Encryption scrambles the data payload of Bluetooth packets using an 8-bit to 128-bit key, however, the Bluetooth access code and the packet header are never encrypted. Payload encryption depends on the strength of encryption desired and geographical regulations in the countries in which the product is being deployed.

Physical Layer Data Security – Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum

In addition to the other security features built into Bluetooth equipment, the frequency-hopping scheme employed for Bluetooth communication (Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum or FHSS) also serves as mechanism to make eavesdropping extremely difficult.

The Bluetooth radio operates in the 2.4 GHz ISM band. In North America and most of Europe, Bluetooth radio uses a frequency range from 2.402 GHz to 2.480 GHz, with this band divided into 79, 1-MHz subchannels. In frequency hopping, a data signal is modulated with a narrow-band carrier signal that hops from frequency to frequency as a function of time.

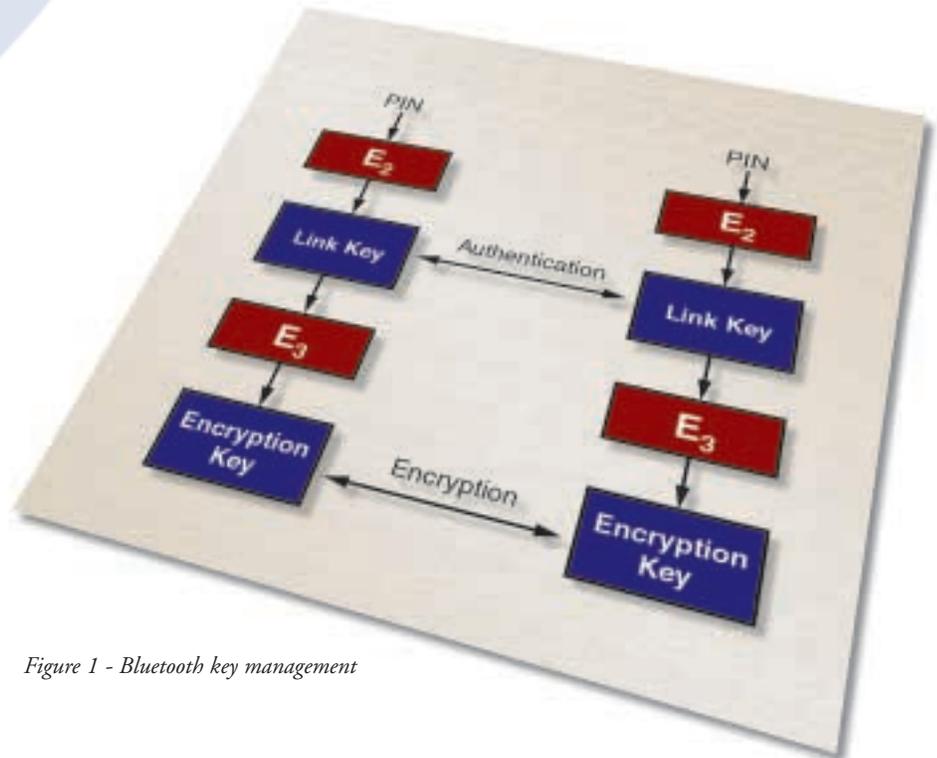


Figure 1 - Bluetooth key management

Bluetooth radio employs a hopping sequence of 1600 hops per second.

FHSS relies on frequency diversity to combat interference. If the radio encounters interference on one frequency, the radio will retransmit the signal on a subsequent hop on another frequency. The aggregate interference will be very low, resulting in little or no bit errors.

Bluetooth Data Integrity – Forward Error Correction (FEC)

Forward error correction reduces the number of retransmissions for a data payload. However, the drawback is that it can tremendously reduce the achievable throughput. There are three types of forward error correction that are implemented by Bluetooth technology:

- 1/3 rate FEC – Each header bit is repeated three times. It is primarily used for masking errors in the header, which contains vital link information.
- 2/3 rate FEC – Every ten information bits are encoded into a 15-bit code word. This type of error correction is primarily used for sending data packets in the least vulnerable way.

- Automatic Repeat reQuest (ARQ) – Used to transmit and retransmit data packets, among other things, until the reception of those packets is acknowledged from the recipient. The recipient returns the acknowledgement in the header sent back to the sender of the initial packet.

Data Whitening

All the header and payload information is scrambled with data whitening bits before transmission occurs, so that redundant 0's or 1's are eliminated from the transmissions. This can be a problem with analog data signals received by the baseband processor because they need to be classified as 0 or 1. Because there is no reference point such as DC for these signals, you must rely on the last few signal transmissions for calibration purposes. Any long sequential string of 0's or 1's may cause calibration to fail. Hence data whitening is used to scramble these signals so that the probability of long strings of 0's or 1's is significantly reduced.

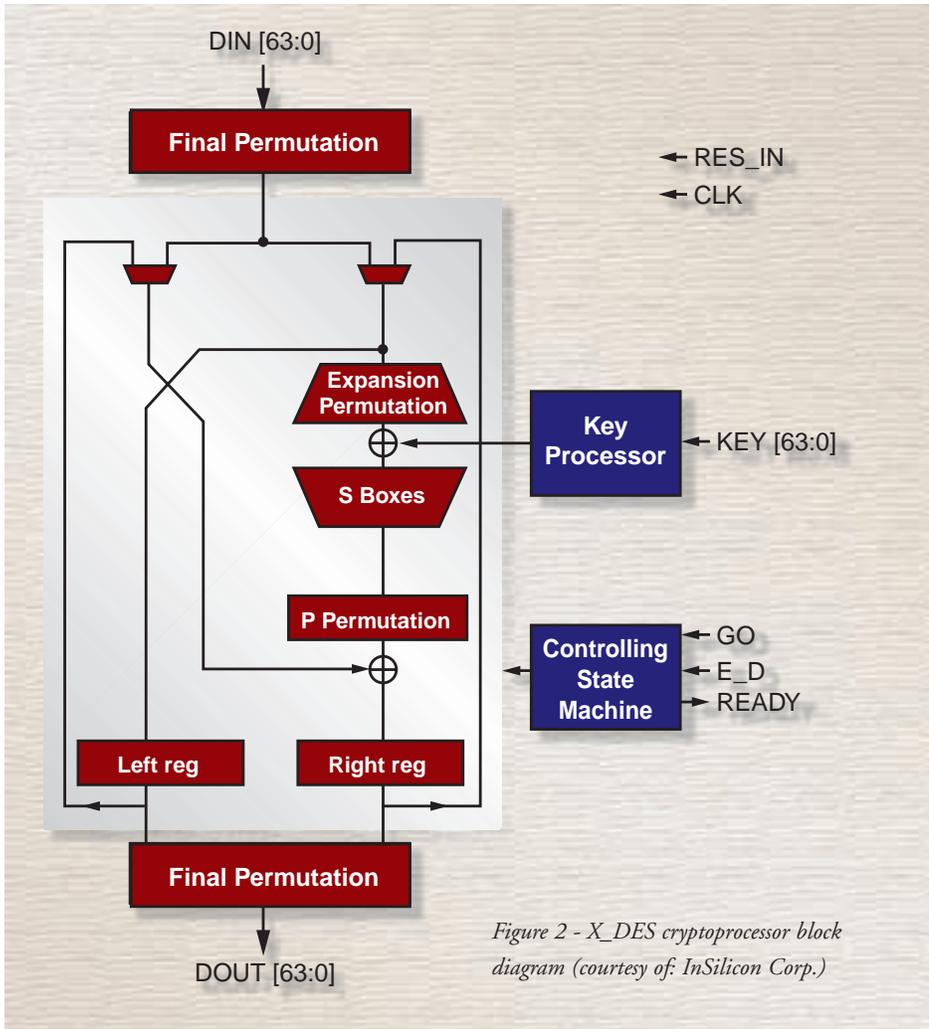


Figure 2 - X_DES cryptoprocessor block diagram (courtesy of: InSilicon Corp.)

Programmable Solutions for Advanced Data Security

Bluetooth data security is inadequate for most applications where a high level of confidentiality is of the utmost importance. It seems to be adequate for smaller applications, but any sensitive or otherwise problematic data should not be transmitted via Bluetooth. For example, the encryption scheme used in Bluetooth shows some weaknesses. In one possible scenario, an attacker can obtain the encryption key that secures communication between two devices and can then eavesdrop on their messages. The attacker also could claim to be one of the devices and insert false messages. One way to avoid this, Lucent Technologies says, is for the users to employ lengthy personal identification numbers to increase the difficulty of discovering the encryption keys.

This again involves manually entering personal identification numbers (PINs). This can quickly become a nuisance; it is a tedious process to secure the connection.

Another way to overcome these security issues would be to use a more robust encryption algorithm, such as Data Encryption Standard (DES), or even Triple DES, or Advanced Encryption Standard (AES), instead of the stream cipher E0 algorithm. DES is a block cipher, which essentially means that the cipher encrypts blocks of data all at once and then proceeds to the next block. In DES, the original message is divided into fixed length blocks of 64 bits, enciphered using a 56-bit secret key into a 64-bit encrypted message by means of permutation and substitution. A block diagram of DES is shown in Figure 2.

Unlike the Bluetooth stream cipher algorithm, it has been mathematically proved

that the block ciphers are completely secure. The DES block cipher is highly random, nonlinear, and produces encrypted text that functionally depends on every bit of the original message and the key. The DES has more than 72 quadrillion (72 x 10¹⁵) possible encryption keys that can be used. For each given message, the key is chosen at random, from among this enormous number of keys. The DES algorithm is widely used and is considered very dependable, however, an even more secure variant, Triple DES, which applies DES three times with different keys, in succession is also available.

Both of these encryption algorithms – DES and Triple DES – can be implemented using low-cost programmable logic devices and readily available intellectual property (IP) for a higher level of encryption. Today, you can buy 100,000 system gate Spartan™ FPGAs in volume, off the shelf, and ready to go, for just \$10 per unit. These FPGAs also allow additional functionality, such as advanced error correction, to be added to a design as well. Hence, these devices enable drastic system-level cost reductions.

Another encryption algorithm that is gaining rapid acceptance (due its superior robustness and optimal implementation in hardware and software) is AES, also called Rijndael. AES is a 128-bit block cipher with selectable 128, 192, or 256-bit key lengths. AES encryption and decryption blocks can be implemented individually or as a whole in programmable logic. In addition, the key generator can be parameterized based on key length. A programmable logic-based implementation is modular and also allows you to choose a hardware implementation based on the level of security desired. Shown in Figure 3 is a block diagram of AES. The cost on a silicon basis for this encryption core with a 128-bit key generator is less than \$2 today. Variations can be implemented depending on the end application security requirements.

Software-based encryption solutions offer high flexibility, but low performance. Hardware-based encryption solutions provide high performance, yet provide very little flexibility once designed. An encryption solution based on programmable logic provides the best of both worlds – you get high levels of flexibility as well as high performance.

A more robust encryption algorithm will allow Bluetooth technology to be safely deployed in a wide range of applications where security is of the utmost importance. This includes:

- Electronic financial transactions such as ATM or Smart Cards
- Secure e-commerce transactions
- Secure office communications
- Secure video surveillance system
- Digital set-top boxes
- HDTV
- Other consumer electronics devices.

Programmable Solutions for Advanced Data Integrity

The Bluetooth specification defines measures that are effective for preventing unintentional errors from being transmitted using data whitening and error checking. However, a particular stream of data, which would consistently cause transmission errors, is theoretically possible, but highly unlikely in normal transactions.

There is still a risk of error-prone transmissions in more hostile environments, such as industrial locations, office buildings, airports, and metropolitan public transportation. In locations like these, noise and interference from other multiple Bluetooth devices, wireless networks, phone systems, or other electronic devices operating on the same frequency band can cause problems. Again, programmable logic and advanced error-correction IP can be used to facilitate error-free communication. A robust forward error correction technique, such as turbo convolution coding, is an alternative for a hostile communications environment.

Turbo coding is an advanced forward error correction algorithm. It is a standard component in third-generation (3G) wireless communication systems, like those employing wideband code division multiple access. The principle of turbo coding is that the encoder generates a data stream consisting of two independently encoded data streams and a single un-encoded data stream. The two parity streams are weakly correlated due to the interleaving. In the turbo decoder, the two parity streams are separately decoded with soft decision outputs, referred to as “extrinsic” information.

The strength of the turbo decoding results from the sharing of the extrinsic information during a number of iterations. The extrinsic information is passed from one parity decoding step to the other, from one iteration to the other. IP for such a turbo convolution codec is readily available and is easily implemented on low cost programmable logic devices such as the Xilinx Spartan series. This solution can ensure the integrity of Bluetooth data transmissions in hostile and error-prone environments.

Conclusion

Bluetooth wireless technology is changing the way we communicate. However, it still faces challenges on the level of data security and integrity for secure applications. Low-cost programmable logic devices are ideally suited for advanced data security and integrity implementation. This will be a necessity for those who wish to implement higher levels of security into applications where security is of the utmost importance. Also, applications that will be in operation in hostile environments will benefit from a customizable programmable logic implementation. Programmable logic is an excellent solution for integrating custom Bluetooth implementations, such as these, into embedded systems. ❧

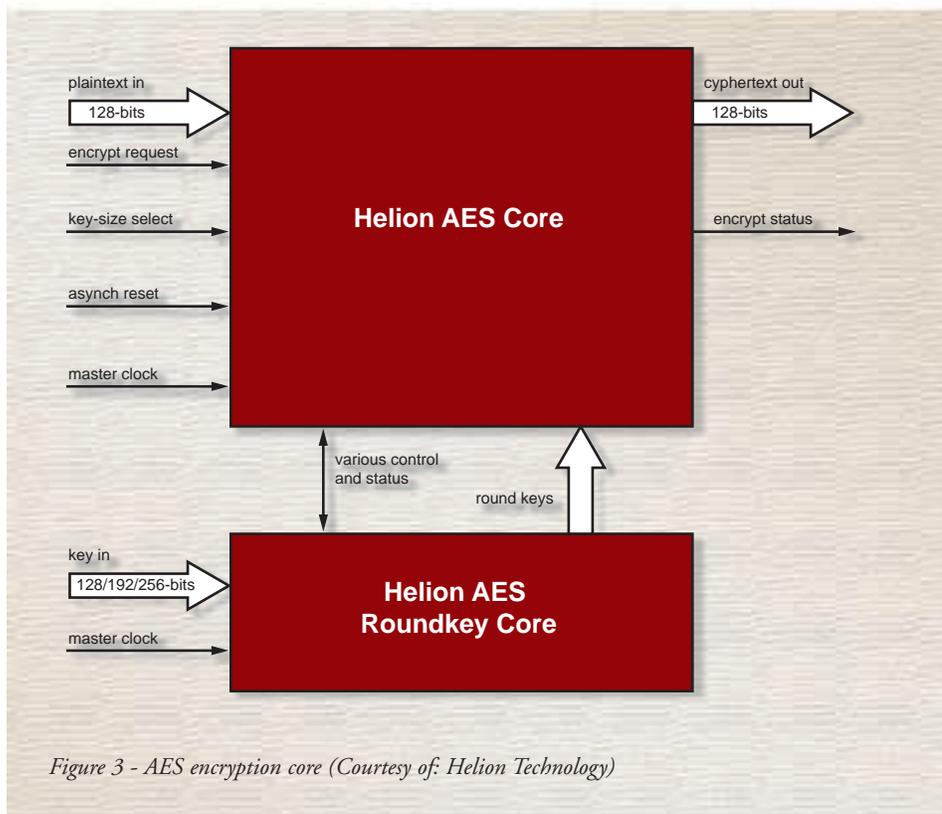


Figure 3 - AES encryption core (Courtesy of: Helion Technology)

IEEE 1394 and HAVi Are the Leading Technologies for Wired Home Networking

Home networking promises to be one of the hottest new markets in consumer electronics – and the combination of IEEE 1394 and HAVi technologies show the most promise to become the standard for home networking.

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The consumer world is buzzing with news and standards to network home appliances, PCs, peripherals, and other consumer devices. A number of technologies are vying to be the next technology to network all appliances in the home. Some of these 22 technologies include HomeRF™, Bluetooth™, HiperLAN2, IEEE 802.11, Ethernet, HomePNA™, USB 2.0, and IEEE 1394.

Although each technology presents unique pros and cons, the technologies that require wires do provide one critical capability – the ability to deliver reliable high-speed voice, data, and video transfer. Home networking is incomplete without the ability to transfer voice, data, and video together.

Ethernet, USB 1.1/2.0, and IEEE 1394 top the list of these “new wires” technologies:

- Ethernet is a low-cost technology, which uses a protocol ideal for data traffic.
- USB 1.1 and its more recent specification USB 2.0 are primarily PC-centric – networking PCs and PC peripherals.
- IEEE 1394 is the technology that holds the most promise to be the perfect home networking technology that will network audio, video, and PC equipment.

IEEE 1394 Background

The move from analog to digital technology has enabled the sharing of video, Internet, data, and audio. Consumers are constantly searching for faster, cheaper, more reliable, and easier ways of transferring and sharing information. While information sharing has been happening at the enterprise level for the last few years, the home is just seeing its introduction. This phenomenon, known as home networking, allows the interconnection of PCs, consumer equipment, and communications, and the distribution of infotainment among these appliances.

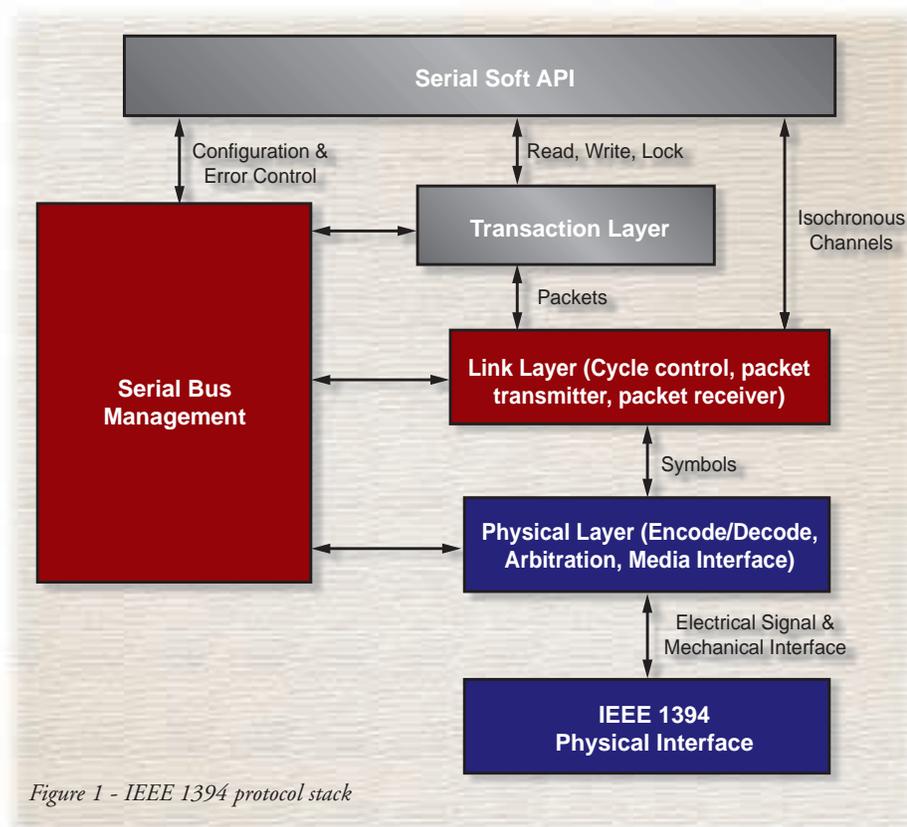


Figure 1 - IEEE 1394 protocol stack

The convergence of voice, data, and video in the home will happen only when seamless, high-speed communication becomes readily available. IEEE 1394 is one such interconnection technology that will enable connection of these devices throughout the home. IEEE 1394, also known as 1394, FireWire™ or iLink™, is a versatile, high-speed, and inexpensive method of interconnecting a variety of consumer electronic devices (such as digital TV, set-top boxes, and home theater equipment), PCs, and PC peripherals (such as scanners and printers).

The FireWire bus standard, originally created by Apple Computer, was born out of the need for a low cost, consumer-oriented connection between digital-video recorders and PCs. FireWire technology grew into a standard – called IEEE 1394 – for low cost, high data rate connections. In 1994, the 1394 Trade Association (1394ta) was formed to support and promote the adoption of the IEEE 1394 standard. In 1995, the 1394ta formally released the

1394 specification. Further revisions like 1394a in 1998 and 1394b in 1999, were introduced. The 1394b standard is fully backward compatible with the current 1394 and 1394a specifications. Each revision of 1394 has added features, performance, and capabilities.

IEEE 1394 Architecture

The components that form a 1394-based home network include the actual protocol itself, the cabling system, and the architectural design of the network. Similar to other high-speed networking systems, IEEE 1394 adopts a layered approach to transmitting data across a physical medium. The four layers used by the IEEE 1394 protocol are shown in Figure 1.

Physical Layer

The physical layer provides the electrical and mechanical connection between the 1394 appliance (connector) and the cable itself. Besides the actual data transmission and reception tasks, the physical layer also provides arbitration to insure all devices

have fair access to the bus. As its physical media, 1394 requires optical fiber or high-grade copper wiring between the appliances. The 1394 physical layer is physically point-to-point and logically a bus (each node is a repeater).

The physical layer transmits the unstructured, raw, bit stream over a physical medium, and describes the electrical, mechanical, and functional interface to the carrier. It provides the linking to the upper sessions via signaling and the initialization and arbitration services necessary to assure that only one node at a time is sending data. The physical layer of the 1394 protocol includes electrical signaling, mechanical connectors and cabling, arbitration mechanisms, serial coding and decoding of the data being transferred or received, and transfer speed detection.

Link Layer

The link layer takes the raw data from the physical layer and formats it into two types of recognizable 1394 packets – asynchronous and isochronous.

Asynchronous data transfer is the conventional transmit-acknowledgment protocol and puts the emphasis on guaranteed delivery of data, with less emphasis on guaranteed timing.

Isochronous data transfer is a real-time guaranteed-bandwidth protocol for just-in-time delivery of information. It puts the emphasis on the guaranteed timing of the data and less emphasis on delivery. Isochronous transfers are always broadcast in a one-to-one or one-to-many fashion. No error correction or retransmission is available for isochronous transfers.

Transaction Layer

The third layer in the IEEE 1394 protocol is called the transaction layer and is responsible for managing the commands that are executed across the home network. It supports the asynchronous protocol write, read, and lock commands. A write sends data from the originator to the receiver, and a read returns the data to the originator.

Serial Bus Management

The fourth and final logical grouping of functions is responsible for the overall configuration control of the serial bus. It controls the serial bus in the form of optimizing arbitration timing, guarantee of adequate electrical power for all devices on the bus, assignment of which 1394 device is the cycle master, assignment of isochronous channel ID, and basic notification of errors. The bus management is built upon IEEE 1212 standard register architecture.

Benefits of IEEE 1394

- Broad industry and standards bodies support
- Low cost
- High and scalable speeds
- Plug and play
- Nonproprietary.

IEEE 1394 is an enabling technology for connecting multimedia devices, such as:

- Digital camcorders and VCRs
- Satellite modems
- Set-top boxes
- Digital TV
- PCs
- DVD players
- Gaming consoles
- Home theater
- Musical synthesizers/samplers with digital audio capabilities
 - Digital audio tape (DAT) recorders
 - Mixers
 - Hard-disk recorders
- Video editors.

HAVi Background

HAVi (Home Audio/Video interoperability) is an industry initiative started by Sony and Philips in 1996. Since then six other companies have joined – Thomson, Hitachi, Toshiba, Matsushita, Sharp, and Grundig.

HAVi adopted the IEEE 1394 bus standard as the underlying network technology for the HAVi protocols and for the transport of real-time audio/video (A/V) streams. Using 1394 as the bus standard (shown in Figure 2) provides benefits, such

as high-speed, flexible connectivity, and the ability to link up to 63 appliances together. No other interconnection technologies, such as wireless, HomePlug™, HomePNA, and USB, are capable of distributing high-speed video applications.

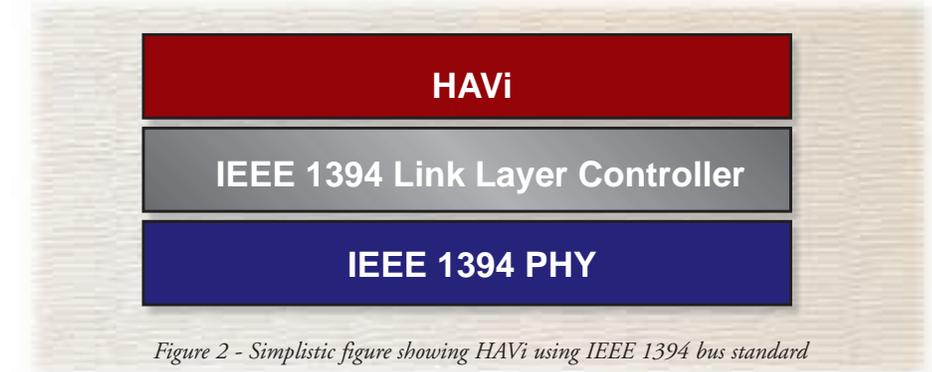


Figure 2 - Simplistic figure showing HAVi using IEEE 1394 bus standard

The HAVi middleware architecture is an open (nonproprietary), lightweight, and platform-independent specification that allows development of home networking applications. It does not, however, address home networking functions such as controlling the lights or monitoring the climate within the house. HAVi specifically focuses on the transfer of digital A/V content between in-home digital appliances, as well as the processing (rendering, recording, and playback) of this content by HAVi-enabled appliances.

The HAVi middleware system is independent of any particular operating system or CPU and can be implemented on a range of hardware platforms, including digital products such as cable modems, set-top boxes, integrated TVs, Internet TVs, or intelligent storage appliances for A/V content.

Today in the world of analog consumer electronic appliances, there exist a number of proprietary solutions for interoperability among appliances from one brand or ven-

dor. In the upcoming world of digital technologies, HAVi extends this networking model by allowing communication among consumer electronic appliances from multiple brands in the home. The HAVi middleware architecture specifies a set of APIs

(application programming interfaces) that allow consumer electronic manufacturers and software engineering companies to develop applications for IEEE 1394-based home networks. One of the main reasons HAVi selected IEEE 1394 over other transmission protocols is because of its support for isochronous communications. HAVi comprises software elements that facilitate the interoperability among different brands of entertainment appliances within the house. Interoperability is an industry term that refers to the ability of an application running on an in-home appliance to detect and use the functionality of other appliances that are connected to the home network.

The underlying structure for a home network based on HAVi technologies is a peer-to-peer network, where all appliances can talk to and interact with each other. HAVi has been designed to allow the incremental addition of new appliances, which will most likely result in a number of interconnected clusters of appliances. Typically, there will be several clusters of networks in the home, with one per floor or per room. Over time these clusters will be connected with technologies such as 1394 long or wireless 1394.

Benefits of HAVi

A HAVi-compliant appliance offers a number of advantages, which include:

- Automatic detection
- Automatic registration of added appliance to the HAVi network
- Automatic software upgrades
- Manageability
- Brand independence
- Hot plug-and-play
- Legacy appliance support.

Xilinx Programmable Solutions Enable IEEE 1394/HAVi Products

The IEEE 1394 technology consists of a physical layer for encoding-decoding, arbitration, a medium interface, and provides an electrical signal and mechanical interface. The link layer provides cycle control, packet transmits, packet receives, CRC, and provides the host and application interface.

As shown in Figure 3, programmable logic solutions provide complete link layer functionality with the ability to connect to multiple interfaces such as PCI, USB, and proprietary audio-video buses. The advantage of programmability is realized when there is a proprietary application interface. However, in an IEEE 1394 system, the Spartan™-II FPGA provides system interface and other ASSP functionalities.

With the 1394 specification still continuing to evolve, having the link layer controller programmed in a FPGA provides the ability to reprogram the FPGA with the latest 1394 revision.

Supporting different products requires the support and interface to different interfaces. For example, using 1394 in a PC requires an interface to PCI, PCMCIA, and other proprietary interfaces. Programmable solutions are ideal for providing this interface, because developing ASSPs for these applications is relatively expensive. Also, the decreasing cost of programmable logic solutions makes them ideal for IEEE 1394 and HAVi-based products.

Conclusion

The digital home continues to evolve and smarter appliances continue to populate the home. These smarter appliances and the need for sharing broadband data, voice, and video are pushing the need for home networking. Although several technologies exist, the technology that provides high-speed and reliable delivery of voice, data, and video will win.

IEEE 1394 is one such home networking technology that provides both high-speed and reliable delivery. The proliferation of 1394 as the A/V standard will be accelerated through the use of HAVi as its middleware solution to connect disparate devices, thus providing a complete solution to the consumer.

However, the specification continues to evolve and 1394 products need to coexist with other home networking and system interface technologies, thus requiring products that interface between these technologies. With the continuing reduction in prices of programmable logic solutions, these are ideal solutions to provide interfaces between 1394 and other technologies such as PCI, USB, PCI-X, SCSI, and HomePNA. ❌

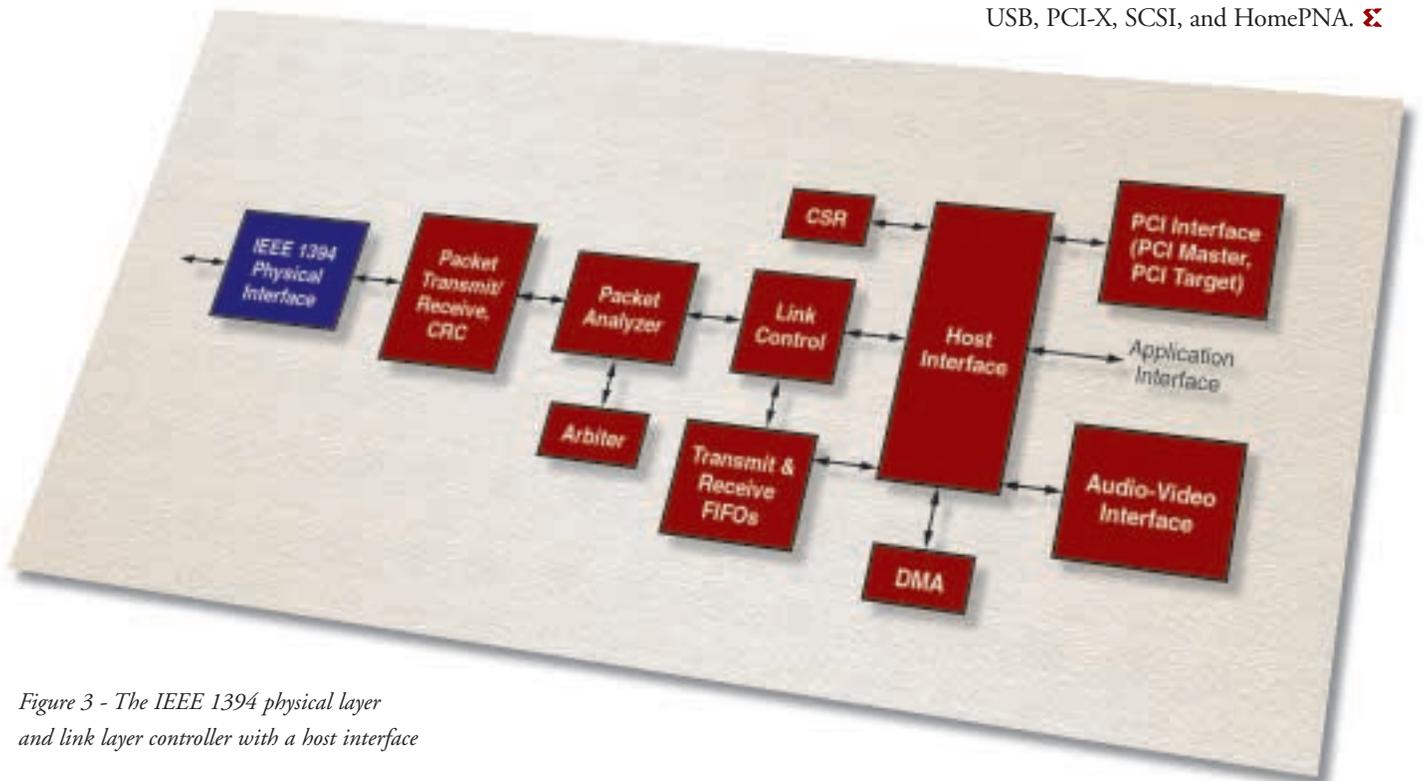


Figure 3 - The IEEE 1394 physical layer and link layer controller with a host interface

You Can Take It with You: On the Road with Xilinx

Xilinx products and technology are putting office technology and functionality into next-generation automobiles.

by Karen Parnell, Manager
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Today's consumers demand the comforts of home and the productivity of the office when they drive. They also want the latest in information and safety systems for their cars. The resulting convergence requires interface standards and protocols to interconnect and interoperate. These standards and protocols are still emerging, and will get even more complicated before being standardized. The result is a manufacturing dilemma. Should manufacturers make an educated guess now as to which standard will prevail, and risk making the wrong choice? Or should they wait for the standards to be fixed, and risk getting left behind?

Xilinx has the answer. With Xilinx IQ programmable logic solutions for automotive applications, manufacturers can win the time-to-market battle risk free by using the ability to reconfigure their products to accommodate any standard – past, present, or future. Reconfigurable logic in production allows manufacturers to reconfigure the units in-car to implement new hardware-based features. Xilinx high-volume IQ FPGA and CPLD devices are cost-effective solutions that retain the traditional PLD time to market advantage. As a result, many leading telematics and infotainment product manufacturers use Xilinx programmable logic devices. These manufacturers recognize the added flexibility and time to market benefits that programmable logic solutions provide.

Driving Your Office

Information Age professionals need to be able to work from wherever they happen to be – from home, from hotel rooms, from airports, from 36,000 feet over the Atlantic. They need to take their offices with them.

The laptop computer was a critical step in the development of offices-on-the-go, but now workers are demanding even more. One result has been the in-car office. The automobile is no longer just a way to get from Point A to Point B. Now it can include GPS navigation with intelligent route finding, integrated PDA functions, built-in mobile communications, entertainment systems, and even in-dash personal computers.

Automotive electronic designers face the same challenges as designers of consumer

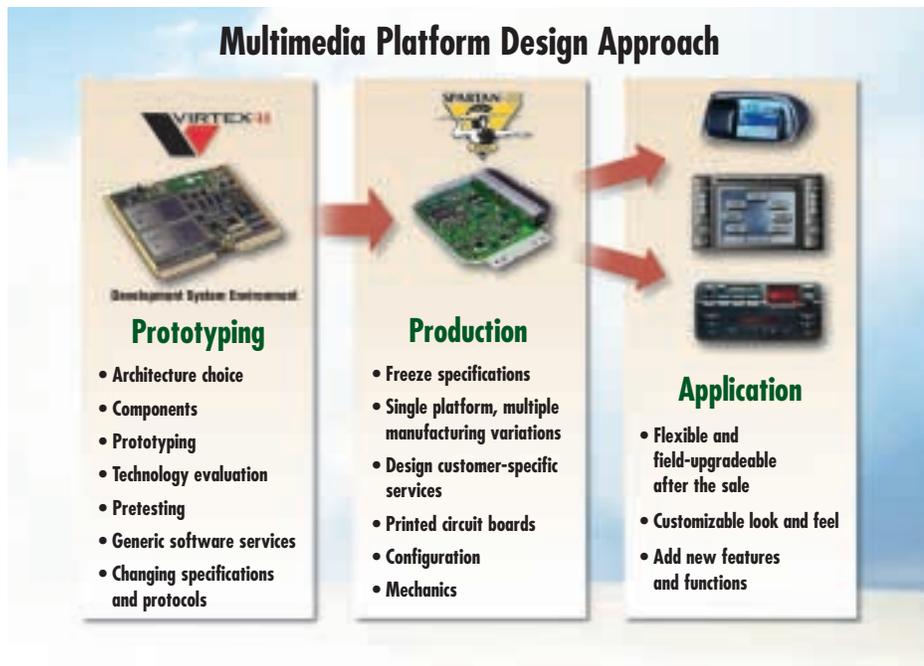


Figure 1 - Automotive multimedia platform design approach

equipment. They must grapple with time to market pressures, cost restrictions, and a profusion of new standards and protocols. They also face added challenges like a constrained design area, and the need for a simple user interface so drivers can keep their eyes on the road.

As one example of the new technology, the latest BMW 7 Series automobiles allow the driver to operate the car's heating and air conditioning, entertainment systems, wireless communications devices, navigation instruments, and PC applications, all on a single display, by means of a joy-stick type of device.

Xilinx programmable logic devices enable automotive designers to provide their customers with a more informative, productive, safe, and entertaining in-car environment. By using the flexibility, time to market advantage, and after-sale reconfigurability of Xilinx devices, manufacturers can be first to market and best in class long after the sale.

The Automotive Multimedia Platform

As more information and entertainment systems are added to automobiles, there's an inevitable conflict among the bewildering array of standards and protocols being tested, including Bluetooth™, BlueCAN, MOST (media-oriented system transport), FireWire™, CAN (controller area net-

work), TTP (time triggered protocol), and Flex Ray™ technologies.

Designers of in-car multimedia systems may soon have to provide for traffic information systems, Internet and Web access, electronic game consoles, MPEG music download capability, digital radio reception, and mobile commerce services.

Designers must ensure that the car's multimedia system can communicate with the automobile's other devices. For example, the car should automatically detect a new mobile phone and connect it seamlessly to the car's communications network. This demand for automatic connectivity may soon extend to



Figure 2 - Acunia automotive development platform with Xilinx Spartan-II FPGA and CoolRunner™ CPLD onboard

PDA's, portable PCs, MP3 players, and other personal portable electronic equipment.

As in-car and consumer functions converge – and new automotive and consumer standards and protocols emerge – designers have begun to prototype multimedia platforms that can provide as much, or as little, functionality as required. The best way to create such multimedia platforms is to design reconfigurable hardware. Engineers can program reconfigurable hardware late in the production flow to provide custom functionality on a standard hardware platform. At the same time, they can configure the hardware to accommodate new standards.

Figure 1 shows the automotive multimedia platform design approach. This concept allows upgrades throughout the life of the car. Designers can implement these upgrades remotely by means of wireless communications and Internet connectivity. Xilinx Internet Reconfigurable Logic (IRL™) technology makes this remote upgrading process possible.

With Xilinx IRL technology, designers can upgrade, modify, and fix systems long after the car leaves the dealership. For example, an engineer could remotely add a new MP3 player to an in-car multimedia system, or upgrade the system with the latest protocol. This same technology can even disable the multimedia unit if it is stolen, then re-enable it when it is returned to the rightful owner.

Multimedia System Design Flow Using FPGAs

The multimedia platform should ideally be based on one Human Machine Interface (HMI). This HMI allows the user to access all functions by means of a touch screen. If the functions are implemented in software and reconfigurable hardware, the manufacturer or dealer can upgrade the system even after the buyer has driven the car away.

The new way of developing in-car systems is to prototype with FPGAs in a generic development environment. The designer can develop the elements quickly and easily without fixing specifications. This initial prototyping phase can be realized using Virtex™-II Platform FPGAs. At this early stage, the designer can try, test, and debug the different standards, protocols, and functions by using the headroom provided by a large FPGA.

As the design firms up, the specifications are frozen. The designer can then select the specific standard, protocol, or function from the many tested. This move from prototype to production enables the designer to optimize the design and fit it into smaller, lower cost FPGAs, such as Spartan™-IIE programmable logic devices. This migration from Virtex-II™ to Spartan-IIE FPGAs still allows for future system upgradability via IRL connectivity.

Once the device is in production, the engineer can use the FPGA as an aid in total printed circuit board testing with JTAG techniques. If necessary, the engineer can

also tweak and enhance the design even at this late stage.

Recognizing the need for intelligent prototyping platforms for use by in-car multimedia designers, leading next-generation telematics technology providers such as Acunia have produced the Xingu™ telematics platform shown in Figure 2.

Conclusion

The final stage is the look and feel of the product. Each car manufacturer can customize the product to fit into a specific dashboard (or fascia). All of the produc-

tion multimedia units are built up around the standard FPGA-based platform. The designer can program this standard platform with its personality late in the production flow to accommodate last-minute design changes or end-user preferences.

For more information, visit these websites:

Xilinx Automotive IQ Solutions:
www.xilinx.com/automotive/

Acunia: www.acunia.com

BMW 7 Series Sedan:
www.bmw.com/bmw/products/automobiles/7er/sedan/ 

Xilinx IQ Solutions – Creating Automotive Intelligence

To address the needs of automotive telematics designers, Xilinx has created a new family of devices with an extended industrial temperature range option. This new “IQ” family consists of existing Xilinx industrial grade (I) FPGAs and CPLDs with the addition of a new extended temperature grade (Q), available for selected devices. The new IQ product grade (-40°C to +125°C ambient for CPLDs and junction for FPGAs) is ideal for automotive and industrial applications. See Table 1.

The wide range of device density and package combinations enable you to deliver cost effective, high performance, flexible solutions to meet your most extreme application needs. See Table 2.

With Xilinx IQ devices, you can design flexibility into your application and get your product to market faster than ever before. Because many new standards are evolving – such as the MOST (media-oriented system transport) and FlexRay™ in-car bussing protocols – you need the flexibility to quickly modify your designs at any time. With our Internet Reconfigurable Logic (IRL™) capability, you can remotely and automatically modify your designs, in the field, after your product has left the factory, and even after the sale.

Temperature Grade/Range °C			
Products Group	C	I	Q
FPGA	T _J = 0 to +85	T _J = -40 to +100	T _J = -40 to +125
CPLD	T _A = 0 to +70	T _A = -40 to +85	T _A = -40 to +125

Table 1 - IQ temperature range

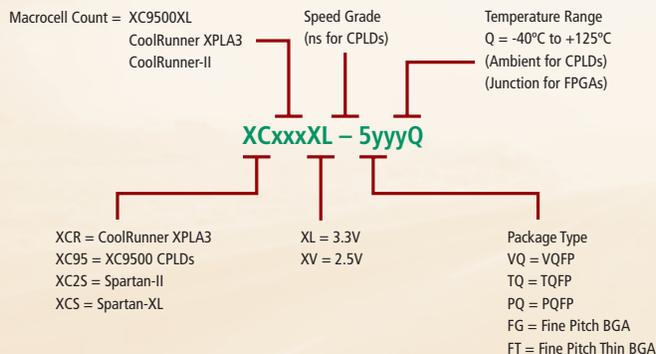
Device Family	Availability
Spartan-XL (3.3V)	NOW - XC950XL, XC9510XL, XC9520XL, XC9530XL, XC9540XL
XC9500XL (3.3V)	NOW - XC9536XL, XC9572XL
CoolRunner XPLA3 (3.3V)	Q3 - 02
Spartan-II (2.5V)	Q3 - 02
CoolRunner-II (1.8V)	Q1 - 03
Spartan-IIE (1.8V)	Q1 - 03

Table 2 - Device availability schedule

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How to Build an Efficient FIR Filter Using System Generator

Xilinx System Generator 2.2 software enables high-level modeling and implementation of DSP systems in Xilinx Platform FPGAs to outperform traditional DSP processors.



**XILINX
SYSTEM
GENERATOR™**
For DSP

by Jim Hwang, Senior Manager
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Platform FPGAs have become key components for implementing high-performance digital signal processing (DSP) systems, especially in digital communications, video, and image processing applications. FPGAs have memory bandwidth that far exceeds that of microprocessors and DSP processors running at clock rates two to ten times faster, and unlike processors, Platform FPGAs possess the ability to implement highly parallel custom signal processing architectures.

One of the main impediments to wider adoption of FPGAs for signal processing has been the relative unfamiliarity with FPGA technology within the DSP community. What is needed are tools that speak the language of signal processing engineers – for example, MATLAB™ language and Simulink™ design tools from The MathWorks, Inc. – while also supporting FPGA designers who already know how to achieve the highest performance circuit using the least number of FPGA resources.

The new Xilinx System Generator 2.2 software meets the needs of both DSP engineers and FPGA designers. System Generator enables high-level modeling and implementation of DSP systems in the Virtex-II Pro™, Virtex™-II, Virtex, and Spartan™-II families of FPGAs. New in the 2.2 release is an increased capability to generate hardware that approaches the efficiency of hand-crafted modules, both in terms of performance and resource usage. In this article, we describe how System Generator can be used to create a custom FIR (finite impulse response) filter, an operation that lies at the heart of most signal processing systems. We demonstrate that in addition to accessing high-level Xilinx LogiCORE™ modules, you can use your own FPGA knowledge to advantage in customizing a filter data path to minimize resources while achieving high performance. You will see how System Generator provides a wide range of options for implementing signal processing systems.

Xilinx System Generator

The Xilinx System Generator is a state-of-the-art “on-ramp” that allows you to move a DSP algorithm into a Xilinx FPGA quickly and easily. System Generator extends the capabilities of the Simulink system-level simulation environment with bit and cycle-true modeling of an FPGA circuit. System Generator simultaneously provides access to key features in the FPGA fabric, including SRL16E shift register logic, distributed and block memory, and embedded multipliers.

System Generator includes a Simulink library of functional blocks for building DSP, arithmetic, and digital logic circuits. These polymorphic blocks compute their output types based on their inputs, although alternatively, you can specify their quantized output types explicitly. You can combine Xilinx blocks with MATLAB and Simulink blocks to create a realistic test bench and to analyze data computed by your model. The high level of abstraction provided by System Generator greatly simplifies algorithm development and verification.

In addition to a system-level modeling library, System Generator includes a code generator that automatically generates a synthesizable VHDL netlist from your Simulink model. This netlist includes IP (intellectual property) blocks that have been carefully designed for high performance and density in Xilinx FPGAs. System Generator also creates project and constraint files to assist implementation using the Xilinx Foundation™ ISE 4.2i and soon-to-be-released ISE 5.1i tools, as well as the major synthesis tools.

Building an FIR Filter

As a simple but instructive example, let’s consider how System Generator can be used to create a parametric finite impulse response (FIR) filter. An N-tap FIR filter

is defined by its impulse response, a length N sequence of filter coefficients: h_0, h_1, \dots, h_{N-1} . If x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots , is a sequence of input values, where by convention, we define $x_i=0$ for $i < 0$, the filter output sequence y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots is defined by the convolution sum

$$y_n = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} h_i x_{n-i}$$

That is, the filter output at time n is computed by accumulating a sum of products of the filter coefficients with the N most recent input samples.

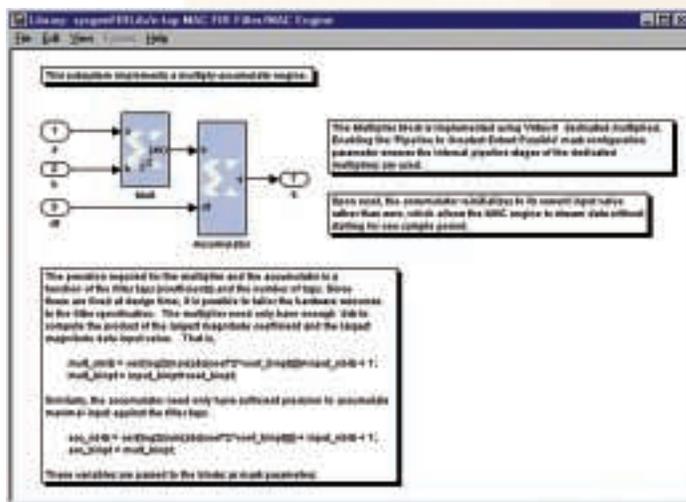


Figure 1 - Multiply-accumulate engine

In practice, all numbers must be represented with a finite number of bits. With a traditional processor, numeric data are typically represented as 8, 16, or 32-bit integers, or in a floating-point representation. In contrast, in an FPGA, we have no such word length limitations. We can create a custom data path processor having an arithmetic precision tailored to the application. System Generator supports this capability by providing an arbitrary precision fixed-point data type. Each block allows us to specify its output precision and the policy for handling quantization and overflow. We can model the system in the Simulink environment under a number of scenarios, and analyze the data to ensure exactly the right precision for the application.

Mapping the Algorithm onto an FPGA

You can implement an FIR filter in an FPGA in many ways. A versatile approach that maps well onto an FPGA employs a multiply-accumulate (MAC) engine to compute the sum of products. As shown in Figure 1, a MAC unit is easily constructed in System Generator using the multiplier and accumulator blocks. The multiplier can be implemented either in the logic fabric or, for Virtex-II family FPGAs, using dedicated 18-bit x18-bit embedded multipliers. System Generator ensures the underlying IP core provides an efficient implementation. Note that upon reset, the accumulator reinitializes to its current input value rather than zero, to avoid a one-clock cycle stall.

Customizing the Data Path

Although Simulink provides a graphical block editor, System Generator should not be mistaken for a “schematic capture” tool. System Generator models are fully customizable and executable in Simulink without recompilation. (In fact, some blocks can be reconfigured during simulation.) Xilinx blocks support Simulink’s data type propagation capability, and provide extensive error checking on their parameters and usage. Because System Generator is seamlessly integrated with the Simulink tool suite, you can customize Xilinx blocks in ways that are impossible in schematic and other visual tools.

For example, in our System Generator model we can specify the arithmetic precision of the blocks in the data path using MATLAB expressions, making it possible to minimize the hardware used, and still avoid the possibility of overflow. For a filter with k-bit coefficients and m-bit input, we know that the output

$$|y_n| = \left| \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} h_i x_{n-i} \right| \leq \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} |h_i x_{n-i}|$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} |h_i 2^m| = 2^m \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} |h_i|$$

so the accumulator requires no more than $m + \lceil \log_2 \sum |h_i| \rceil$ bits. This is in practice considerably fewer than the $m + k + \lceil \log_2 N \rceil$ bits implied by the input and coefficient precision. The desired accumulator width is, of course, readily expressed in the MATLAB language. (In Figure 1, the binary point in the fixed-point data is also taken into account.) When you know the input values have limited dynamic range, it may be possible to further tighten the bond. The accumulator width we just derived is a function of the input precision and the MATLAB array that stores the filter coefficients, so if you want to change the input precision or change the filter itself, the same model will “right-size” the data path without any modification. The implications of this ability to use the MATLAB interpreter to customize your System Generator model should not be underestimated – it is unrivaled by any other design flow.

Completing the FIR Filter Data Path

As shown in Figure 2, the input data buffer is implemented as an SRL16E-based addressable shift register, and the filter coefficient buffer is implemented as a block memory. (Both are supplied as handcrafted Xilinx LogiCORE™ algorithms.) By storing the filter coefficients in reverse order in memory, the same address counter can be used to drive both buffers.

Because there are N multiply-accumulate operations per input sample, the filter must run internally at N times the data rate to supply a continuous data stream. The capture register on the output of the MAC is used to latch the accumulated sum of products, and its output is down-sampled by N to match the input data rate. This simple filter architecture is quite compact and efficient. A 64-tap non-symmetric filter with

12-bit coefficients and data requires only 110 slices in a Virtex-II XC2V250-6 FPGA, and it runs at 195 MHz, or 3 Msps (ISE 4.2i, production speeds files 1.96).

System Generator provides many ways to tailor the implementation of a design, and changes are tracked automatically and transparently. In the FIR filter, you might choose to use dedicated embedded multipliers for the MAC engine, coupled with a block memory (BRAM) for the coefficient data. (It is natural to do so, because these resources are juxtaposed in the FPGA –

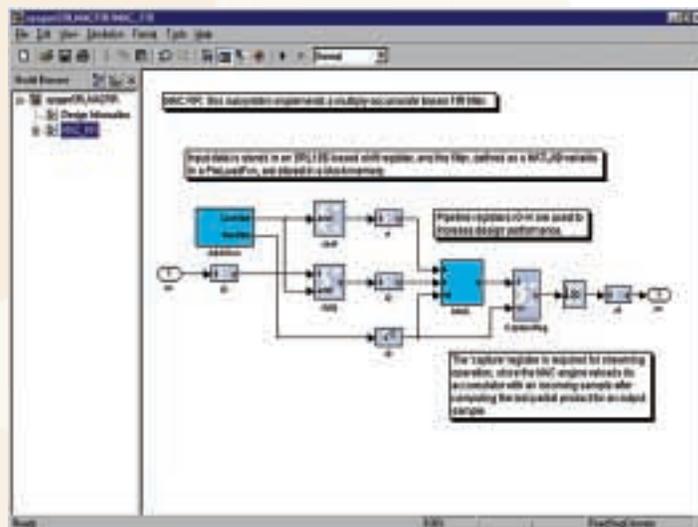


Figure 2 - A multiply-accumulate (MAC)-based FIR filter

although both can also be implemented efficiently in the logic fabric.) Filter throughput can be increased significantly by employing additional MAC engines. System Generator makes this a straightforward extension of our example. When you switch the implementation strategy, latencies are automatically adjusted as necessary in the System Generator model to match the hardware behavior.

Other Implementation Options

Of course, you do not have to build filters from scratch. There is an FIR filter block in the System Generator library that employs distributed arithmetic (DA) to map the computation into the FPGA. This is often the best way to implement a filter, because the underlying IP core sup-

ports many efficient architectures, including fully parallel DA, fully serial DA, half band, polyphase interpolators and decimators, and more.

At the same time, there are occasions when you will want to design a custom filter, for example, to exploit symmetries, take advantage of the embedded Virtex-II multipliers, or to build adaptive filters. While providing a high-level simulation and modeling capability, System Generator also allows you to apply your knowledge of the FPGA to map your algorithm onto specific resources. As we saw in our example, you can often parameterize the design using MATLAB functions, so that changing parameters automatically gives you an appropriately customized implementation.

Conclusion

With Virtex/Virtex-II family FPGAs, handcrafted IP LogiCORE algorithms, and System Generator software, Xilinx is rapidly changing the way people think about DSP. Designing a custom DSP data path processor in an FPGA has never been easier.

This article barely scratches the surface of the capabilities of the Xilinx System Generator. The System Generator 2.2 release includes a number of useful annotated demonstration designs, including a QAM demodulator, concatenated codec for digital video broadcast, discrete wavelet transform, and several extensions of the FIR filter discussed in this article, to name but a few. These demonstration designs can be used as-is, or provide a starting point for you to create your own applications. A full-featured, free, 90-day evaluation version of System Generator 2.2 is available for download from the Xilinx website at www.xilinx.com/systemgenerator_dsp.

For more information on MATLAB and Simulink software, visit www.mathworks.com. Σ

Use Virtex FPGAs and Xilinx Software Tools to Reduce Line Echoes in PSTN and Packet Networks

By using Xilinx software and Virtex FPGAs with DSP capabilities, eInfochips Ltd. brought its line-echo canceller to market faster and better than a traditional DSP chip solution.

by Nilesh Ranpura
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Line echoes occur in public switched telephone networks (PSTN) at so-called “hybrid” points, where 2-wire and 4-wire copper lines are interconnected at the central office. Due to electric current leakage in the hybrid, a part of the signal energy is reflected back to the source of the signal, which causes an echo on the phone line. Likewise, in packet networks, the delays associated with processing the voice stream can also produce an echo on the line.

At eInfochips Ltd., we have developed an echo canceller using Virtex™ FPGAs. We chose Virtex devices because they give us high-speed performance and an edge in area-to-cost ratio over traditional ASIC solutions.

Echo cancellers are advanced signal processing algorithms running on DSPs or fixed-function ASICs that remove line echoes in voice networks. An adaptive FIR filter is used to predict the echo from the history of the transmitted signal.

Echo cancellers can be integrated into a phone system or packet network along with other voice-processing functions, such as subtracter, double-talk detector, nonlinear processor, narrow band signal detector, PCM encoder/decoder, offset null filter, and controller/processor interface, as shown in Figure 1.

Virtex FPGAs: The Obvious Choice

We started our project with the goal of creating a single-channel echo canceller capable of handling an echo tail length of 128 ms. We had the option of using a DSP chip for algorithm implementation, but during the course of development, we discovered we could deploy a Virtex FPGA-based solution with DSP capabilities to achieve echo cancellation of up to 128 ms.

- Programmable double-talk detection threshold
- Nonlinear processor with adaptive suppression threshold for removing the residual echo signals
- Offset null filtering of PCM channels
- Narrow band signal detector conforming to ITU-T G.165 requirements for preventing the divergence of the adaptive filter coefficients
- Selectable μ/A law companding, PCM coding, and sign magnitude.

The core was verified using Industry Standard Vectors compliant with the G.165 standard.

Conclusion

Xilinx Virtex FPGAs support high density and speed with extensive EDA tools support on a wide spectrum of features. The combined solution of Virtex hardware (in this case, the Virtex XCV800 FPGA), associated Xilinx Foundation™ Series software, and the Xilinx ChipScope™ integrated logic analysis tool saved us invaluable time to market.

As a result, of implementing a total Xilinx Virtex solution, we were able to be among the first to bring our echo canceller solution into the emerging areas of Internet gateway, ATM gateway, XDSL technology, cable modem, and wireless telephony. For more information visit www.einfochips.com or write info@einfochips.com. ❧

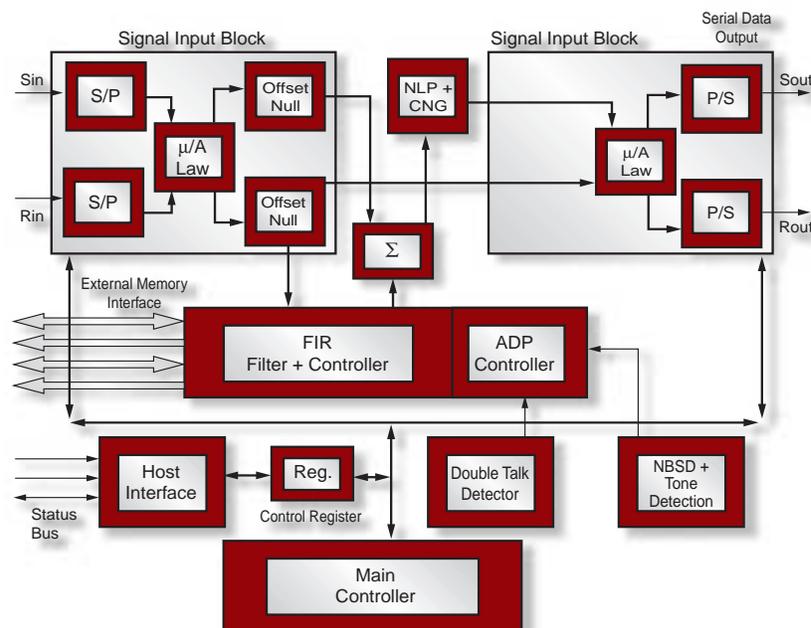


Figure 1 - Echo canceller logic block diagram

The choice was obvious. Not only do Virtex FPGAs have high-speed digital signal processing functions, but they also include extensive flexibility in using block RAM and LUTs as RAM and ROM.

We implemented the following major blocks as a part of the data path design in the FPGA:

- Adaptive FIR filter for estimating the echo signal

SystemIO Solution Expands with Bandwidth Demands

The Xilinx Platform FPGA SystemIO solutions solve the emerging interface challenges for high-speed system interconnectivity.

by Peggy Abusaidi
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Traditional system interfaces, such as the existing PCI and VME parallel bus schemes, cannot keep up with today's ever-growing bandwidth requirements. Therefore, RapidIO™, HyperTransport™, InfiniBand™, PCI Express™ (aka 3GIO), and other high-speed bus interconnect technologies have been developed to open the I/O bottleneck. Figure 1 illustrates the variety of Internet applications that drive the need for more bandwidth.

How do you choose the right I/O interface standards for your systems now – and how do you keep current with the evolving I/O standards in the future? Moreover, how do

you meet your time-to-market and cost goals with minimal risk when the interface standards keep changing?

As shown in Figure 2, Xilinx provides a comprehensive list of Platform FPGA SystemIO Solutions to help you solve the I/O bottleneck problem. SystemIO gives you the ability to implement designs using any of the latest I/O standards. By using a Xilinx Platform FPGA with a SystemIO solution, you can accelerate your time to market and be assured that your designs will remain current even as I/O standards evolve and specifications change. In addition, SystemIO solutions enable you to “future-proof” your products by allowing to you

update the code in the FPGA to bring your product up to compliance – even after the product has been deployed in the field.

Solving the Bandwidth Problem

Today, most computer, embedded processing, and telecommunications equipment are parallel bus-oriented. However, as device performance increases, and demand for bandwidth rises, these multi-drop bus structures are reaching their performance limits. In most cases, these buses can only process one module at a time. This results in idle time for the subsystems waiting for bus access, thus decreasing overall system performance.

The industry's response has been the development of a host of new interconnection schemes, some with data transfer rates exceeding 10 Gbps. The new proposed standards have backers like Intel, AMD, Microsoft, Hewlett-Packard (Compaq), Dell, Xilinx, and Sun Microsystems. In addition to the aforementioned RapidIO, PCI Express, HyperTransport, and InfiniBand technologies, other standards already in use, or evolving toward higher levels of performance, include 10-gigabit attachment unit interface (XAUI), POS-PHY Level 4, Gigabit Ethernet, and various optical ATM formats like OC-12, OC-48, and OC-192. These new or evolving standards cover all architectural environments, such as motherboards in chip-to-chip communication; backplanes for communications between subsystems; and storage, local, and wide area networks (SANs, LANs, and WANs).

Parallel bus standards are divided into two general categories:

- System-Synchronous Parallel – the venerable PCI family of buses, including PCI-X and Compact PCI.
- Source-Synchronous Parallel – RapidIO, HyperTransport, Flexbus 4, POS-PHY Level 3/4, and other protocols.

Because these standards are new and subject to change, FPGAs are the ideal way to ship a product without fear of obsolescence. Plus, the ability to use Xilinx LogiCORE™ intellectual property (IP) cores that implement these complex and timing-critical buses gives you a fast, risk-free method to address a rapidly changing market.

Clearly, the challenges you face are greater than ever. Not only are product life cycles shorter, simple evolutionary product steps are no longer sufficient with the multitude of standards hitting the market. When you consider that most of these standards are not final, the challenge to get your product

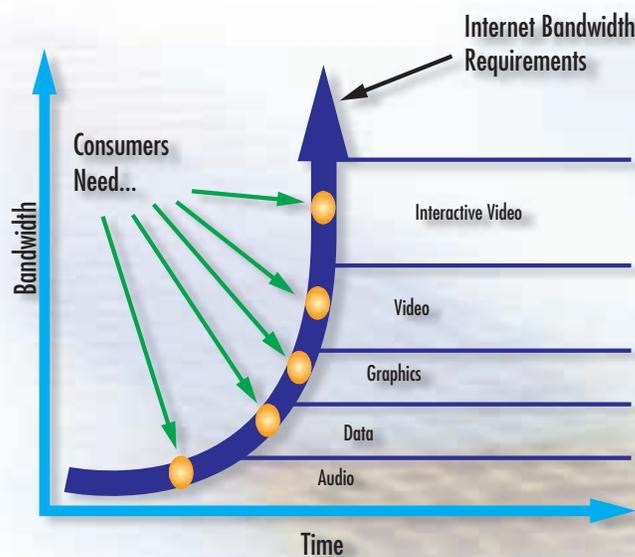


Figure 1- Internet bandwidth trend

right on the first iteration is daunting. That's why the ability to rapidly change your design to meet changes in the standards and markets is incredibly valuable. Further, the ability to leverage your design efforts with pre-engineered, pre-verified, and supported LogiCORE IP cores allows you to create more functionality in less time than ever before.

The SystemIO Solution

The Xilinx Platform FPGA SystemIO Solution uses the unique Virtex™-II

SelectIO™-Ultra blocks to provide the fastest and most flexible electrical interfaces available. Each user I/O pin is individually programmable for 19 single-ended I/O standards or six differential I/O standards, including LVDS, SSTL, HSTL, and GTL+. The SystemIO solution is capable of delivering 840 Mbps double data rate (DDR) and 644 MHz single data rate (SDR) LVDS performance. Furthermore, any two I/O pins can be used as a differential pair, providing maximum board layout flexibility and reducing overall system cost by saving both component and board layer costs.

Using Virtex-II 840 Mbps LVDS performance and an abundance of memory and logic resources, you can easily create designs using 1GE (Gigabit Ethernet) and 10GE MAC, PCI and PCI-X, POS-PHY Levels 3 and 4, RapidIO, HyperTransport, and Flexbus 4 protocols. Free reference designs for implementing interfaces, such as SFI-4, XSBI, XGMII, and CSIX are available from the Xilinx website. Table 1 shows the Platform FPGA SystemIO Solutions Summary, including both IP cores and reference designs.

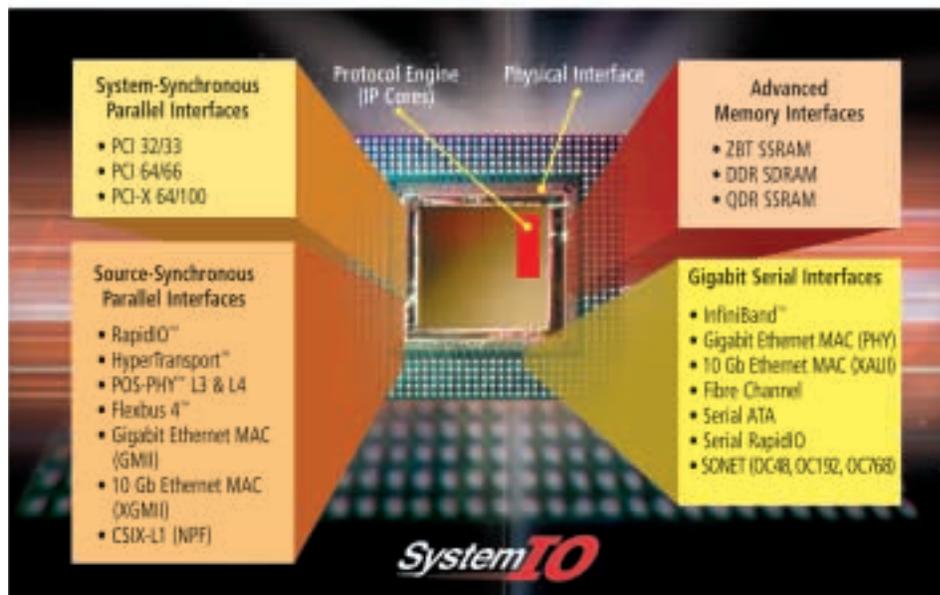


Figure 2 - Xilinx Platform FPGA SystemIO Solutions

With the variety of interface reference designs and cores available in the SystemIO solution, you can easily customize your application. Figure 3 shows a 10 Gigabit Ethernet LAN/WAN line card example in which several Platform FPGA SystemIO solutions are used to provide seamless interfaces to external PHYs and network processors. All of these interfaces are pre-engineered by Xilinx for easy drop-in functionality, enabling you to reduce your design cycle time.

With our recent introduction of the Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA, we have incorporated Mindspeed's SkyRail™ architecture to embed up to 16 Rocket I/O™ 3.125 Gbps multi-gigabit transceivers (MGTs), the highest number of MGTs in a single programmable device. This breakthrough technology supports all the popular emerging serial I/O standards, including the PCI Express, InfiniBand, XAUI, and Fibre Channel protocols.

The combination of SkyRail architecture and SelectI/O-Ultra technology supplies a comprehensive list of popular parallel and serial interface IP cores in the overall SystemIO solution. Additionally, both 1GE and 10GE MAC IP cores are available with both parallel and serial interface options.

Conclusion

Platform FPGA SystemIO solutions enable Xilinx to provide you with the ultimate connectivity platform to connect and bridge interface requirements for your next-generation data communication systems.

A terabit system can simultaneously contain multiple interface requirements, including both emerging serial I/O protocols, as well as established parallel I/O standards. The new Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA is ideally suited to help you address interface challenges by providing Rocket I/O MGTs for serial connectivity and SelectI/O-Ultra technology for parallel connectivity.

Combining LogiCORE IP cores for protocols and data processing, along with design tools and third-party partnerships, Xilinx provides the complete system connectivity solution for today's – and tomorrow's – high speed designs. **Σ**

IP Core	Standard Compliance	Aggregate Bandwidth	Performance	SelectI/O Bus	Availability
POS-PHY L3	OIF-SPI3-01.0 Saturn POS-PHY L3	2.48 Gbps	104 MHz	32b 3.3V CMOS	Now
POS-PHY L4	OIF-SPI4-02.0 Saturn POS-PHY L4	12.8 Gbps	800 Mbps per pair 400 MHz DDR	16b LVDS	Now
Flexbus 4	OIF-SPI4-01.0 AMCC Flexbus 4	12.8 Gbps	200 MHz	64b HSTL	Now
Flexbus 4 to POS-PHY L4 Bridge	OIF-SPI4-01.0 AMCC Flexbus 4 OIF-SPI4-02.0 Saturn POS-PHY L4	11.2 Gbps	200 MHz (Flexbus 4 side) 350 MHz DDR (PL4 side)	64b HSTL (Flexbus 4 side) 16b LVDS (PL4 side)	Now
1GE MAC w/ GMII	IEEE 802.3-2000	1 Gbps	125 MHz	8b 3.3V GMII	Now
1GE MAC w/ PCS-PMA	IEEE 802.3-2000	1.25 Gbps	1.25 Gbps	1 channel of Rocket I/O Transceiver	Now
10GE MAC w/ XGMII	Designed to IEEE P802.3ae draft 4.1	10 Gbps	156.25 MHz DDR	32b XGMII HSTL	Now
10GE MAC w/ XAUI	Designed to IEEE P802.3ae draft 4.1	12.5 Gbps	3.125 Gbps per channel	4 channels of 3.125 Gbps Rocket I/O Transceivers	Now
RapidIO PHY	RapidIO Interconnect Specification v1.1	8 Gbps	500 Mbps per pair 250 MHz DDR	8b LVDS	Now
PCI64	PCI Spec V2.3	264 -528 MBps	33/66 MHz	64b 5/3.3V PCI	Now
PCI32	PCI Spec V2.3	132 -264 MBps	33/66 MHz	32b 5/3.3V PCI	Now
PCI-X 64/100	PCI-X Spec V1.0a	800 MBps	66/100 MHz	64b 3.3V PCI-X	Now
HyperTransport Single-Ended Slave	HyperTransport V1.01a	6.4 Gbps	800 Mbps per pair 400 MHz DDR	8b HT I/O	Q3 '02
CSIX Reference Design	CSIX-L1	6.4 Gbps	200 MHz	32b HSTL	Now
XGMII Reference Design	Designed to IEEE P802.3ae draft 4.1	10 Gbps	156.25 MHz DDR	32b XGMII HSTL	Now

Table 1 - Summary of Platform FPGA SystemIO solutions

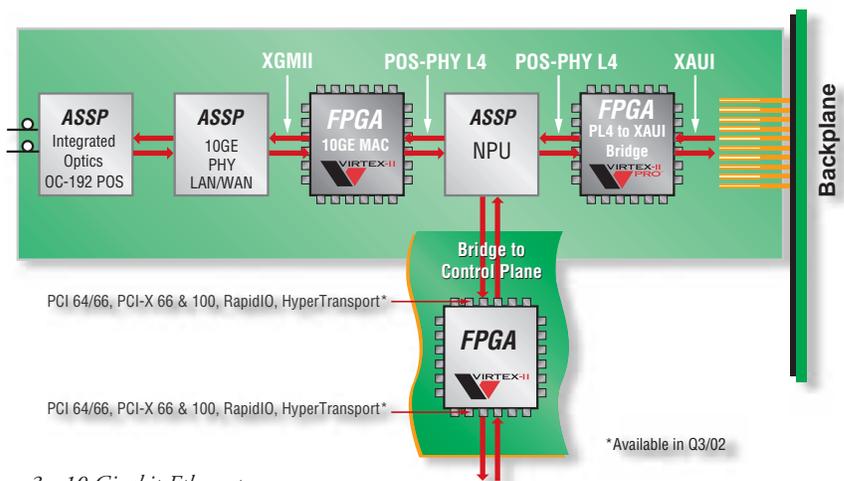


Figure 3 - 10 Gigabit Ethernet LAN/WAN line card application example

Develop MicroBlaze Applications with Three Flexible Hardware Evaluation Platforms



MicroBlaze Development Kits from Memec Design demonstrate the versatility of the MicroBlaze soft processor core in a variety of Xilinx FPGAs.

by Jim Beneke

Director of Technical Marketing
Insight Electronics
jim_beneke@ins.memec.com

Running at 125 MHz, the Xilinx MicroBlaze™ 32-bit soft processor core is the industry's fastest soft processing solution. The MicroBlaze processor delivers a true 32-bit processor, critical for building complex systems for the networking, telecommunication, data communication,

embedded, and consumer markets. The soft processor features RISC architecture with Harvard-style separate 32-bit instruction and data busses, which run at full speed to execute programs and access data from both on-chip and external memory. With 900 logic cells and 82 D-MIPS, the MicroBlaze processor meets the utilization, performance, and cost targets that most FPGA designers require.

To support the development of MicroBlaze-based applications, Memec Design has introduced three different MicroBlaze Development Kits (MDKs) to

accelerate design, prototype, and evaluation cycles. The three MDKs allow you to quickly prototype your MicroBlaze processor and peripherals in real-world hardware environments. With functioning hardware platforms based on Xilinx FPGAs, you can easily verify design concepts, system interfaces, and real-time functionality.

Three Families – Three Kits

The Virtex™-II, Spartan™-IIE, and Spartan-II FPGA families are the logical targets for MicroBlaze applications. Therefore, Memec offers specially designed standalone system boards for a device from each of these families.

Additionally, each MDK offers an expansion module that contains common processor peripheral interfaces and memory, a prototype module for creating custom circuits, the Xilinx MicroBlaze processor license, software tools, and a power supply.

- The Virtex-II platform is based on the one million-gate XC2V1000 device (Figure 1). The system board includes 2M x 16 DDR SDRAM and a 16-bit LVDS Tx/Rx port.
- The Spartan-IIE system board is based on the 300K-gate XC2S300E device (Figure 2). This board offers a 10-bit LVDS Tx/Rx port and 82 general purpose I/Os.
- The Spartan-II kit uses the 200K-gate XC2S200 device (Figure 3), which resides on a 32-bit PCI interface, along with 2M x 32 SDRAM. The PCI interface presents an interesting configuration by allowing the MicroBlaze processor to sit on the backend of the PCI bus.

All three platforms include the P160 expansion slot, an ISP PROM, on-board power regulation, and other user support circuits.

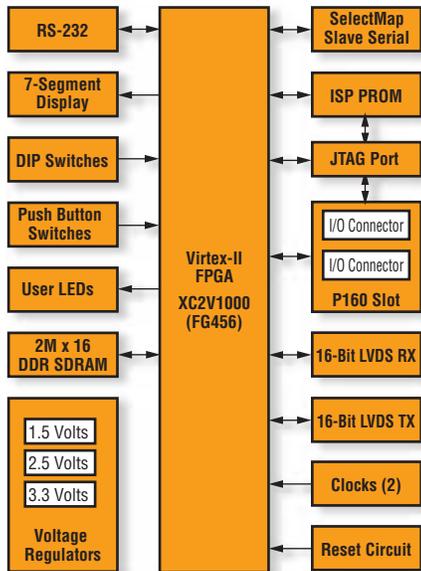


Figure 1 - Virtex-II system board block diagram

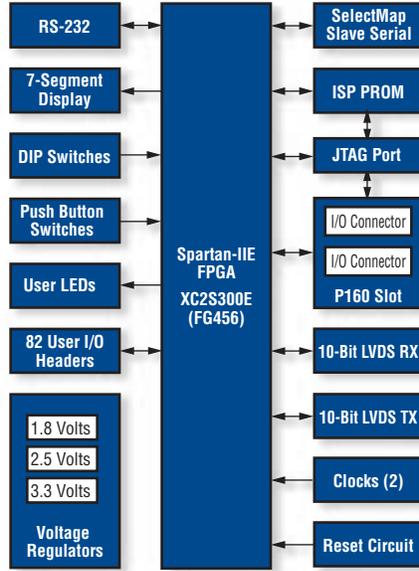


Figure 2 - Spartan-IIE system board block diagram

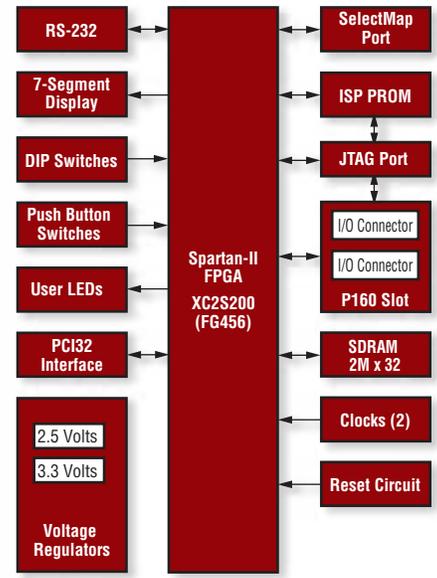


Figure 3 - Spartan-II system board block diagram

P160 Expansion

The P160 expansion slot provides the flexibility you need in a processor and IP development environment. The expansion slot allows you to easily plug custom peripheral modules into the system board and interface to the FPGA device.

The P160 slot supplies 110 user-defined I/O signals from the FPGA to the user application circuit on the expansion card. By adding a P160 module, you can tailor your development environment and ease hardware verification.

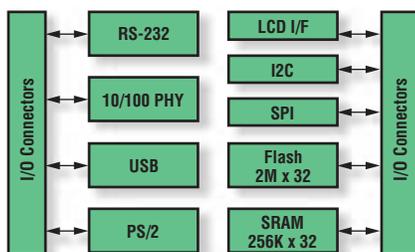


Figure 4 - P160 communications module block diagram

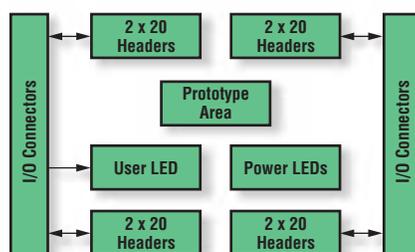


Figure 5 - P160 prototype module block diagram

Two P160 modules are included in the MDKs:

- The P160 communication module (Figure 4) provides interfaces for 10/100 Ethernet, RS-232, USB, PS/2 keyboard, LCD module, I²C, and SPI connections. The communication module also includes 2M x 32 flash and 256K x 32 SRAM for off-chip memory expansion by way of the IBM CoreConnect™ on-chip peripheral bus architecture.
- The P160 prototype module (Figure 5) offers general purpose expansion headers for all 110 user I/O signals, as well as a prototype area for building custom circuits.

Conclusion

As MicroBlaze implementations move into the mainstream, you will need easy to use, flexible, low-cost hardware platforms to verify and validate your design concepts. Supporting Virtex-II, Spartan-IIE, and Spartan-II devices, each Memec Design MDK bundles the essential tools you need to explore MicroBlaze-based designs.

The Virtex-II MDK is priced at \$795. The Spartan-IIE and Spartan-II MDKs are available for \$695. Call 888-488-4133, ext. 235, or go to www.insight-electronics.com/microblaze for more information or to order a MicroBlaze Development Kit. ❧

Memecore Group and Memec Design

In addition to the MicroBlaze Development Kit, Insight Electronics and Impact Technologies offer MicroBlaze design service support through Memec Design. Our Xilinx-dedicated design services group can assist you in MicroBlaze and turnkey FPGA design, CoreConnect peripheral design, customization, integration, and FPGA performance optimization. Furthermore, the Memecore Group focuses exclusively on offering Memec customers the highest quality intellectual property for tomorrow's designs. Memecore offers several CoreConnect-enabled peripheral functions for easy integration into MicroBlaze applications. Visit www.insight-electronics.com or www.impact.eu.memec.com for more information on our complete MicroBlaze offerings.



Xyron ZOTS IP Core Uses Virtex-II FPGA to Demonstrate RTOS Breakthrough

Xyron Semiconductor's zero overhead task switch technology gives a 40 MHz FPGA the real-time video rendering power of a GHz desktop microprocessor.



by William Dress

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Xyron Semiconductor's patented "zero overhead task switch" (ZOTS™) technology promises to revolutionize both hardware and software design for embedded systems applications. Essentially, we remove the task-switching and interrupt control decision-making off the core microprocessor – which dramatically improves microprocessor efficiency and provides end results similar to increasing a microprocessor's clock speed by several orders of magnitude.

Our technological breakthrough is novel and radical. Never before has RTOS task management been implemented in hardware in such a manner. We knew we could attract customers if we could just effectively demonstrate the technology. Fortunately, the functionality of the Xilinx Virtex™-II FPGA gave us the solution.

Show and Tell

We chose to demonstrate our technology by building on a public domain 32-bit RISC architecture. By introducing a simple, seven-task simultaneous environment containing real-time video, stored video, and real-time audio, we have been able to demonstrate a fully functional multimedia microprocessor that handles interrupts on a pixel-by-pixel basis. With Xyronium™ technology embedded into a 32-bit RISC processor as a firm IP core in a Xilinx Virtex-II XC2V1000 FPGA, our demonstration board runs at only 40 MHz. Nevertheless, the board processes full-motion, full-frame video and stereo CD-quality audio – with enough performance power remaining to manipulate video in real time in a moving picture-in-picture synchronized with the audio amplitude (Figure 1). To see an interactive Macromedia® Flash™ demonstration, go to www.xyronsemi.com/xdemo.shtml.

A similarly burdened standalone desktop microprocessor programmed with the same RTOS capability and without video, audio, or memory support architecture would need to run at over 1.0 GHz to accomplish the same real-time tasks.

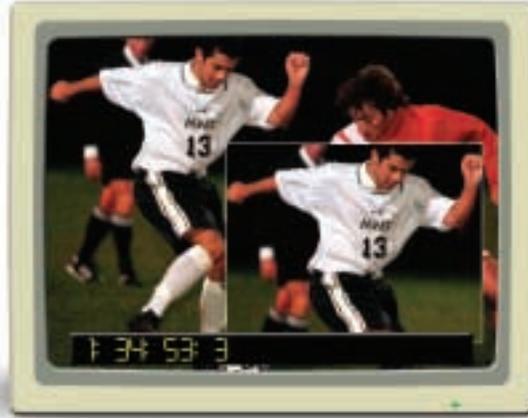


Figure 1 - Special effects in real-time video



Figure 2 - Xyron Semiconductor Edison development board incorporates a Xilinx Virtex-II XC2V1000 FPGA.

Show and Sell

The Xyron ZOTS approach is so revolutionary that we anticipated the initial market acceptance might be difficult. Potential customers might have difficulty believing you can implement traditional RTOS software task management functions in hardware – and realize significant microprocessor performance improvements as a result.

Therefore, we created a powerful standalone, single-board computer that showcased our technology so users could see for themselves (Figure 2). Multiple video, audio, and user interfaces allow our customers the flexibility to design for any application in a familiar Xilinx FPGA environment.

Using a Virtex-II XC2V1000 FPGA, the development board is an ideal environment to not only illustrate the power of the ZOTS innovation, but also to implement these powerful new technologies in real-world applications. Once the Xyron ZOTS firm IP microprocessor core is inserted into the fabric of a Virtex-II device, there is ample room to create custom circuitry to support specific design requirements.

Conclusion

The path from demonstrating a radical new microprocessor technology to providing a practical development environment was optimized with the Virtex-II product family. The process only took a few months with a small design team.

In all fairness, we explored other options, but they were not nearly as efficient. Without the functionality of the Virtex-II FPGA, it would not have been possible to construct such a robust development board as the Edison™ Development Board. That's why Xyron Semiconductor has become a partner in the Xilinx AllianceCORE™ program.

In a classic win-win situation, combining Xyron technology with Xilinx products has given us the ability to realize standard-cell, dedicated IC performance in a flexible FPGA environment. The Virtex-II product offering has enabled Xyron Semiconductor to take its first steps toward becoming a full-fledged microprocessor company.

For more information on Xyron technology, please visit www.xyronsemi.com. To purchase a development board, go to www.xyronsemi.net. ❧

Elantec Semiconductor Has Power Supply Solutions for Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs

High efficiency and fewer components give you high reliability while reducing printed circuit board real estate.

by Art Stryer
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Virtex-II Pro™ series Platform FPGAs use separate supply voltages for the core circuitry and I/O interface power supplies. Typically, the I/O interface requires 2.5V and the core circuitry requires 1.8V. As a designer, you need to minimize board space and maximize the reliability of the power supplies.

Elantec Semiconductor Inc. has highly integrated solutions to fulfill your local power needs. Elantec's family of integrated FET DC:DC converters provides optimal solutions for Virtex-II Pro designs. These power products are unique synchronous buck converters with integrated FETs and internal current sensing. These features, as well as other embedded functions, enable high efficiency and higher frequencies, which lead to smaller inductors. These features and functions require fewer external components, giving you the advantage of minimum board space. Additionally, higher reliability is achieved through lower die temperature.

Integrated FET DC:DC Converters

When you are designing a local power supply for a Virtex-II Pro system, several factors allow you to achieve a small PC board area. Elantec power products include the following features:

- Synchronous DC:DC switching regulators running at higher frequencies
 - Up to 1 MHz switching frequency
- Higher frequencies, allowing use of smaller external capacitors and inductors
 - Steady peak-to-peak ripple voltage with fewer external parts
- Higher integration, resulting in fewer external components
 - No external FETs
- Reduced parts count.

Embedded Functions Reduce ICs

When designing a local power supply for a Virtex-II Pro system, you need certain features for a complete solution. To achieve these complete solutions usually requires additional ICs. Elantec parts, however, feature embedded functions, including:

- Current mode control
 - On-chip current sensing feedback for internal PWM controller
- Over-current protection
 - Cycle-by-cycle current sensing and limiting
- Over-temperature protection
 - Junction temperature monitor circuit on die
 - Control circuits with hysteresis for automatic supply restart
- Adjustable switching frequency
 - User-selectable frequency to avoid switching interference
- Soft start
 - Internal power-up control
- Power sequencing
 - Sequential activation of multiple power supplies without additional control ICs
- Simultaneous power tracking with controlled voltage out.

High Reliability Components

The following list of functions in Elantec power products improve the reliability of your power supply:

- Synchronous converter
 - Both upper and lower power switches on-chip
 - Up to 95% efficiency
- Integrated Power FETs
 - Reduced power dissipation versus external FETs with resistive connections
- Advanced packages
 - Optional low die temperature, small HTSSOP.

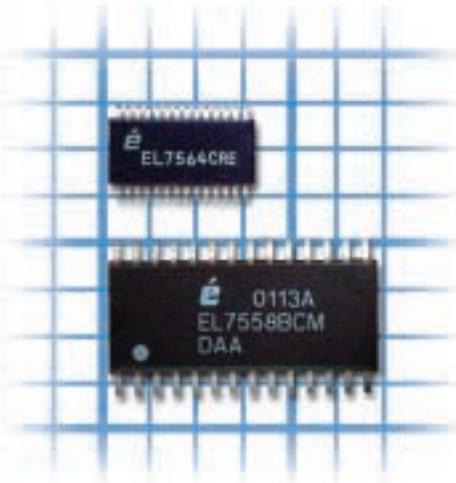


Figure 1 - Integrated FET 4A and 8A DC:DC converter packages

Complete DC:DC Converter Family

Different designs will have varying requirements for voltage and current, switching frequency, and available board space. The Elantec family of DC:DC products meets Virtex-II Pro local system needs by providing:

- Continuous output currents
 - Products to choose from with currents up to 1A, 2A, 4A, 6A, and 8A
- Flexible output voltages
 - Adjustable voltages from 1.0V to 3.3V available from each product
- Multiple package types
 - HTSSOP, QSOP, MSOP, HSOP, and SOL available.

Table 1 shows a comprehensive summary of Elantec power products. Figure 1 shows packages and board area space for 4A and 8A products.

Conclusion

Design engineers engaged in Virtex-II Pro board designs need to have power supplies that provide a complete solution for local power in their systems. Elantec DC:DC converters have all of the features and embedded functions to get the job done. For data sheets, application briefs, and additional information, visit Elantec online at www.elantec.com, or send an e-mail to tech@elantec.com. ❧

Part No.	Type	Supply Voltage	Output Voltage	Output Current	Package
EL7558BC	Buck	4.5V to 5.5V	1.0V to 3.8V	8A	HSOP28
EL7556BC	Buck	4.5V to 5.5V	1.0V to 3.8V	6A	S028
EL7564C	Buck	4.5V to 5.5V	1.0V to 3.8V	4A	HTSSOP28
EL7563C	Buck	3.0V to 3.6V	1.0V to 2.5V	4A	HTSSOP28
EL7562C	Buck	4.5V to 5.5V	1.0V to 3.8V	2A	QSOP16
EL7551C	Buck	4.5V to 5.5V	1.0V to 3.8V	1A	QSOP16
EL7512C	Boost	2.0V to 14V	5.0V to 16V	0.2A to 0.5A	MSOP10

Table 1 - Elantec power products

Nallatech's DIME-II Modular Architecture Goes Pro

Nallatech's second-generation modular DIME-II architecture has been designed to maximize Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA performance and bandwidth.



by Dr. Malachy Devlin
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Typical data handling and processing systems require a combination of high-performance capabilities. Until now, these capabilities could only be achieved through combining various programmable logic architectures and processor technologies to handle complex control algorithms.

The release of the Xilinx Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGAs, however, now gives us a single, integrated package for manipulating complex control algorithms. As many as four IBM® PowerPC™ 405 processors can be embedded deeply in the Virtex-II Pro programmable logic fabric.

In order to create final systems based on Virtex-II Pro devices – and to harness maximum power from these devices – appropriate hardware architecture is critical. The DIME™ and DIME-II™ architectures are open modular standards from Nallatech that create the framework for scalable systems. A small, dedicated FPGA-based system can be easily scaled to create high-end high-speed DSP applications through the DIME-II plug-and-play capability. This architecture provides support for processor integration within FPGA-based systems, including the

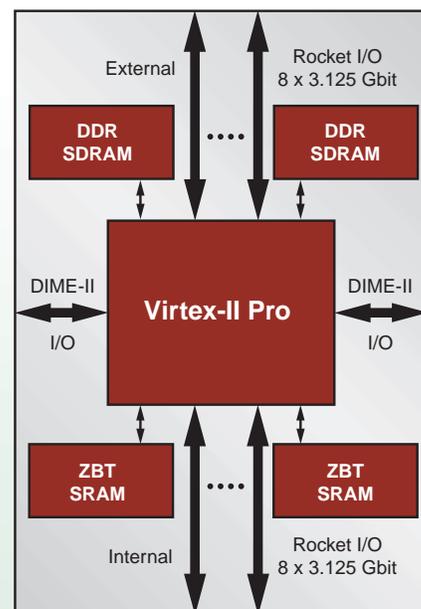


Figure 1 - BenPRO block diagram

use of ICE (in-circuit emulation) debuggers, remote booting, and configuration.

BenPRO Module

The BenPRO™ module from Nallatech provides maximum scalability and maximum communications bandwidth. The BenPRO™ module will be available with all Virtex-II Pro devices that have embedded PowerPC processors. In this configuration, a single DIME-II module can have up to four hard processors and up to four million system gates of logic for computational and interfacing tasks.

By utilizing up to 16 Rocket I/O™ transceivers on a single Virtex-II Pro, and standard I/O interfaces offered by DIME-II technology, you can get an I/O bandwidth in the order of 100 gigabits per second

To support onboard data and program storage, four high-speed memory banks are built into the BenPRO module. As shown in Figure 1, DDR SDRAM and ZBT SRAM enable suitable memory architectures to be designed for tight integration with the algorithm or platform architecture required.

Controlling Virtex-II Pro Systems

Nallatech's FUSE™ (field upgradeable systems environment) software supplies the reconfigurable computing operating system for FPGA-based systems. The powerful API (application programming interface) enables rapid development of systems and applications based on FPGAs, either with or without, embedded processors. FUSE system software is portable and supports multiple operating systems, such as Linux, VXWorks®, and Windows® systems.

Additionally, FUSE software supports a wide range of languages, including C/C++, Java™, MATLAB™ and DIMEscript™, Nallatech's own dedicated language for controlling reconfigurable computing environments.

FUSE software also supports multiple embedded processors, including the IBM PowerPC hard processor and the MicroBlaze™ soft processor from Xilinx – both of which can be embedded in one Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA. The power of

FUSE system software provides for high-speed booting and data communication, as well as system control. The FUSE capability allows full integration with high-level design tools from Xilinx, industry-standard protocols, and user application software.

Figure 2 shows the relationship among FUSE, DIME-II, and Virtex-II Pro components.

Distributed Parallel Processing

Although a single Virtex-II Pro device can have as many as four processors, DIME-II technology can scale systems far beyond this. For example, DIME-II interconnect technology will enable you to tightly couple four BenPRO modules on a BenERA™ cPCI card, thus providing 16 PowerPC processors on a single card, as illustrated in Figure 3. With FUSE system control software, you can expand connectivity to multiple cPCI cards, leading to a virtually unlimited array of processors within the overall system.

To benefit from this capability, the tools need to be in place for handling this distributed parallel processing system. Nallatech is enhancing its system design products to deliver the tools and communications infrastructure to support distributed parallel processing. Once in place, the combined DIME-II and Virtex-II Pro technologies will enable you to create a diverse range of system topologies that can take advantage of the high communications bandwidths now available – and in the future.

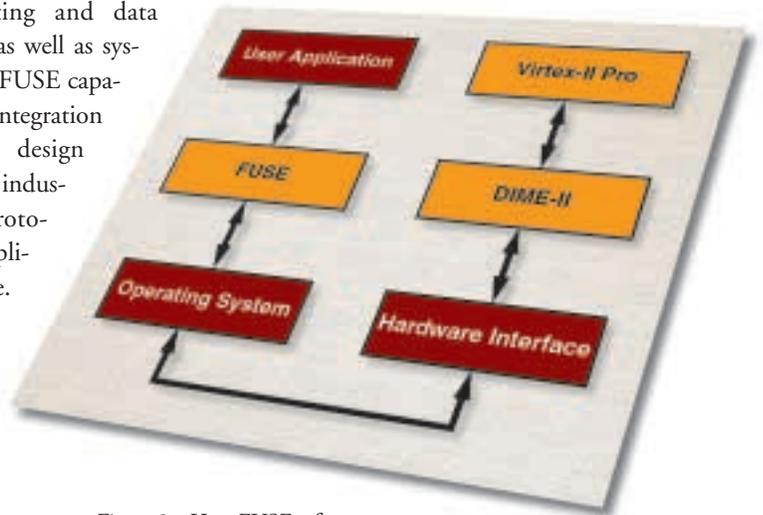


Figure 2 - How FUSE software control works with Virtex-II Pro logic devices

Conclusion

Today, system designers require suitable software tools, development platforms, and modular hardware to efficiently create complex high-performance systems. With DIME-II hardware system architecture and the FUSE reconfigurable computing operating system, you can not only harness the full power of Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs, but you can also use Nallatech's advanced engineering to bundle multiple devices within a system – taking system designs to unprecedented levels of complexity and functionality. ✕



Figure 3 - BenERA cPCI card with four Virtex-II Pro FPGAs on BenPRO modules

Platform FPGAs Take on ASIC SOCs

Here are seven good reasons why Platform FPGAs provide a superior design environment and faster time to market than ASIC SOCs.

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Editor's note: Due to a printing error, the last several paragraphs of this article were inadvertently cut off when it was published in the Spring 2002 Edition of Xcell Journal. Therefore, we are reprinting this article in its entirety.

The system-on-a-chip (SOC) market has experienced steady and consistent growth. Dataquest estimates roughly half of all ASIC design starts are SOC based. That percentage is projected to reach 80% by 2005. There are several reasons for this clear shift in design methodology. Some of the obvious advantages include greater component integration, increased speed (Logic <-> Processor), lower packaging and test costs, and increased overall system reliability. All of these combined can potentially make significant contributions to achieving the often elusive but always important goal of accelerated time to market.

Programmable logic device vendors have entered the SOC solution space with the introduction of a new class of devices known as Platform FPGAs – with the most recent addition being the Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA. These devices offer the same level of integration as ASIC SOCs, but in contrast, Platform FPGAs facilitate the development of a wide range of applications on the same chip. This article focuses on seven of the key advantages of the Platform FPGA approach.

#1 – Pre-Engineered Platform

Platform FPGAs integrate several fixed and predetermined blocks of hard IP (intellectual property) components (system elements) within the programmable fabric. Notable among these are high-performance RISC CPUs, multi-gigabit and high speed I/Os, block RAM, system clock management, and dedicated DSP processing hardware. This powerful assembly and harmonious blend of components creates a cohesive system design environment. This environment offers unprecedented flexibility and performance, thus enabling the deployment of a wide range of applications.

The critical technological breakthrough is in the ability to tightly interface the various elements into the programmable fabric. Without this tight integration, much

of the speed benefits could not be realized. The fact that the choice of system elements is already made greatly simplifies the design and development process. A fixed architecture is particularly beneficial for software tool and IP providers in allowing them to deliver better value, customization, and architecture-optimized solutions.



The assembly of the various hybrid IP blocks in an ASIC adds substantial complexity and hardship to the users' design and development environment, because of a variety of issues relating to tool and IP interoperability, physical layout, timing, and system verification. For Platform FPGAs, on the other hand, it is much easier to tailor and optimize components – such as silicon, software, support, and IP – because FPGAs represent a fixed and pre-engineered target.

Summary: A fixed, pre-engineered but programmable FPGA solution offers a more productive and efficient development environment from both the software and silicon perspective.

#2 – Process Technology

PLD vendors have been able to extract great value and benefits from Moore's Law and shrinking device geometries. While the majority of ASIC design starts are at or higher than 180 nm, FPGAs have raced ahead to bring the cost and performance advantages of 130 nm to its customers. This ability to rapidly migrate to the leading edge of technology is essential to deliv-

ering the performance, capacity, and integration that is necessary to challenge and displace the current established platforms of system design.

For instance, FPGAs now make it entirely feasible to build systems of up to 2M (ASIC) gates with CPU(s) running at 400 MHz, serial I/O channels at 3.125 Gbps CLB fabric-switching at 300 MHz, and the entire system clocking over 150 MHz. This surpasses the projected sweet spot of ASIC SOC designs.

Looking at it in pure economic terms, the costs for a typical mask set for a 130 nm ASIC run into the \$700K+ range. That raises the bar for entry into the ASIC space, making the Platform FPGA an even more attractive option for a growing percentage of all SOC designs.

Summary: FPGA silicon is best-in-class in process and engineering, thereby delivering best-in-class system performance.

#3 – Software Tools and Methodology

It is well known that EDA designer productivity for ASICs is lagging behind recent silicon advances. The ability to create a productive design and debug environment is absolutely essential to the success of any silicon platform. Therefore, software plays a critical role in not only making the platform easy to use and work with, but also in extracting the most performance and device utilization out of the silicon.

The goal is to insulate the user from having to learn extraneous details about the platform, yet providing empowerment and control when and where it is needed. To this end, FPGA vendors have created customized and user-friendly processor system generator tools that aid in instantiation, initialization, and configuration of all the various system component blocks. In addition, these software tools automate otherwise manual and error-prone tasks, such as the interconnections among the processor, its peripherals, and buses.

Design entry is engineered to tightly couple the HW/SW domains. Such engineer-

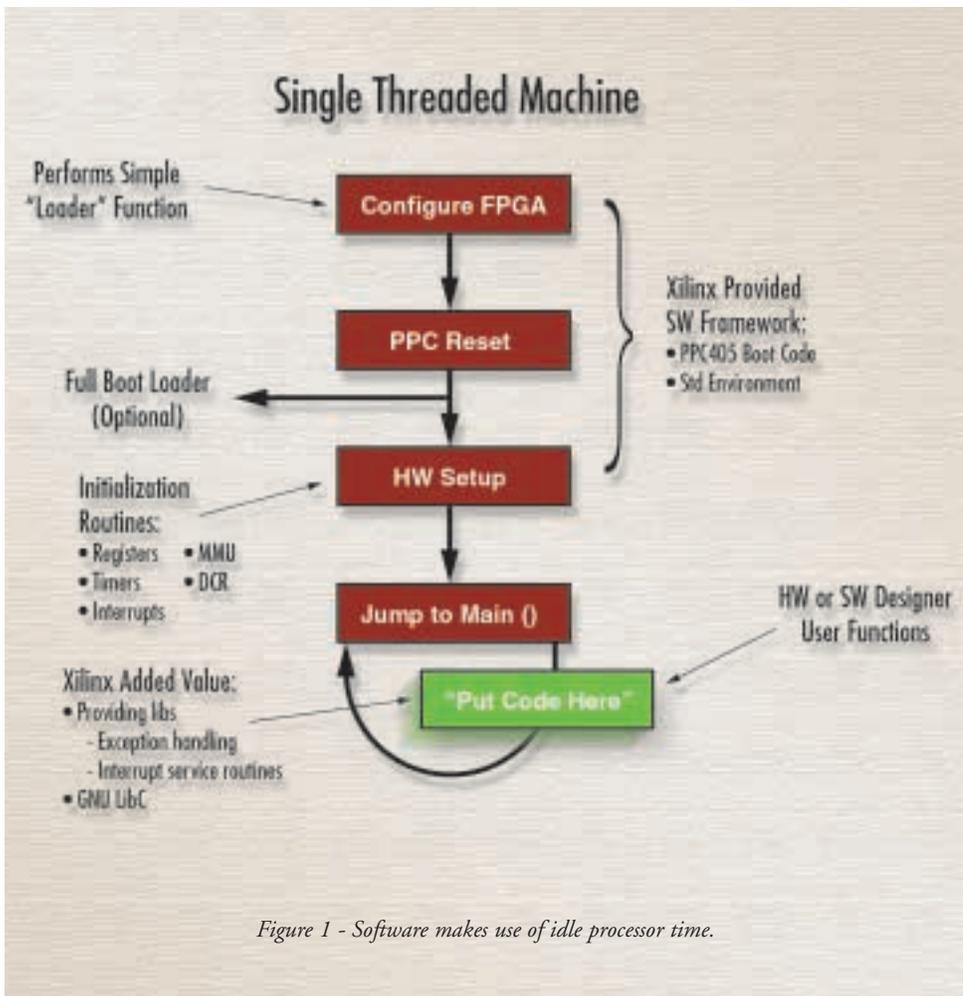


Figure 1 - Software makes use of idle processor time.

ing leads to not only simplified and easy-to-use design flows, but it ensures reliability and robustness from the very start by performing design rule and data consistency checks across the two domains.

Two examples of the advantages of cross-domain HW/SW co-design include:

- Automatic generation of device drivers and header files for SW engineers once a particular block is instantiated by the HW designer
- Tools to automatically populate SW binary code into appropriate FPGA memory bitstreams.

Summary: Software sells silicon.

#4 – Advanced Debug

The importance of finding problems early cannot be overstated. Yet, up-front ASIC verification is extremely designer- and computer-resource intensive. Compared

to systems on a board, SOC limits visibility into the internal nodes of the system, making the task of verification and debug more challenging than ever.

The critical part includes the verification of complex interactions between the application software and the custom-designed peripheral hardware. Traditional HDL-centric verification and debug techniques can no longer deal with the rising complexity of system designs.

Consider a typical application, such as MPEG A/V decoding, where a large number of simulation cycles are required to complete a small sequence of frames. Co-verification tools in this case would either take an impractically long time to complete or validate only a mere fraction of the software code, falling far short of what it takes to find problems in the HW/SW interface.

FPGAs overcome this problem in large part by being able to provide access to real or near real targets at a very early stage in the design cycle. Among other things, this means that SW engineers using FPGAs can quickly and easily sort out logic and design flaws by targeting real silicon. The engineers do not have to rely on inefficient ASIC-centric techniques like co-verification or writing stub code. Application software can be debugged at system speeds with full hardware and software register access and control.

Additionally, the FPGA fabric allows for construction of highly customized and value-added cores to enable powerful real-time, on-chip debug capability. Some examples of such instrumentation include:

- Logic and bus analyzer functions
- Bus protocol compliance monitors
- Memory buffers for debug and trace port data
- Cross-domain triggers and breakpoints
- Hardware run control of the CPU
- HW/SW time synchronization logic.

Furthermore, a single cable is able to perform multiple functions, like debugging hardware, debugging software, as well as programming the FPGAs. This greatly simplifies the lab setup making it much easier to exploit the debug advantages.

Summary: Platform FPGAs offer a clearer, more cohesive, and overall more effective debug strategy. Specifically, Platform FPGAs offer up-front silicon access along with unprecedented visibility and control of the processor and its peripherals residing in the programmable fabric.

#5 – Top Tier Partnerships and Vendor Tools Support

In extending the concept of traditional programmable logic to Platform FPGAs, certain critical technologies have had to be developed or acquired. One of most exciting aspects brought forth by FPGA vendors has been to successfully forge

strategic partnerships with vendors holding various system technology components. Driven largely by the successes of the FPGA business models, leading vendors have been eager to partner in fulfilling the vision of building powerful programmable systems platforms.

Areas of cooperation include partnerships in the form of cutting-edge process technology, powerful mainstream processing elements – such as RISC CPU, high-speed I/O – and other components deemed of significance to a system design platform. IBM, Conexant Systems, Inc., Wind River Systems, and other high profile vendors are currently engaged in such strategic partnerships. What this means to you is there is no need for these partners to negotiate licensing, royalty, and integration issues with individual vendors, thereby greatly reducing your engineering, management, and accounting overhead.

The appeal and draw of FPGAs has caught the attention of independent SW tool vendors. Increasing numbers of vendors are able to sustain business models selling to FPGA customers. Several new vendors are setting up shop to write custom tools to help enhance and exploit the unique capabilities of Platform FPGAs.

Summary: The FPGA business model has attracted top-tier silicon and IP vendors to forge strategic partnerships to create powerful system design platforms. Software vendors are able to financially justify investment in research and development leading to a continuous stream of an increasing number of innovative solutions.

#6 – Application Space: Co-Design Flexibility

Programmable HW combined with processors on a single chip softens the HW/SW design boundary. By using hardware-assisted architectural exploration, designers can optimally search for the right HW and SW partitioning, which leads to the increased probability of being able to meet performance and area targets. Sequential computing, exception handling, and control func-

tions, for instance, programmed in HW could be implemented in SW running on the processor to save silicon.

On the other hand, SW structures and algorithms – which can be broken into parallel, non-blocking processes – can achieve significant speed and data throughput improvements by implementing them in HW. In fact, software engineers represent a new and emerging market for Platform FPGAs. Aided by design tools, it is now easier than ever for SW engineers to explore concepts of software acceleration via HW. Both hardware and firmware are reprogrammable and field upgradeable, which enables the development and deployment of several product generations from one base. This translates into a much broader applicability than ASICs and ASSPs.

In addition to being suitable for building complex embedded applications, HW engineers can utilize an otherwise idle processor to run relevant portions of their design algorithms or control logic. As Figure 1 shows, the CPU can serve as a simple microcontroller running a single-threaded application. PLD vendors add value by providing software device drivers and library functions for rapid implementation without requiring the HW engineer to have detailed knowledge of SW practices.

Summary: The Platform FPGAs provide the most flexible co-design platform by enabling dynamic HW-SW design partitioning.

#7 – Risk Management

When compared to Platform FPGAs, ASIC SOCs present a huge design risk. With more variables and issues to worry about, and with limited debug capabilities when mistakes are found, ASIC designers are

forced to either resolve problems suboptimally in software, or in the worst case scenario, they are forced to respin the silicon at great cost and loss of time to market.

Reprogrammability comes up big here. Programmable platforms allow early access to silicon. Engineers can validate performance and functionality in real silicon, leading to greater confidence in the reliability of the completed system. The programmability of the platform allows itself to be debugged and upgraded even after the system has been deployed. This helps promote and protect the time-to-market advantage by alleviating a large part of the risk.

Summary: Programmable Platform FPGAs provide better control over the life cycle management of products by minimizing the cost and time penalty for design errors and specification changes.

Conclusion

In an era when SOCs continue to dominate mainstream design, Platform FPGAs are emerging to take a share of the spotlight from ASICs. While ASIC SOCs have and will continue to be strong in certain segments – like low power, small form factor, and high-volume, cost-sensitive consumer electronic gadgets – an increasing range of other infrastructure applications in areas such as networking, telecommunications, industrial electronics, and data storage have compelling reasons to move to a programmable platform. Σ



Features

- Optimized for 1.8V systems
 - Industry's fastest low power CPLD
 - Static Icc of less than 100 microamps at all times
 - Densities from 32 to 512 macrocells
- Industry's best 0.18 micron CMOS CPLD
 - Optimized architecture for effective logic synthesis
 - Multi-voltage I/O operation — 1.5V to 3.3V
- Advanced system features
 - Fastest in system programming
 - 1.8V ISP using IEEE 1532 (JTAG) interface
 - IEEE1149.1 JTAG Boundary Scan Test
 - Optional Schmitt trigger input (per pin)
 - Unsurpassed low power management
 - FZP 100% CMOS product term generation
 - DataGATE external signal control
 - Flexible clocking modes
 - Optional DualEDGE triggered registers
 - Clock divider (÷ 2,4,6,8,10,12,14,16)
 - CoolCLOCK
 - Global signal options with macrocell control
 - Multiple global clocks with phase selection per macrocell
 - Multiple global output enables
 - Global set/reset
 - Abundant product term clocks, output enables and set/resets
 - Efficient control term clocks, output enables and set/resets for each macrocell and shared across function blocks
 - Advanced design security
 - Open-drain output option for Wired-OR and LED drive
 - Optional bus-hold or weak pullup on selected I/O pins
 - Optional configurable grounds on unused I/Os
 - Mixed I/O voltages compatible with 1.5V, 1.8V, 2.5V, and 3.3V logic levels on all parts

- SSTL2-1, SSTL3-1, and HSTL-1 on 128 macrocell and denser devices
- PLA architecture
 - Superior pinout retention
- 100% product term routability across function block
- Hot pluggable
- Wide package availability including fine pitch:
 - Chip Scale Package (CSP) BGA, Fine Line BGA, TQFP, PQFP, VQFP, and PLCC packages
- Design entry/verification using Xilinx and industry standard CAE tools
- Free software support for all densities using Xilinx WebPACK™ or WebFITTER™ tools
- Industry leading nonvolatile 0.18 micron CMOS process
- Guaranteed 1,000 program/erase cycles
- Guaranteed 20 year data retention

Family Overview

Xilinx CoolRunner™-II CPLDs deliver the high speed and ease of use associated with the XC9500/XL/XV CPLD family with the extremely low power versatility of the XPLA3™ family in a single CPLD. This means that the exact same parts can be used for high-speed data communications/computing systems and leading edge portable products, with the added benefit of In System Programming. Low power consumption and high-speed operation are combined into a single family that is easy to use and cost effective. Xilinx patented Fast Zero Power™ (FZP) architecture inherently delivers extremely low power performance without the need for any special design measures. Clocking techniques and other power saving features extend the users' power budget. The design features are supported starting with Xilinx ISE 4.1i, WebFITTER, and ISE WebPACK.

Table 1 shows the macrocell capacity and key timing parameters for the CoolRunner-II CPLD family.

Table 1: CoolRunner-II CPLD Family Parameters

	XC2C32	XC2C64	XC2C128	XC2C256	XC2C384	XC2C512
Macrocells	32	64	128	256	384	512
Max I/O	33	64	100	184	240	270
T _{PD} (ns)	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0
T _{SU} (ns)	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
T _{CO} (ns)	2.8	3.0	3.4	3.8	4.2	4.6
F _{SYSTEM} (MHz)	303	270	244	222	204	189

Table 2 shows the CoolRunner-II CPLD package offering with corresponding I/O count. All packages are surface mount, with over half of them being ball-grid technologies. The ultra tiny packages permit maximum functional capacity in the smallest possible area. The CMOS technology used in CoolRunner-II CPLDs generates minimal heat, allowing the use of tiny packages during high-speed operation.

There are at least two densities present in each package with three in the VQ100 (100-pin 1.0mm QFP) and TQ144 (144-pin 1.4mm QFP), and in the FT256 (256-ball 1.0mm spacing FLBGA). The FT256 is particularly important for slim dimensioned portable products with mid- to high-density logic requirements.

Table 2: CoolRunner-II CPLD Family Packages and I/O Count

	XC2C32	XC2C64	XC2C128	XC2C256	XC2C384	XC2C512
PC44	33	33	-	-	-	-
VQ44	33	33	-	-	-	-
CP56	33	45	-	-	-	-
VQ100	-	64	80	80	-	-
CP132	-	-	100	106	-	-
TQ144	-	-	100	118	118	-
PQ208	-	-	-	173	173	173
FT256	-	-	-	184	212	212
FG324	-	-	-	-	240	270

Table 3 details the distribution of advanced features across the CoolRunner-II CPLD family. The family has uniform basic features with advanced features included in densities where they are most useful. For example, it is very unlikely that four I/O banks are needed on 32 and 64 macrocell parts, but very likely they are for 384 and 512 macrocell parts. The I/O banks are groupings of I/O pins using any one

of a subset of compatible voltage standards that share the same V_{CCIO} level. (See Table 4 for a summary of CoolRunner-II I/O standards.) The clock division capability is less efficient on small parts, but more useful and likely to be used on larger ones. DataGATE, an ability to block and latch inputs to save power, is valuable in larger parts, but brings marginal benefit to small parts.

Table 3: CoolRunner-II CPLD Family Features

	XC2C32	XC2C64	XC2C128	XC2C256	XC2C384	XC2C512
IEEE 1532	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
I/O banks	1	1	2	2	4	4
Clock division	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Clock doubling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DataGATE	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
LVTTTL	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LVC MOS33, 25, 18, and 1.5V I/O	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SSTL2-1	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
SSTL3-1	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
HSTL-1	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Configurable ground	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Quadruple data security	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open drain outputs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hot plugging	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

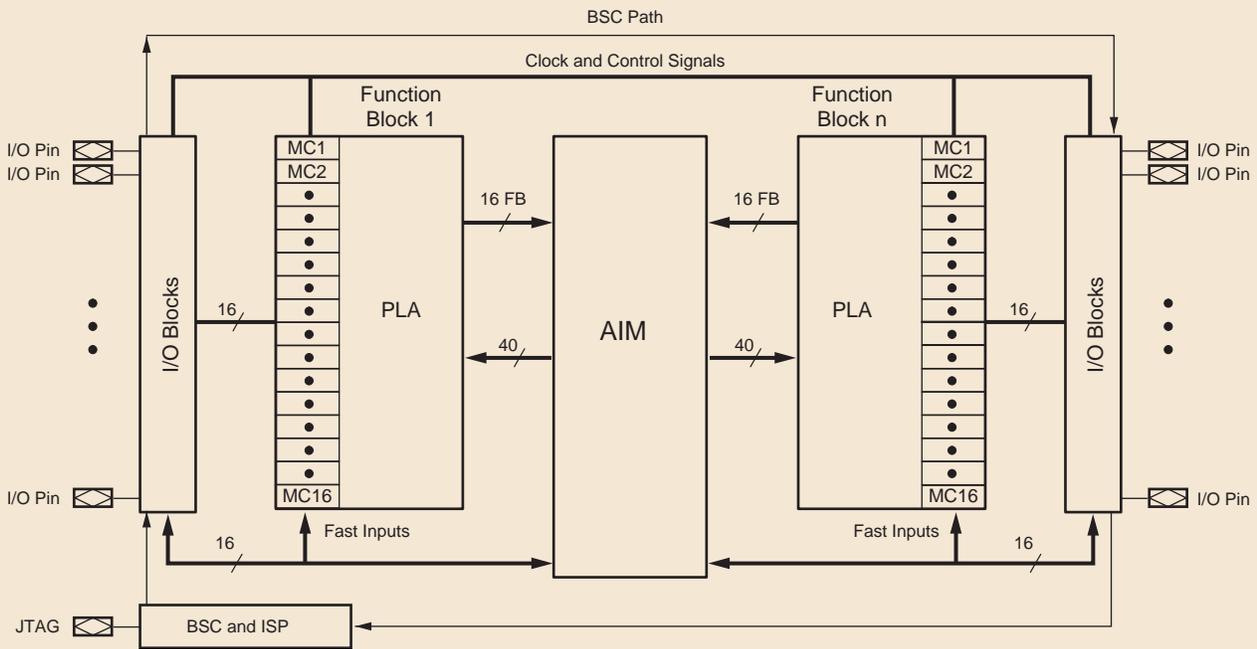
Architecture Description

CoolRunner-II CPLD is a highly uniform family of fast, low power CPLDs. The underlying architecture is a traditional CPLD architecture combining macrocells into Function Blocks (FBs) interconnected with a global routing matrix, the Xilinx Advanced Interconnect Matrix (AIM). The Function Blocks use a Programmable Logic Array (PLA) configuration which allows all product terms to be routed and shared among any of the macrocells of the FB. Design software can efficiently synthesize and optimize logic that is subsequently fit to the FBs and connected with the ability to utilize a very high percentage of device resources. Design changes are easily and automatically managed by the software, which exploits the 100% routability of the Programmable Logic Array within each FB. This extremely robust building block delivers the industry's highest pinout retention, under

very broad design conditions. The architecture will be explained by expanding the detail as we discuss the underlying Function Blocks, logic and interconnect.

The design software automatically manages these device resources so that users can express their designs using completely generic constructs without knowledge of these architectural details. More advanced users can take advantage of these details to more thoroughly understand the software's choices and direct its results.

Figure 1 shows the high-level architecture whereby Function Blocks attach to pins and interconnect to each other within the internal interconnect matrix. Each FB contains 16 macrocells. The BSC path is the JTAG Boundary Scan Control path. The BSC and ISP block has the JTAG controller and In-System Programming Circuits.

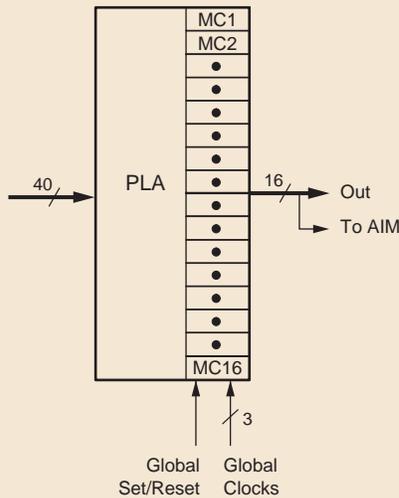


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Figure 1: CoolRunner-II CPLD Architecture

Function Block

The CoolRunner-II CPLD Function Blocks contain 16 macrocells, with 40 entry sites for signals to arrive for logic creation and connection. The internal logic engine is a 56 product term PLA. All Function Blocks, regardless of the number contained in the device, are identical. For a high-level view of the Function Block, see [Figure 2](#).



DS090_02_101001

Figure 2: CoolRunner-II CPLD Function Block

At the high level, it is seen that the product terms (p-terms) reside in a programmable logic array (PLA). This structure is extremely flexible, and very robust when compared to fixed or cascaded product term function blocks.

Classic CPLDs typically have a few product terms available for a high-speed path to a given macrocell. They rely on capturing unused p-terms from neighboring macrocells to expand their product term tally, when needed. The result of this architecture is a variable timing model and the possibility of stranding unusable logic within the FB.

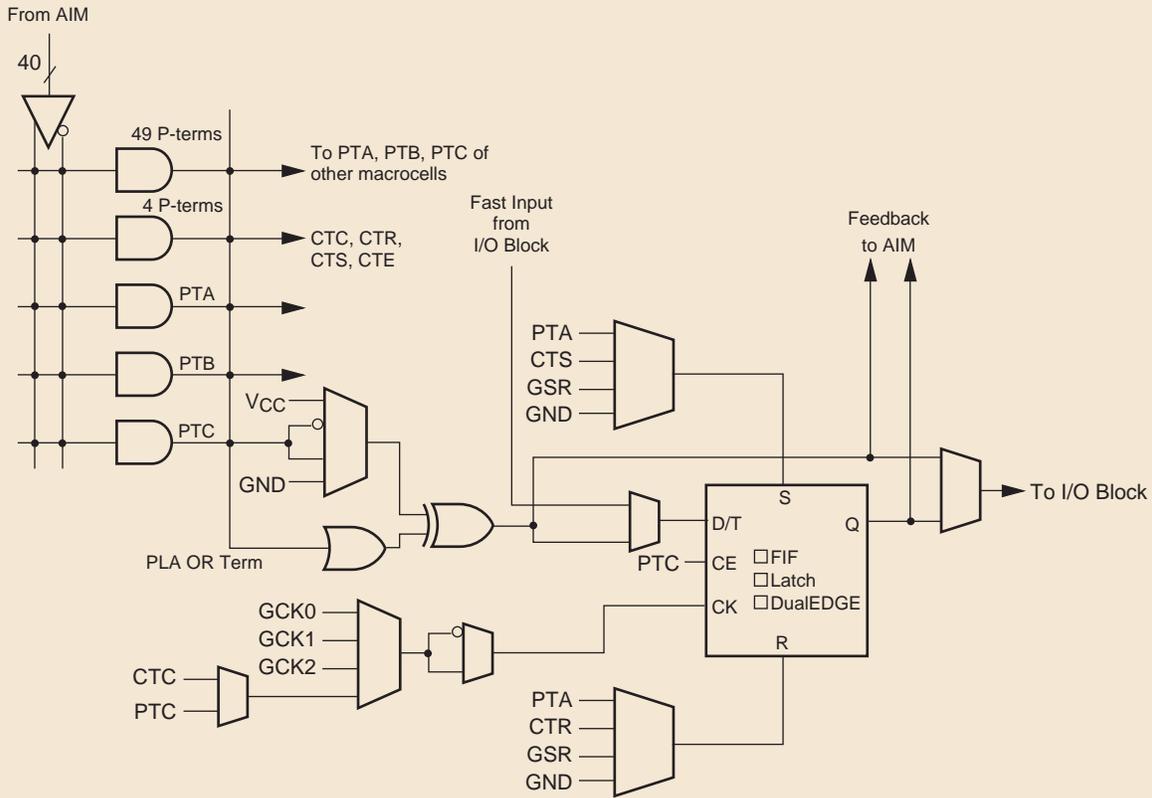
The PLA is different — and better. First, any product term can be attached to any OR gate inside the FB macrocell(s). Second, any logic function can have as many p-terms as needed attached to it within the FB, to an upper limit of 56. Third, product terms can be re-used at multiple macrocell

OR functions so that within a FB, a particular logical product need only be created once, but can be re-used up to 16 times within the FB. Naturally, this plays well with the fitting software, which identifies product terms that can be shared.

The software places as many of those functions as it can into FBs, so it happens for free. There is no need to force macrocell functions to be adjacent or any other restriction save residing in the same FB, which is handled by the software. Functions need not share a common clock, common set/reset or common output enable to take full advantage of the PLA. Also, every product term arrives with the same time delay incurred. There are no cascade time adders for putting more product terms in the FB. When the FB product term budget is reached, there is a small interconnect timing penalty to route signals to another FB to continue creating logic. Xilinx design software handles all this automatically.

Macrocell

The CoolRunner-II CPLD macrocell is extremely efficient and streamlined for logic creation. Users can develop sum of product (SOP) logic expressions that comprise up to 40 inputs and span 56 product terms within a single function block. The macrocell can further combine the SOP expression into an XOR gate with another single p-term expression. The resulting logic expression's polarity is also selectable. As well, the logic function can be pure combinatorial or registered, with the storage element operating selectively as a D or T flip-flop, or transparent latch. Available at each macrocell are independent selections of global, function block level or local p-term derived clocks, sets, resets, and output enables. Each macrocell flip-flop is configurable for either single edge or DualEDGE clocking, providing either double data rate capability or the ability to distribute a slower clock (thereby saving power). For single edge clocking or latching, either clock polarity may be selected per macrocell. CoolRunner-II macrocell details are shown in [Figure 3](#). Note that in [Figure 3](#), standard logic symbols are used except the trapezoidal multiplexers have input selection from statically programmed configuration select lines (not shown). Xilinx application note XAPP376 gives a detailed explanation of how logic is created in the CoolRunner-II CPLD family.



DS090_03_121201

Figure 3: CoolRunner-II CPLD Macrocell

When configured as a D-type flip-flop, each macrocell has an optional clock enable signal permitting state hold while a clock runs freely. Note that Control Terms (CT) are available to be shared for key functions within the FB, and are generally used whenever the exact same logic function would be repeatedly created at multiple macrocells. The CT product terms are available for FB clocking (CTC), FB asynchronous set (CTS), FB asynchronous reset (CTR), and FB output enable (CTE).

Any macrocell flip-flop can be configured as an input register or latch, which takes in the signal from the macrocell's I/O pin, and directly drives the AIM. The macrocell combinational functionality is retained for use as a buried logic node if needed.

Advanced Interconnect Matrix (AIM)

The Advanced Interconnect Matrix is a highly connected low power rapid switch. The AIM is directed by the software to deliver up to a set of 40 signals to each FB for the creation of logic. Results from all FB macrocells, as well as, all pin inputs circulate back through the AIM for additional connection available to all other FBs as dictated by the designsoft-

ware. The AIM minimizes both propagation delay and power as it makes attachments to the various FBs.

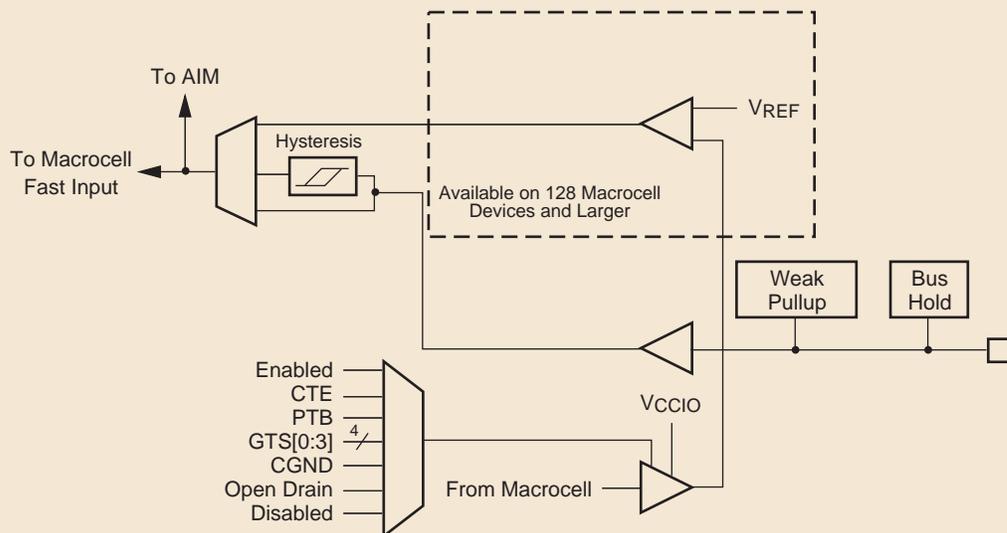
I/O Block

I/O blocks are primarily transceivers. However, each I/O is either automatically compliant with standard voltage ranges or can be programmed to become so.

In addition to voltage levels, each input can selectively arrive through Schmitt-trigger inputs. This adds a small time delay, but substantially reduces noise on that input pin. Hysteresis also allows easy generation of external clock circuits. The Schmitt-trigger path is best seen in Figure 4.

Outputs can be directly driven, 3-stated or open-drain configured. A choice of slow or fast slew rate output signal is also available. Table 4 summarizes various supported voltage standards associated with specific part capacities. All inputs and disabled outputs are voltage tolerant up to 3.3V.

Figure 4 details the I/O pin, where it is noted that the inputs requiring comparison to an external reference voltage (SSTL2-1, SSTL3-1, HSTL-1) are available on the 128 macrocell and denser parts.



DS090_04_121201

Figure 4: CoolRunner-II CPLD I/O Block Diagram

Table 4 summarizes the single ended I/O standard support and shows which standards require V_{REF} values and board termination. V_{REF} detail is given in specific data sheets.

Table 4: CoolRunner-II CPLD I/O Standard Summary

I/O Standard	V_{CCIO}	Input V_{REF}	Board Termination Voltage (V_{TT})
LVTTTL	3.3	N/A	N/A
LVC MOS33	3.3	N/A	N/A
LVC MOS25	2.5	N/A	N/A
LVC MOS18	1.8	N/A	N/A
1.5V I/O	1.5	N/A	N/A
HSTL-1	1.5	0.75	0.75
SSTL2-1	2.5	1.25	1.25
SSTL3-1	3.3	1.5	1.5

Output Banking

CPLDs are widely used as voltage interface translators. To that end, the output pins are grouped in large banks. The smallest parts are not banked, so all signals will have the same output swing for 32 and 64 macrocell parts. The medium parts (128 and 256 macrocell) support two output banks. With two, the outputs will switch to one of two selected output voltage levels, unless both banks are set to the same voltage. The larger parts (384 and 512 macrocell) support four output banks split evenly. They can support groupings of one, two, three or four separate output voltage levels. This kind of flexibility permits easy interfacing to 3.3V, 2.5V, 1.8V, and 1.5V in a single part.

DataGATE

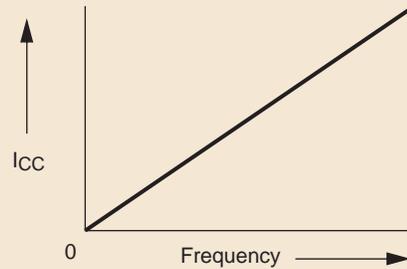
Low power is the hallmark of CMOS technology. Other CPLD families use a sense amplifier approach to creating product terms, which always has a residual current component being drawn. This residual current can be several hundred milliamps, making them unusable in portable systems. CoolRunner-II CPLDs use standard CMOS methods to create the CPLD architecture and deliver the corresponding low current consumption, without doing any special tricks. However, sometimes designers would like to reduce their system current even more by selectively disabling circuitry not being used.

The patented DataGATE technology was developed to permit a straightforward approach to additional power reduction. Each I/O pin has a series switch that can block the arrival of free running signals that are not of interest. Signals that serve no use may increase power consumption, and can be disabled. Users are free to do their design, then choose sections to participate in the DataGATE function. DataGATE is a logic function that drives an assertion rail threaded through the medium and high-density CoolRunner-II CPLD parts. Designers can select inputs to be blocked under the control of the DataGATE function, effectively blocking controlled switching signals so they do not drive internal chip capacitances. Output signals that do not switch, are held by the bus hold feature. Any set of input pins can be chosen to participate in the DataGATE function. Figure 5 shows the familiar CMOS I_{CC} versus switching frequency graph. With DataGATE, designers can approach zero power, should they choose to, in their designs

Figure 6 shows how DataGATE basically works. One I/O pin drives the DataGATE Assertion Rail. It can have any desired logic function on it. It can be as simple as mapping an input pin to the DataGATE function or as complex as a

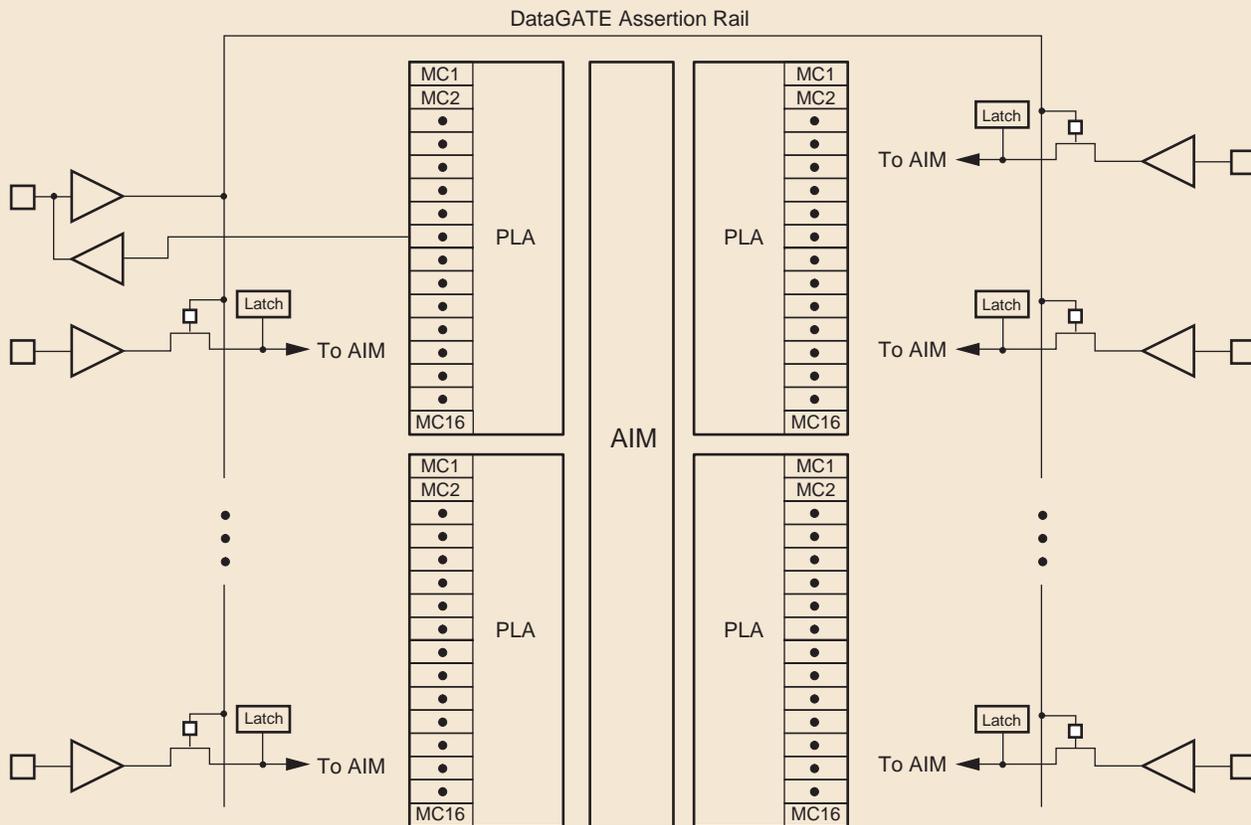
counter or state machine output driving the DataGATE I/O pin through a macrocell. When the DataGATE rail is asserted low, any pass transistor switch attached to it is blocked. Note that each pin has the ability to attach to the AIM through a DataGATE pass transistor, and thus be blocked. A latch automatically captures the state of the pin when it becomes blocked. The DataGATE Assertion Rail threads throughout all possible I/Os, so each can participate if chosen. Note that one macrocell is singled out to drive the rail, and that macrocell is exposed to the outside

world through a pin, for inspection. If DataGATE is not needed, this pin is an ordinary I/O.



DS090_05_101001

Figure 5: CMOS I_{CC} vs. Switching Frequency Curve

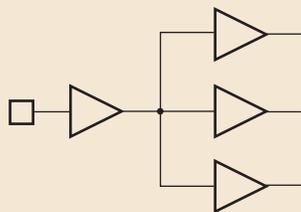


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Figure 6: DataGATE Architecture (output drivers not shown)

Global Signals

Global signals, clocks (GCK), sets/resets (GSR) and output enables (GTS), are designed to strongly resemble each other. This approach enables design software to make the best utilization of their capabilities. Each global capability is supplemented by a corresponding product term version. **Figure 7** shows the common structure of the global signal trees. The pin input is buffered, then drives multiple internal global signal traces to deliver low skew and reduce loading delays. The DataGATE assertion rail is also a global signal.



DS090_07_101001

Figure 7: Global Clocks (GCK), Sets/Resets (GSR) and Output Enables (GTS)

Additional Clock Options: Division, DualEDGE, and CoolCLOCK

Division

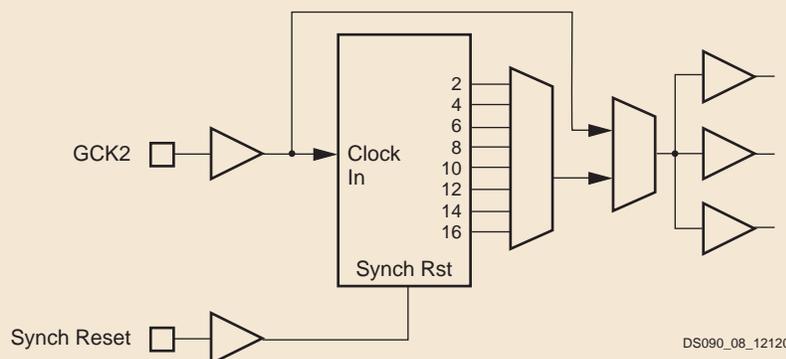
Circuitry has been included in the CoolRunner-II CPLD architecture to divide one externally supplied global clock by standard values. Division by 2,4,6,8,10, 12, 14 and 16 are the options (see **Figure 8**). This capability is supplied on the GCK2 pin. The resulting clock produced will be 50% duty cycle for all possible divisions. Note that a Synchronous Reset is included to guarantee no runt clocks can get through to the global clock nets. Note that again, the signal is buffered and driven to multiple traces with minimal loading and skew.

DualEDGE

Each macrocell has the ability to double its input clock switching frequency. **Figure 9** shows the macrocell flip-flop with the DualEDGE option (doubled clock) at each macrocell. The source to double can be a control term clock, a product term clock or one of the available global clocks. The ability to switch on both clock edges is vital for a number of synchronous memory interface applications as well as certain double data rate I/O applications.

CoolCLOCK

In addition to the DualEDGE flip-flop, additional power savings can be had by combining the clock division circuitry with the DualEDGE circuitry. This capability is called CoolCLOCK and is designed to reduce clocking power within the CPLD. Because the clock net can be an appreciable power drain, the clock power can be reduced by driving the net at half frequency, then doubling the clock rate using DualEDGE triggering at the macrocells. **Figure 10** shows how CoolCLOCK is created by internal clock cascading with the divider and DualEDGE flip-flop working together.



DS090_08_12120

Figure 8: Clock Division Circuitry for GCK2

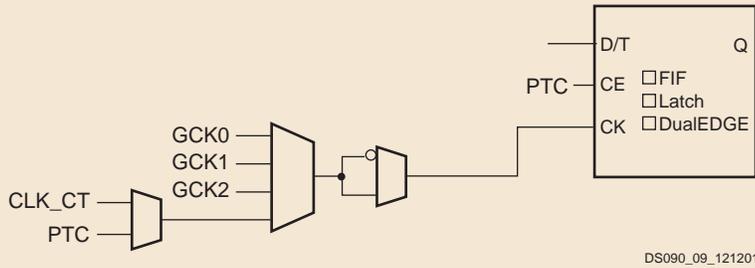


Figure 9: Macrocell Clock Chain with DualEDGE Option Shown

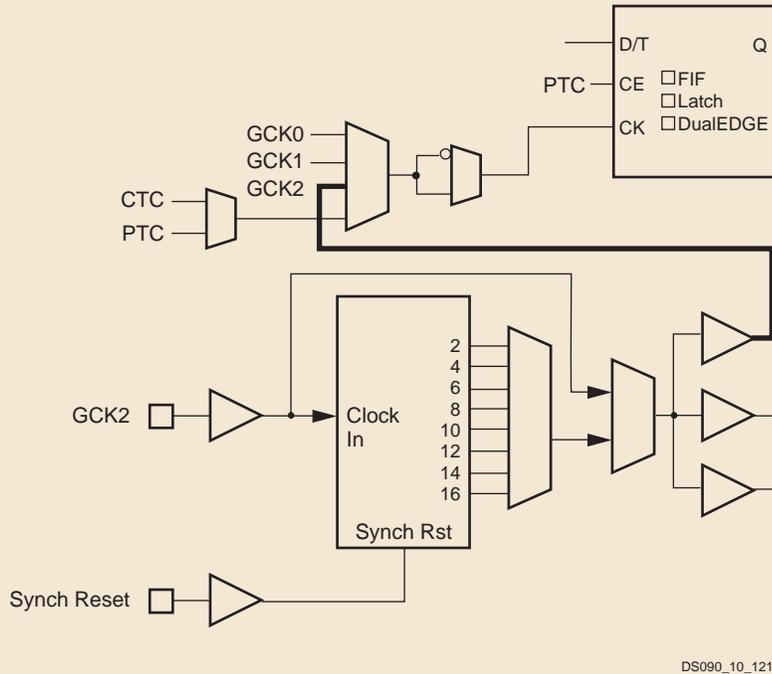


Figure 10: CoolCLOCK Created by Cascading Clock Divider and DualEDGE Option

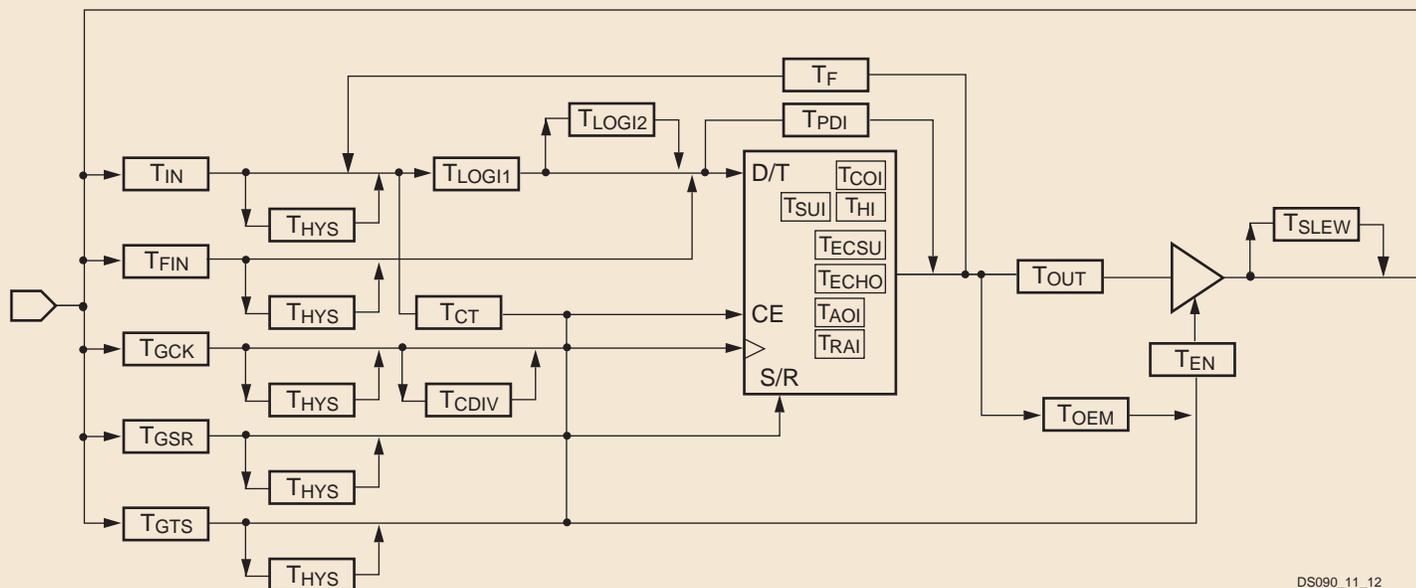
Design Security

Designs can be secured during programming to prevent either accidental overwriting or pattern theft via readback. Four independent levels of security are provided on-chip, eliminating any electrical or visual detection of configuration patterns. These security bits can be reset only by erasing the entire device. Additional detail is omitted intentionally.

Timing Model

Figure 11 shows the CoolRunner-II CPLD timing model. It represents one aspect of the overall architecture from a tim-

ing viewpoint. Each little block is a time delay that a signal will incur if the signal passes through such a resource. Timing reports are created by tallying the incremental signal delays as signals progress within the CPLD. Software creates the timing reports after a design has been mapped onto the specific part, and knows the specific delay values for a given speed grade. Equations for the higher level timing values (i.e., T_{PD} and F_{SYSTEM}) are available. Table 5 summarizes the individual parameters and provides a brief definition of their associated functions. Xilinx application note XAPP375 details the CoolRunner-II CPLD family timing with several examples.



DS090_11_12

Figure 11: CoolRunner-II CPLD Timing Model

Table 5: Timing Parameter Definitions

Symbol	Parameter
Buffer Delays	
T_{IN}	Input Buffer Delay
T_{FIN}	Fast data register input delay
T_{GCK}	Global clock (GCK) buffer delay
T_{GSR}	Global set/reset (GSR) buffer delay
T_{GTS}	Global output enable (GTS) buffer delay
T_{OUT}	Output buffer delay
T_{EN}	Output buffer enable/disable delay
T_{SLEW}	Output buffer slew rate control delay
P-term Delays	
T_{CT}	Control Term delay (single PT or FB-CT)
T_{LOG1}	Single P-term logic delay
T_{LOG2}	Multiple P-term logic delay adder

Table 5: Timing Parameter Definitions (Continued)

Symbol	Parameter
Macrocell Delays	
T_{PDI}	Macro cell input to output valid
T_{SUI}	Macro register setup before clock
T_{HI}	Macro register hold after clock
T_{ECSU}	Macro register enable clock setup time
T_{ECHO}	Macro register enable clock hold time
T_{COI}	Macro register clock to output valid
T_{RAI}	Macro register set/reset recovery before clock
T_{AOI}	Macro register set/reset to output valid
T_{CDIV}	Clock divider delay adder
T_{HYS}	Hysteresis selection delay adder
Feedback Delays	
T_F	Feedback delay
T_{OEM}	Macrocell to Global OE delay

In System Programming

All CoolRunner-II CPLD parts are 1.8V in system programmable. This means they derive their programming voltage and currents from the 1.8V V_{CC} (internal supply voltage) pins on the part. The V_{CCIO} pins do not participate in this operation, as they may assume another voltage ranging as high as 3.3V down to 1.5V. A 1.8V V_{CC} is required to properly operate the internal state machines and charge pumps that reside within the CPLD to do the nonvolatile programming operations. Xilinx software is provided to deliver the bit-stream to the CPLD and drive the appropriate IEEE 1532 protocol. To that end, there is a set of IEEE 1532 commands that are supported in the CoolRunner-II CPLD parts. Programming times are less than one second for 32 to 256 macrocell parts. Programming times are less than four seconds for 384 and 512 macrocell parts.

JTAG Instructions

Table 6 shows the commands available to users. These same commands may be used by third party ATE products, as well. The internal controllers can operate as fast as 66 MHz. The JTAG interface buffers are powered by a dedicated power pin, V_{CCAUX} , which is independent of all other supply pins.

Table 6: JTAG Instructions

Code	Instruction	Description
00000000	EXTEST	Force boundary scan data onto outputs
00000011	PRELOAD	Latch macrocell data into boundary scan cells
11111111	BYPASS	Insert bypass register between TDI and TDO
00000010	INTEST	Force boundary scan data onto inputs and feedbacks
00000001	IDCODE	Read IDCODE
11111101	USERCODE	Read USERCODE
11111100	HIGHZ	Force output into high impedance state
11111010	CLAMP	Latch present output state

Power-Up Characteristics

CoolRunner-II CPLD parts must operate under the demands of both the high-speed and the portable market places, therefore, they must support hot plugging for the high-speed world and tolerate most any power sequence to its various voltage pins. They must also not draw excessive current dur-

ing power-up initialization. To those ends, the general behavior is summarized as follows:

1. I/O pins are disabled until the end of power-up.
2. As supply rises, configuration bits transfer from non-volatile memory to SRAM cells.
3. As power up completes, the outputs become as configured (input, output, or I/O).
4. The process takes less than 25 ms and draws less than 5 mA of current.

I/O Banking

CoolRunner-II CPLD 32 and 64 macrocell parts support a single V_{CCIO} rail that can range from 3.3V down to 1.5V operation. Two V_{CCIO} rails are supported on the 128 and 256 macrocell parts where outputs on each rail can independently range from 3.3V down to 1.5V operation. Four V_{CCIO} rails are supported on the 384 and 512 macrocell parts with each rail independently supporting any voltage between 3.3V and 1.5V. The V_{CC} (internal supply voltage) for a CoolRunner-II CPLD must be maintained within 1.8V $\pm 5\%$ for correct speed operation and proper in system programming.

Mixed Voltage, Power Sequencing, and Hot Plugging

As mentioned in I/O Banking, CoolRunner-II CPLD parts support mixed voltage I/O signals where signals within the same bank can range from 3.3V down to 1.5V. The power applied to the V_{CCIO} and V_{CC} pins can occur in any order and the CoolRunner-II CPLD will not be damaged. CoolRunner-II CPLDs can reside on boards where the board is inserted into a “live” connector (hot plugged) and the parts will be well-behaved as if powering up in a standard way.

Development System Support

Xilinx CoolRunner-II CPLDs are supported by all configurations of Xilinx standard release development software as well as the freely available WebFITTER and ISE WebPACK software available from www.xilinx.com. Third party development tools include synthesis tools from Cadence, Exemplar, Mentor Graphics, Synplicity, and Synopsys.

ATE Support

Third party ATE development support is available for both programming and board/chip level testing. Vendors providing this support include Hewlett-Packard, GenRad, and Teradyne. Other third party providers are expected to deliver solutions in the future.

Absolute Maximum Ratings⁽¹⁾

Symbol	Parameter	Min.	Max.	Unit
V_{CC}	Supply voltage ⁽²⁾ relative to GND	-0.5	2.0	V
V_I	Input voltage ⁽³⁾ relative to GND	-0.5	4.0	V
T_J	Maximum junction temperature	-40	125	°C
T_{STR}	Storage temperature	-65	150	°C

Notes:

1. Stresses above those listed may cause malfunction or permanent damage to the device. This is a stress rating only. Functional operation at these or any other condition above those indicated in the operational and programming specification is not implied.
2. The chip supply voltage should rise monotonically.
3. Maximum DC undershoot below GND must be limited to either 0.5V or 10 mA, whichever is easier to achieve. During transitions, the device pins may undershoot to -2.0V or overshoot to 3.5 V, provided this over- or undershoot lasts less than 10 ns and with the forcing current being limited to 200 mA. The I/O voltage may never exceed 4.0V.

Quality and Reliability Parameters

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Units
T_{DR}	Data retention	20	-	Years
N_{PE}	Program/erase cycles (Endurance)	1,000	-	Cycles
V_{ESD}	Electrostatic discharge	2,000	-	Volts

Revision History

The following table shows the revision history for this document.

Date	Version	Revision
01/03/02	1.0	Initial Xilinx release.

Xilinx FPGA Product Selection Matrix



Device	CLB (1 CLB = 4 slices = Max 128 bits)					Block SelectRAM				
	Rocket I/O™ Transceiver Blocks	PowerPC™ Processor Blocks	Array Row x Col	Slices	Maximum Distributed RAM Kbits	18 x 18 Bit Multiplier Blocks	18 Kbit Blocks	Max Block RAM Kbits	DCMs	Max I/O Pads
XC2VP2	4	0	16 x 22	1,408	44	12	12	216	4	204
XC2VP4	4	1	40 x 22	3,008	94	28	28	504	4	348
XC2VP7	8	1	40 x 34	4,928	154	44	44	792	4	396
XC2VP20	8	2	56 x 46	9,280	290	88	88	1,584	8	564
XC2VP50	16	4	88 x 70	22,592	706	216	216	3,888	8	852

System Gates (see note 1)	CLB Resources					BLK RAM		CLK Resources					I/O Features			Speed						
	CLB Array (Row X Col)	Number of Slices	Logic Cells (see note 2)	CLB Flip-Flops	Max. Distributed RAM Bits	# Block RAM Blocks	Block RAM Bits	# Dedicated Multipliers	DLL Frequency (min/max)	# DLL's	Frequency Synthesis	Phase Shift	Digitally Controlled Impedance	Number of Differential I/O Pairs	Max. I/O	I/O Standards	Commercial Speed Grades (slowest to fastest)	Industrial Speed Grades (slowest to fastest)	Serial PROM Family	Config. Memory (Bits)		
Virtex-II Family — 1.5 Volt																			.15um Eight Layer Metal Process			
XC2V40	40K	8 x 8	256	576	512	8K	4	72K	4	24/420	4	DCM	DCM	YES	44	88	LDT-25, LVPECL-33, LVDS-33, LVDS-25,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5	ISP	OTP	0.4M
XC2V80	80K	16 x 8	512	1,152	1,024	16K	8	144K	8	24/420	4	DCM	DCM	YES	60	120	LVDS-33, LVDS-25,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			0.6M
XC2V250	250K	24 x 16	1,536	3,456	3,072	48K	24	432K	24	24/420	8	DCM	DCM	YES	100	200	LVDS-33, LVDS-25,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			1.7M
XC2V500	500K	32 x 24	3,072	6,912	6,144	96K	32	576K	32	24/420	8	DCM	DCM	YES	132	264	BLVDS-25, ULVDS-25,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			2.8M
XC2V1000	1M	40 x 32	5,120	11,520	10,240	160K	40	720K	40	24/420	8	DCM	DCM	YES	216	432	LVTTL, LVCMS033,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			4.1M
XC2V1500	1.5M	48 x 40	7,680	17,280	15,360	240K	48	864K	48	24/420	8	DCM	DCM	YES	264	528	LVCMS025, LVCMS018,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			5.7M
XC2V2000	2M	56 x 48	10,752	24,192	21,504	336K	56	1008K	56	24/420	8	DCM	DCM	YES	312	624	LVCMS015, PCI33, PCI66,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			7.5M
XC2V3000	3M	64 x 56	14,336	32,256	28,672	448K	96	1728K	96	24/420	12	DCM	DCM	YES	360	720	PCI-X, GTL, GTL+, HSTL I,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			10.5M
XC2V4000	4M	80 x 72	23,040	51,840	46,080	720K	120	2160K	120	24/420	12	DCM	DCM	YES	456	912	HSTL II, HSTL III, HSTL IV,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			15.7M
XC2V6000	6M	96 x 88	33,792	76,032	67,584	1056K	144	2592K	144	24/420	12	DCM	DCM	YES	552	1104	SSTL21, SSTL211,	-4 -5 -6	-4 -5			21.9M
XC2V8000	8M	112 x 104	46,592	104,832	93,184	1456K	168	3024K	168	24/420	12	DCM	DCM	YES	554	1108	SSTL3 I, SSTL3 II	-4 -5 -6	-4	29.1M		
Virtex-E Family — 1.8 Volt																			.18um Six Layer Metal Process			
XCV50E	72K	16 x 24	768	1,728	1,536	24K	16	64K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	88	176	LVTTL, LVCMS02,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7	ISP	OTP	0.6M
XCV100E	128K	20 x 30	1,200	2,700	2,400	37.5K	20	80K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	98	196	LVTTL, LVCMS02,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			0.9M
XCV200E	306K	28 x 42	2,352	5,292	4,704	73.5K	28	112K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	142	284	LVCMS018, PCI33,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			1.45M
XCV300E	412K	32 x 48	3,072	6,912	6,144	96K	32	128K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	158	316	LVCMS018, PCI33,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			1.88M
XCV400E	570K	40 x 60	4,800	10,800	9,600	150K	40	160K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	202	404	PCI66, GTL, GTL+,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			2.7M
XCV600E	986K	48 x 72	6,912	15,552	13,824	216K	72	288K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	256	512	HSTL I, HSTL III, HSTL IV,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			3.97M
XCV1000E	1,569K	64 x 96	12,288	27,648	24,576	384K	96	384K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	330	660	SSTL3 I, SSTL3 II,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			6.6M
XCV1600E	2,188K	72 x 180	25,920	34,992	51,840	486K	144	576K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	362	724	SSTL21, SSTL211, BLVDS,	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			8.4M
XCV2000E	2,542K	80 x 120	19,200	43,200	38,400	600K	160	640K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	402	804	LVDS, LVPECL	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			10.2M
XCV2600E	3,264K	92 x 138	25,392	57,132	50,784	793.5K	184	736K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	402	804		-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			13M
XCV3200E	4,074K	104 x 156	32,448	73,008	64,896	1014K	208	832K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	402	804		-6 -7 -8	-6 -7	16.3M		
Virtex-EM Family — 1.8 Volt																			.18um Six Layer Metal Process			
XCV405E	1.31M	40 x 60	4,800	10,800	9,600	150K	140	560K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	202	404	Same As Virtex-E	-6 -7 -8	-6 -7	ISP	OTP	3.43M
XCV812E	2.54M	56 x 84	9,408	21,168	18,816	294K	280	1120K	NA	25/350	8	YES	YES	NA	278	556		-6 -7 -8	-6 -7			6.52M
Spartan-IIe Family — 1.8 Volt																			.18um Six Layer Metal Process			
XC2S50E	50K	16 x 24	768	1,728	1,536	24K	8	32K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	84	182	LVTTL, LVCMS02, LVCMS018,	-6 -7	-6	ISP	OTP	0.6M
XC2S100E	100K	20 x 30	1,200	2,700	2,400	37.5K	10	40K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	86	202	PCI33, PCI66, GTL, GTL+,	-6 -7	-6			0.9M
XC2S150E	150K	24 x 36	1,728	3,888	3,456	54K	12	48K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	114	263	HSTL I, HSTL III, HSTL IV, SSTL3 I,	-6 -7	-6			1.1M
XC2S200E	200K	28 x 42	2,352	5,292	4,704	73.5K	14	56K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	120	289	SSTL3 I, SSTL2, SSTL2 I, AGP-2X,	-6 -7	-6			1.4M
XC2S300E	300K	32 x 48	3,072	6,912	6,144	96K	16	64K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	120	329	CTT, LVDS, BLVDS, LVPECL	-6 -7	-6			1.9M
Spartan-II Family — 2.5 Volt																			.22-1.8um Six Layer Metal Process			
XC2S15	15K	8 x 12	192	432	384	6K	4	16K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	86	LVTTL, LVCMS02,	-5 -6	-5	ISP	OTP	0.2M
XC2S30	30K	12 x 18	432	972	864	13.5K	6	24K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	132	PCI33 (3.3V & 5V),	-5 -6	-5			0.4M
XC2S50	50K	16 x 24	768	1,728	1,536	24K	8	32K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	176	PCI66 (3.3V), GTL, GTL+,	-5 -6	-5			0.6M
XC2S100	100K	20 x 30	1,200	2,700	2,400	37.5K	10	40K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	196	HSTL I, HSTL III, HSTL IV,	-5 -6	-5			0.8M
XC2S150	150K	24 x 36	1,728	3,888	3,456	54K	12	48K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	260	SSTL3 I, SSTL3 II, SSTL2 I,	-5 -6	-5			1.1M
XC2S200	200K	28 x 42	2,352	5,292	4,704	73.5K	14	56K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	284	SSTL2 II, AGP-2X, CTT	-5 -6	-5			1.4M

Note: 1. System Gates include 20-30% of CLBs used as RAM
 2. A Logic Cell is defined as a 4 input LUT and a register
 DCM – Digital Clock Management

Important: Verify all Data with Device Data Sheet

Xilinx Spartan FPGAs

	CLB Resources						BLK RAM		CLK Resources				I/O Features			Speed		Serial PROM Family	Config. Memory (Bits)			
	System Gates (see note 1)	CLB Array (Row X Col)	Number of Slices	Logic Cells (see note 2)	CLB Flip-Flops	Max. Distributed RAM Bits	# Block RAM	Block RAM (kbits)	# Dedicated Multipliers	DLL Frequency (min/max)	# DLL's	Frequency Synthesis	Phase Shift	Digitally Controlled Impedance	Number of Differential I/O Pairs	Max. I/O	I/O Standards			Commercial Speed Grades (slowest to fastest)	Industrial Speed Grades (slowest to fastest)	
Spartan-IIIE Family — 1.8 Volt																	.18um Six Layer Metal Process					
XC2S50E	50K	16 x 24	768	1,728	1,536	24K	8	32K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	84	182	LVTTL, LVCMOS2, LVCMOS18, PCI33, PCI66, GTL, GTL+,	-6 -7	-6	ISP	OTP	0.6M
XC2S100E	100K	20 x 30	1,200	2,700	2,400	37.5K	10	40K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	86	202	PCI33, PCI66, GTL, GTL+,	-6 -7	-6			0.9M
XC2S150E	150K	24 x 36	1,728	3,888	3,456	54K	12	48K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	114	263	HSTL I, HSTL III, HSTL M, SSTL3 I,	-6 -7	-6			1.1M
XC2S200E	200K	28 x 42	2,352	5,292	4,704	73.5K	14	56K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	120	289	SSTL3 II, SSTL2, SSTL2 II, AGP-2X,	-6 -7	-6			1.4M
XC2S300E	300K	32 x 48	3,072	6,912	6,144	96K	16	64K	NA	25/320	4	YES	YES	NA	120	329	CTT, LVDS, BLVDS, LVPECL	-6 -7	-6	1.9M		
Spartan-II Family — 2.5 Volt																	.22/.18um Six Layer Metal Process					
XC2S15	15K	8 x 12	192	432	384	6K	4	16K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	86	LVTTL, LVCMOS2,	-5 -6	-5	ISP	OTP	0.2M
XC2S30	30K	12 x 18	432	972	864	13.5K	6	24K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	132	PCI33 (3.3V & 5V),	-5 -6	-5			0.4M
XC2S50	50K	16 x 24	768	1,728	1,536	24K	8	32K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	176	PCI66 (3.3V), GTL, GTL+,	-5 -6	-5			0.6M
XC2S100	100K	20 x 30	1,200	2,700	2,400	37.5K	10	40K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	196	HSTL I, HSTL III, HSTL IV,	-5 -6	-5			0.8M
XC2S150	150K	24 x 36	1,728	3,888	3,456	54K	12	48K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	260	SSTL3 I, SSTL3 II, SSTL2 I,	-5 -6	-5			1.1M
XC2S200	200K	28 x 42	2,352	5,292	4,704	73.5K	14	56K	NA	25/200	4	YES	YES	NA	NA	284	SSTL2 II, AGP-2X, CTT	-5 -6	-5			1.4M

PACKAGE OPTIONS AND USER I/O

Pins	Body Size	Spartan-IIIE (1.8V)					Spartan-II (2.5V)					
		XC2S50E	XC2S100E	XC2S150E	XC2S200E	XC2S300E	XC2S15	XC2S30	XC2S50	XC2S100	XC2S150	XC2S200
208	28 x 28 mm	146	146	146	146	146	86	132	140	140	140	140
100	14 x 14 mm						60	60				
144	20 x 20 mm	102	102				86	92	92	92		
144	12 x 12 mm						86	92				
256	17 x 17 mm	182	182	182	182							
256	17 x 17 mm								176	176	176	176
456	23 x 23 mm		202	263	289	329			196	260	284	

- Note: 1. System Gates include 20-30% of CLBs used as RAM
 2. A Logic Cell is defined as a 4 input LUT and a register
 DCM – Digital Clock Management
Important: Verify all Data with Device Data Sheet

Numbers indicated in the matrix are the maximum number of user I/O's for that package and device combination.

Xilinx CPLD Product Selection Matrix

PRODUCT SELECTION MATRIX

	System Gates	Macrocells	Product terms per Macrocell	Input Voltage Compatible	Output Voltage Compatible	I/O Features			Speed			Clocking	
						Max. I/O	I/O Banking	Min. Pin-to-Pin Logic Delay (ns)	Commercial Speed Grades (fastest to slowest)	Industrial Speed Grades (fastest to slowest)	Global Clocks	Product Term Clocks per Function Block	
CoolRunner-II Family — 1.8 Volt													
XC2C32	750	32	40	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	33	1	3.5	-3 -4 -6	-6	3	17	
XC2C64	1500	64	40	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	64	1	4	-4 -5 -7	-7	3	17	
XC2C128	3000	128	40	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	100	2	4.5	-4 -6 -7	-7	3	17	
XC2C256	6000	256	40	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	184	2	5	-5 -6 -7	-7	3	17	
XC2C384	9000	384	40	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	240	4	6	-6 -7 -10	-10	3	17	
XC2C512	12000	512	40	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	1.5/1.8/2.5/3.3	270	4	6	-6 -7 -10	-10	3	17	
CoolRunner XPLA3 Family — 3.3 Volt													
XCR3032XL	750	32	48	3.3/5	3.3	36	5	5	-5 -7 -10	-7 -10	4	16	
XCR3064XL	1500	64	48	3.3/5	3.3	68	6	6	-6 -7 -10	-7 -10	4	16	
XCR3128XL	3000	128	48	3.3/5	3.3	108	6	6	-6 -7 -10	-7 -10	4	16	
XCR3256XL	6000	256	48	3.3/5	3.3	164	7.5	7.5	-7 -10 -12	-10 -12	4	16	
XCR3384XL	9000	384	48	3.3/5	3.3	220	7.5	7.5	-7 -10 -12	-10 -12	4	16	
XCR3512XL	12000	512	48	3.3/5	3.3	260	7.5	7.5	-7 -10 -12	-10 -12	4	16	
XC9500XV Family — 2.5 Volt													
XC9536XV	800	36	90	2.5/3.3	1.8/2.5/3.3	36	1	5	-5 -7	-7	3	18	
XC9572XV	1600	72	90	2.5/3.3	1.8/2.5/3.3	72	1	5	-5 -7	-7	3	18	
XC95144XV	3200	144	90	2.5/3.3	1.8/2.5/3.3	117	2	5	-5 -7	-7	3	18	
XC95288XV	6400	288	90	2.5/3.3	1.8/2.5/3.3	192	4	6	-6 -7 -10	-7 -10	3	18	
XC9500XL Family — 3.3 Volt													
XC9536XL	800	36	90	2.5/3.3/5	2.5/3.3	36	5	5	-5 -7 -10	-7 -10	3	18	
XC9572XL	1600	72	90	2.5/3.3/5	2.5/3.3	72	5	5	-5 -7 -10	-7 -10	3	18	
XC95144XL	3200	144	90	2.5/3.3/5	2.5/3.3	117	5	5	-5 -7 -10	-7 -10	3	18	
XC95288XL	6400	288	90	2.5/3.3/5	2.5/3.3	192	6	6	-6 -7 -10	-7 -10	3	18	



PACKAGE OPTIONS AND USER I/O

		CoolRunner-II						CoolRunner XPLA3						XC9500XV				XC9500XL			
		XC2C32	XC2C64	XC2C128	XC2C256	XC2C384	XC2C512	XCR3032XL	XCR3064XL	XCR3128XL	XCR3256XL	XCR3384XL	XCR3512XL	XC9536XV	XC9572XV	XC95144XV	XC95288XV	XC9536XL	XC9572XL	XC95144XL	XC95288XL
Body Size																					
PLCC Packages (PC)																					
44	17.5 x 17.5 mm	33	33					36	36					34	34			34	34		
PQFP Packages (PQ)																					
208	28 x 28 mm			173	173	173				164	172	180				168					168
VQFP Packages (VQ)																					
44	12 x 12 mm	33	33					36	36					34	34				34	34	
64	12 x 12 mm																	36	52		
100	16 x 16 mm		64	80	80				68	84											
TQFP Packages (TQ)																					
100	14 x 14 mm													72	81				72	81	
144	20 x 20 mm			100	118	118				108	120	118*			117	117				117	117
Chip Scale Packages (CP) — wire-bond chip-scale BGA (0.5 mm ball spacing)																					
56	6 X 6 mm	33	45						48												
132	8 X 8 mm			100	106																
Chip Scale Packages (CS) — wire-bond chip-scale BGA (0.8 mm ball spacing)																					
48	7 x 7mm							36	40					36	38				36	38	
144	12 x 12 mm									108					117						117
280	16 x 16 mm										164					192					192
BGA Packages (BG) — wire-bond standard BGA (1.27 mm ball spacing)																					
256	27 x 27 mm																				192
FGA Packages (FT) — wire-bond fine-pitch thin BGA (1.0 mm ball spacing)																					
256	17 x 17 mm			184	212	212				164	212	212									
FBGA Packages (FG) — wire-bond Finline BGA (1.0 mm ball spacing)																					
256	17 x 17 mm															192					192
324	23 x 23 mm				240	270					220	260									

*JTAG pins and port enable are not pin compatible in this package for this member of the family.
Important: Verify all Data with Device Data Sheet and Product Availability with your local Xilinx Rep

Xilinx Software

	Feature	ISE WebPACK	ISE BaseX	ISE Foundation	ISE Alliance
Device Support	Platform	PC	PC	PC/UNIX	PC/UNIX
	Virtex™ Series	Up to 300K (Virtex-E and Virtex-II)	Up to 300K	ALL	ALL
	Spartan™ II/IIe Families	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL
	Spartan™ /XL Families	No	Implementation Only*	Implementation Only*	ALL
	XC4000™ Series	No	Implementation Only*	Implementation Only*	ALL
	CoolRunner XPLA3 / CoolRunner™-II Families	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL
Design Planning	XC9500™ Series	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL
	Modular Design	No	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option
	Educational Services	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Design Services	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option
Design Entry	Support Services	Web Only	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Schematic Editor (Gate & Block Level HDL)	Yes	Yes	PC Only	No
	HDL Editor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	State Diagram Editor	Yes	Yes	PC Only	No
	CORE Generator	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Synthesis	System Generator for DSP	No	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option
	Xilinx Synthesis Technology (XST)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	Synplicity Synplify/Pro	No	Integration Kit	Integration Kit (PC Only)	Integration Kit (PC Only)
	Leonardo Spectrum	Integration Kit	Integration Kit	Integration Kit	Integration Kit
	Synopsys FPGA Compiler II	EDIF Only	EDIF Only	EDIF Only	EDIF Only
Implementation Tools	ABEL	CPLD	CPLD	CPLD (PC Only)	No
	IMPACT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	FloorPlanner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Xilinx Constraints Editor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Timing Driven Place & Route	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Timing Improvement Wizard	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Board Level Integration	IBIS Models	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	STAMP Models	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	LMG SmartModels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	HSPICE Models**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Verification	HDL Benchcr™	Yes	Yes	PC Only	No
	ModelSim Xilinx Edition (MXE II)	ModelSim XE II Starter***	ModelSim XE II Starter***	ModelSim XE II Starter***	ModelSim XE II Starter***
	Static Timing Analyzer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	ChipScope	No	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option	Sold as an Option
	FPGA Editor with Probe	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	ChipViewer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	XPower (Power Analysis)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	3rd Party Simulator Support	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
IP/CORE	For more information on the complete list of Xilinx IP products, visit the Xilinx IP Center at http://www.xilinx.com/ipcenter				

* For Spartan, SpartanXL, and 4K device families, ISE supports the implementation by reading in gate-level EDIF netlist.

** HSPICE Models available at the Xilinx Design Tools Center at www.xilinx.com/ise.

*** MXE II supports the simulation of designs up to 1 million system gates and is sold as an option.

Xilinx Configuration Storage Solutions

	Memory Density	Number of Components	Min board space	Compression	FPGA Config. Mode	Multiple Designs	Software Storage	Removable	IRL Hooks	Max Config. Speed	Non-Volatile Media
System ACE CF	up to 8 Gbit	2	25 cm ²	No	JTAG	Unlimited	Yes	Yes	Yes	30 Mbit/sec	CompactFlash
System ACE MPM	16 Mbit 32 Mbit 64 Mbit	1	12.25 cm ²	Yes	SelectMAP (up to 4 FPGA) Slave-Serial (up to 8 FPGA chains)	Up to 8	No	No	Yes	152 Mbit/sec	AMD Flash Memory
System ACE SC	16 Mbit 32 Mbit 64 Mbit	3	Custom	Yes	SelectMAP (up to 4 FPGA) Slave-Serial (up to 8 FPGA chains)	Up to 8	No	No	Yes	152 Mbit/sec	AMD Flash memory

										
	Density	PD8	V08	S020	PC20	PC44	V044	Core Voltage	I/O Voltage	
								2.5V	3.3V	
In-System Programming (ISP) Configuration PROMs										
XC18V256	256Kb			Y	Y		Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC18V512	512Kb			Y	Y		Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC18V01	1Mb			Y	Y		Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC18V02	2Mb					Y	Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC18V04	4Mb					Y	Y	3.3V	Y	Y
One-Time Programmable (OTP) Configuration PROMs										
XC17V01	1.6Mb		Y	Y	Y			3.3V	Y	Y
XC17V02	2Mb				Y	Y	Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC17V04	4Mb				Y	Y	Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC17V08	8Mb					Y	Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC17V16	16Mb					Y	Y	3.3V	Y	Y

	FPGA	PD8	V08	S020	PC20	PC44	VQ44	Core Voltage	I/O Voltage	
								2.5V	3.3V	
OTP Configuration PROMs for Spartan-II/II E										
XC17S50A	XC2S50E	Y	Y	Y				3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S100A	XC2S100E	Y	Y	Y				3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S200A	XC2S150E	Y	Y				Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S200A	XC2S200E	Y	Y				Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S300A	XC2S300E						Y	3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S15A	XC2S15	Y	Y	Y				3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S30A	XC2S30	Y	Y	Y				3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S50A	XC2S50	Y	Y	Y				3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S100A	XC2S100	Y	Y	Y				3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S150A	XC2S150	Y	Y	Y				3.3V	Y	Y
XC17S200A	XC2S200	Y	Y				Y	3.3V	Y	Y

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Xilinx Tutorial Center
<http://www.xilinx.com/support/techsup/tutorials/index.htm>

Xilinx WebPACK
<http://www.xilinx.com/sxpresso/webpack.htm>

Xilinx IP Selection Guide

Function	Vendor Name	IP Type	Virtek-II Pro	Virtek-II	Virtek-E	Virtek	Spartan-IIIe	Spartan-II	Spartan	Occ	MHz	Implementation Example	Device	Key Features	Application Examples
Communication & Networking															
1 Gigabit Ethernet Full Duplex MAC	AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			46%	31	XC2V1500-5	Single/multi-mode fiber optics; 802.3x full duplex flow control; 10-bit SERDES for GMI; Auto-negotiation for 1000BASE-X	NICs, routers, switches, hubs	
1 Gigabit Ethernet MAC	Alcatel Technology Licensing Group	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			23%	125 (XGMII) or 1.25 Gbps	XC2V1000-4	IEEE 802.3-2000 compliant, support 8-bit GMI interface or integrated PCS/PMA interface, supporting 1000BASE-X application	GbE Network Interface Cards (NICs), Edge switches and Terabit routers — packet based line cards, SCSI line cards, P3 to Gb Ethernet and other bridges	
10 Gigabit Ethernet MAC	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-II			25%	166.25 DDR for Xilinx or 4 channels of 3.125 Gbps RocketIO transceivers	XC2V3000-5	Designed to IEEE 802.3ae, version DA.1, support both 32-bit XGMII parallel interface or XAU interface, supports 10 GBASE-X, WAN/LAN functionality, Statistics gathering	Layer 2 switches/hubs, test equipment, bridge to POS PHY4, iSCSI line cards	
10/100 Ethernet MAC	AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			13%	31	XC2V1500-5	Single/multi-mode fiber optics; 10/100 MII PHY; 10Base-T; 100Base-TT/TFX4; RMON & Etherstats	NICs, routers, switches, hubs, printers	
10/100 Ethernet MAC	Parsonet Communications	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			45%	50	XC2V1500-4	IEEE 802.3 compliant RMON, MIBs stats, MII support	Ethernet switched, hub, NICs	
3G FEC Package	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe					Virtek-II	Interfaces through CoreConnect Bus	Networking, communications, processor apps/10/100 Ethernet/MAC	
88/10b Decoder	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-II					XC2V40-5	Viterbi Decoder, Turbo Codec, Convolutional Encoder	3G Wireless Infrastructure	
8b/10b Encoder	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			0.4%	160	XC2V40-5	Industry std 8b/10b encode/decode for serial data transmission	Physical layer of Fiber Channel	
ADPCM, 16 channel	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			89%	16	XC2V150-6	Supports G.721 G.726 G.726a G.727 G.727a, u-law, a-law	DECT, VOIP, cordless telephony	
ADPCM, 32 channel	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			62%	25	XC2V1500	G.726, G.727, 32 duplex channels	DECT, VOIP, Wireless local loop, DSLAM, PBX	
ADPCM, 64 channel	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			61%	27	XC2V1500	G.726, G.727, 64 duplex channels	DECT, VOIP, Wireless local loop, DSLAM, PBX/100 Ethernet/MAC	
ADPCM, 256 channel	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			66%	30	XC2V400E-8	Supports G.721 G.723 G.726 G.726a G.727 G.727a, u-law, a-law	DECT, VOIP, cordless telephony	
ADPCM, 512 channel	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			49%	6	XC2V400E-8	Supports G.721 G.723 G.726 G.726a G.727 G.727a, u-law, a-law	DECT, VOIP, cordless telephony	
ADPCM, 768 channel	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			89%	50	XC2V1500-5	Supports G.721 G.723 G.726 G.726a G.727 G.727a, u-law, a-law	DECT, VOIP, cordless telephony	
ADPCM, 1024 channel	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			89%	50	XC2V1500-5	Supports G.721 G.723 G.726 G.726a G.727 G.727a, u-law, a-law	DECT, VOIP, cordless telephony	
AES Decryption core family	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			36%	103	XC2V250-5	Supports ECB, OFB, CBC, CFB, CBC, CFB, and OFB	eCommerce, Banking, Video phones, PDA, satellite communications	
AES Encryption core	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			16%	134	XC2V250-5	Supports ECB, OFB, CBC, CFB, CBC, CFB, and OFB	Transaction and secure communications, surveillance, storage and embedded systems/10/100 Ethernet/MAC	
AES Encryption core family	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			26%	134	XC2V250-5	Supports ECB, OFB, CBC, CFB, CBC, CFB, and OFB	eCommerce, Banking, Video phones, PDA, satellite communications	
Bit Stream Analyzer and Data Extractor	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			71%	67	XC2V1500-6	Data syntax analysis of IP, MPEG, ATM	ATM, IP, MPEG/10/100 Ethernet/MAC	
Bluetooth Baseband Processor	NewLogic GmbH	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II					XC2V1000-4	Compliant to Bluetooth v1.1, BQ8 qualified, suitable for L2CAP, LMP, HCI, voice support	Bluetooth applications	
Bluetooth Hardware Baseband Controller	Wirpro, Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			69%	25	XC2V1500-4	Compliant to Bluetooth v1.1, BQ8 qualified, suitable for L2CAP, LMP, HCI, voice support	Bluetooth applications	
Cell Deserializer	Parsonet Communications	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II					XC4005XL-1	Octet wide operation, FEC computation, cell scrambling	ATM adapter cards, routers, switches	
Convolutional Encoder	Parsonet Communications	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II					XC4010XL-9	Octet wide operation, FEC verification, cell scrambling	ATM adapter cards, routers, switches	
Convolutional Encoder	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			2%	144	XC2V150-6	code rate, gen. vectors, CDM/STIR length customizable	Error correction	
Convolutional Encoder	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			10%	26	XC2V40-6	k from 3 to 9, puncturing from 2/3 to 12/13		
CRC10 Generator and Verifier	Parsonet Communications	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			22%	20	XC2V1500-6	Separate generator and verifier blocks, compatible with ITU-T.36 for ATM/3.64M	3G base stations, broadcast, wireless LAN, cable modem, DSL, satellite com, wave	
CRC32 Generator and Verifier	Parsonet Communications	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			44%	29	XC2V1500-6	Separate generator and verifier blocks, compatible with ITU-T.36 for ATM/3.64M	ATM, SONET, and Ethernet/10/100 Ethernet/MAC	
DES3 Encryption	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			15%	167	XC2V1000-5	Compliant with ANSI X9.52, 128-bit key or two independent 64-bit keys	Secure communication, data storage	
DES and 3DES Cryptoprocessor	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			79%	25	XC2S20-4	NIST certified, supports ECB, CBC, CFB, and OFB	Secure communication, data storage	
DES and 3DES encryption engine	Memecore	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			93%	204	XC2S100-6	NIST certified, supports ECB, CBC, CFB, and OFB	Secure communication, data storage/1 Gigabit Ethernet/MAC	
DES Cryptoprocessor	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			93%	204	XC2V40-5	Compliant with ITU-T.432. Parameterizable data width, cell & header length	ATM PHY layer	
DES Encryption	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			14%	74	XC2V50-6	Compliant with ITU-T.432, scrambler/Parameterizable data width, cell length, header length	ATM PHY layer	
Distributed Sample Descrambler	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			14%	74	XC2V50-6	Compliant with ITU-T.432, scrambler/Parameterizable data width, cell length, header length	Digital broadcast, microwave transmitter	
DVB Satellite Modulator	Memecore	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			9%	104	XC2V50-6	Conforms to ITU-T.432, scrambler/Parameterizable data width, cell length, header length	Digital broadcast, microwave transmitter	
Flexbus 4 Interface Core, 16-Channel	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			31%	200	XC2V3000-F66765-5	Of 594 Phase 1 and Flexbus compliant, fully HW interoperable with AMCC OC-192 frames	Line card: terabit routers & optical switches	
Flexbus 4 Interface Core, 1-Channel	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			12%	200	XC2V1000-F6456-5	Of 594 Phase 1 and Flexbus compliant, fully HW interoperable with AMCC OC-192 frames	Line card: terabit routers & optical switches	
Flexbus 4 Interface Core, 4-Channel	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			27%	200	XC2V1000-F6456-5	Of 594 Phase 1 and Flexbus compliant, fully HW interoperable with AMCC OC-192 frames	Line card: terabit routers & optical switches	
HDL3 Controller Core, 1-Channel	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			15%	117	XC2V250	1652-bit frame seq, 8/16-bit addr insert/delete, flag/zerop insert/detect	Line card: terabit routers & optical switches	
HDL3 Controller Core, 1-Channel	Memecore	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			95%	77	XC2S15-5	X.25, POS, cable modems, frame relay switches, video conferencing over ISDN	X.25, POS, cable modems, frame relay switches, video conferencing over ISDN	
HDL3 Controller Core, 32-Channel	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			34%	81	XC2V250	32 full duplex, CRC-16/32, 8/16-bit address insertion/deletion	X.25, POS, cable modems, frame relay switches, video conferencing over ISDN	
HDL3-PPP for Packet over SONET	Parsonet Communications	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			75%	80	XC2S150-6	RFC1619 (IP/PPP) PDS, 16/32-bit FCS generation and verification, stats	Bridges, switches, WAN links	
Interleave/De-interleave	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			30%	208	XC2V150-6	Block & convolutional, width up to 256 bits, 256 branches	Broadcast, wireless LAN, cable modem, DSL, satellite com/wireless, digitalTV, DDM2000	
Interleave/Deinterleave	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			21%	73	XC2V50-6	Block & convolutional support, param features, 3PP, JMITS, GSM, DVB compliant	Channel coding in telecom/wireless, broadcast	
Inverse Multiplexer for ATM	ModelWare, Inc.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			100%	31	XC2V1000-4	Supports up to 32 links/32 groups; UTOPIA L2 PHY & ATM I/Fs, supports IDCR	Access systems, multi-service switches, DSLAM, Basestation controllers	
Network Processor	IP Semiconductors AS	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			80	80	XC2V1500-5	Total Solution requires this core + 9FED040/40C, 2.5 Gbps full duplex wire speed; network processor (NP), low power at low device count; line competing network processors.	Networking, edge and access, switches and routers	
Noisy Transmission Channel Model	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			23%	100	XC2V50-6	Programmable noise generation profile	Noise emulation in transmission channel	
PCM Codec, G.711	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			12%	44	XC2V50-6	u-Law, ITU G.711, EBI for A-Law	Digital telephony, DECT T1 & E1 Links	
PCM Compressor, G.711	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			7%	44	XC2V50-6	u-Law, ITU G.711, EBI for A-Law	Digital telephony, DECT T1 & E1 Links	
PCM Expander, G.711	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-II			6%	57	XC2V50-6	Digital telephony, DECT T1 & E1	Digital telephony, DECT T1 & E1 Links	
POS-PHY L3 Link Layer Interface, 16-Ch	Xilinx	LogCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			40%	104	XC2V1000-F6456-4	Of 594 compliant, fully HW interoperable with PMC-Sierra OC-48 frames	Line cards, iSCSI cards, gigabit routers and switches	
POS-PHY L3 Link Layer Interface, 1-Ch	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			6%	200	XC2V1000-F6456-4	Of 594 compliant, fully HW interoperable with PMC-Sierra OC-48 frames	Line cards, iSCSI cards, gigabit routers and switches	
POS-PHY L3 Link Layer Interface, 2-Ch	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			55%	200	XC2V50E-8	Of 594 compliant, fully HW interoperable with PMC-Sierra OC-48 frames	Line cards, iSCSI cards, gigabit routers and switches	
POS-PHY L3 Link Layer Interface, 4-Ch	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe			15%	200	XC2V1000-F6456-4	Of 594 compliant, fully HW interoperable with PMC-Sierra OC-48 frames	Line cards, iSCSI cards, gigabit routers and switches	

Function		Vendor Name		IP Type		Virtex-II Pro		Virtex-II		Virtex-E		Virtex		Spartan-IIIe		Spartan-II		Spartan		Implementation Example		Key Features		Application Examples	
																				MHz	Device				
Communication & Networking (continued)																									
POS-PHY L3 Physical Layer Interface	Xilinx	LogCORE																		104	XC5V05E-8	OIF SPI-3 compliant.	Line cards, ISCSI cards, gigabit routers and switches		
POS-PHY L4 Multi-Channel Interface	Xilinx	LogCORE																		350 DDR	XC2V3000 FG676-5	OIF SPI-4 Phase 2 compliant. Fully HW integratable with PMC-Siera and Mindspeed OC-192 frames.	Line cards, switches, routers and optical switches		
POS-PHY L4 Multi-Channel Bridge	Xilinx	LogCORE																		200 on PB4, 350 DDR on PL4, 175 internal	XC2V3000 FG676-5	OIF SPI-4 Phase 1 & 2 compliant. Fully HW integratable with PMC-Siera and Mindspeed OC-192 frames.	Line cards, switches, routers and optical switches		
Reed-Solomon Decoder	Xilinx	LogCORE																		104	XC2V6000 FF1152-4	OIF SPI-3 compliant. Fully HW integratable with PMC-Siera OC-48 frames.	Line cards, ISCSI cards, gigabit routers and switches		
Reed-Solomon Decoder	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE																		98	XC2V2500-6	3rd or custom coding, 3-12 bit symbols width, up to 4095 symbols error & ensure decoding	Broadcast, wireless LAN, cable modem, xDSL, satellite communication nets, digital TV		
Reed-Solomon Decoder	Amipon Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE																		61	XC2V5000-5	Parameterizable, RTL, available	Error correction, wireless, DSL		
Reed-Solomon Decoder	Memec Core	AllianceCORE																		50	XC2V1000-4	Customizable, >580 Mb/s	Error correction		
Reed-Solomon Decoder	Xilinx	LogCORE																		73	XC5V05-6	Std or cust coding, 3-12 bit width, up to 1095 symbols with 256-check symb.	Error correction		
Reed-Solomon Encoder	Amipon Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE																		82	XC5V05-4	Customizable, > 900 Mb/s	Error correction		
Reed-Solomon Encoder	Memec Core	AllianceCORE																		113	XC5V05-6	Like Intel i8XC192 Global Serial Channel, Serial Comm., HD-C, Apps, telecom	Error correction		
SDLC Controller	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE																		158	XC2V1000-5	Secure comms, video surveillance, data storage, financial transactions	Embedded systems, professional audio, video		
SHA-1 Encryption processor	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE																		79	XC2V5000-6	SHA-1 algorithm compliant	ISDN PRA links, mux equip, satellite com, digital PABX, high-speed computer links		
T1 Framer	Xilinx	LogCORE																		54	XC2S150	D4, ESF, SLIC-96 formats. For XC4000.	DSL trunk, PBX I/F		
T1/E1 Framer	Xilinx	LogCORE																		72	XC2S150		ISDN PRA links, mux equip, satellite com, digital PABX, high-speed computer links		
Turbo Convolutional Decoder - 3GPP Compliant	Xilinx	LogCORE																		40	XC2V500	3GPP specs, 2 Mbps, BER = 10 ⁻⁶ for 1.548 SNR	3G Wireless Infrastructure		
Turbo Decoder, 3GPP	SysOnChip, Inc.	AllianceCORE																		66	XC2V5000-5	3GPP/UMTS compliant, IMT-2000, 2Mbps data rate	Error correction, wireless		
Turbo Decoder, DVB-RCS	Coding Technology, Inc.	AllianceCORE																		71	XC2V2000-5	DVB-RCS compliant, 9Mbps, data rate, switchable code rates and frame sizes	Error correction, wireless, DVB, Satellite data link		
Turbo Decoder	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE																		65	XC2V2000-5	3GPP/UMTS compliant, >2Mbps, data rate	Error correction, wireless		
Turbo Convolutional Encoder - 3GPP Compliant	Xilinx	LogCORE																		60	XC2V250	Compliant w/ 3GPP, puncturing	3G Wireless Infrastructure		
Turbo Encoder, DVB-RCS	Coding Technology, Inc.	AllianceCORE																		69	XC2V2000-5	DVB-RCS compliant, 9Mbps, data rate, switchable code rates and frame sizes	Error correction, wireless, DVB, Satellite data link		
Turbo Encoder	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE																		120	XC2V800-5	3GPP/UMTS compliant, upto 4 interleaver laws	Error correction, wireless		
UTOPIA Level 2 Slave Interface	Paragon Communications	AllianceCORE																		53	XC5V05-6	Cell handshake in SPHY mode, 8/16 bit operation, internal FIFO, detects runt cells	ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Level-2 PHY Side RX Interface	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE																		61	XC5V05-6	Protocol conversion from Ph (RACE BIND) to UTOPIA L2, 8/16 bit operation	ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Level-2 PHY Side TX Interface	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE																		61	XC5V05-6	Protocol conversion from UTOPIA L2 Ph (RACE BIND), 8/16 bit operation	ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Level-3 ATM Receiver	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE																					ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Level-3 ATM Transmitter	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE																					ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Level-3 PHY Receiver	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE																					ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Level-3 PHY Transceiver	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE																					ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Master	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE																					ATM PHY layer		
UTOPIA Slave	Paragon Communications	AllianceCORE																		79	XC5V05-4	SPHY MPHY, FEC processing, round robin polling, ind. transmitter receiver	ATM PHY layer		
Viterbi Decoder, IEEE 802-compatible	Xilinx	LogCORE																		157	XC2V5000-5	Cell handshake in SPHY mode, 8/16 bit operation, 32 bit FIFO interface, detects runt cells	ATM PHY layer		
Viterbi Decoder, General Purpose	Xilinx	LogCORE																		128	XC2V5000-5	Parameterizable source code with constant length(N)= G&E(7), G(=13), G(=13), G(=17), includes best-case logic, ability to change code rate and trackback depth on the fly, supports Trellis Coded Modulation, IEEE802.11a (fs compatible), trellis C(3,1)55(Mpeg) and higher	UMMDS, broadcast equip, wireless LAN, cable modem, xDSL, sat com, uwave nets		
Viterbi Decoder	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE																		91	XC2V5000-5	Puncturing, viterbi and parallel architecture, dynamic parameterized constant length, softoutput, decision with programmable number of soft bits, data rate decoder, error pins for external puncturing, compatible with standards such as DVB-ES, 3GPP2, IEEE802.11g, Hiperlan, IEEE802.11b, 3GPP	3G base stations, broadcast, wireless LAN, cable modem, xDSL, satellite com, uwave, CDMA2000		
Digital Signal Processing																									
1024-Point Complex FFT/IFFT	Xilinx	LogCORE																		41us, 100MHz	XC2V500	16 bit complex data, 2's comp, forward and inverse transform	Data transmission, wireless		
16-Point Complex FFT/IFFT	Xilinx	LogCORE																		123ns, 130MHz	XC2V500	16 bit complex data, 2's comp, forward and inverse transform			
256-Point Complex FFT/IFFT	Xilinx	LogCORE																		110	XC2V5000-6	Complex FFT, forward and inverse transform. Supports bit precisions from 2.30 bit, Embedded memory			
32-Point Complex FFT/IFFT	Xilinx	LogCORE																		140	XC2V15000-6	64, 256, 1024-point programmable point size, forward and inverse transform, 16-bit complex data, 18-bit phase factors, 2's complement, built-in memories, programmable data scaling, 140 MHz, 1024-point transform — 7.31 us, 256-point transform — 1.83 us, 64-point transform - 0.46 us	Error correction		
64-Point Complex FFT/IFFT	Xilinx	LogCORE																		1.9us, 100MHz	XC2V500	16 bit complex data, 2's comp, forward and inverse transform			
Bit Correlator	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
Cascaded Integrator Comb (CIC) Filter	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
CORDIC	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
Digital Down Converter (DDC)	Xilinx	LogCORE																		116	XC2V5000-5	4096 taps, serial/parallel input, 4096 bits width	Digital receivers		
Direct Digital Synthesizer (DDS)	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
Distributed Arithmetic (DA) FIR Filter	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
Dual-Channel Numerically Controlled Oscillator	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
LEFSR, Linear Feedback Shift Register	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
MAC FIR	Xilinx	LogCORE																							
Numerically Controlled Oscillator	Xilinx	LogCORE																							

Function	Vendor Name	IP Type	Virtex-II Pro			Virtex-E			Virtex			Spartan-IIIe			Spartan-II			Spartan			Implementation Example			Key Features	Application Examples	
			Occ	MHz	Device	Occ	MHz	Device	Occ	MHz	Device	Occ	MHz	Device	Occ	MHz	Device	Occ	MHz	Device	Occ	MHz	Device			
Digital Signal Processing (continued)																										
Parallel Distributed Arithmetic FIR Filter	Xilinx	LogCORE																						Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Distributed Arithmetic FIR Filter		
Serial Distributed Arithmetic FIR Filter	Xilinx	LogCORE																						Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Distributed Arithmetic FIR Filter		
Time-Skew Buffer, Nonsymmetric 16-Deep	Xilinx	LogCORE																						Not recommended for new designs.		
Time-Skew Buffer, Nonsymmetric 32-Deep	Xilinx	LogCORE																						Not recommended for new designs.		
Time-Skew Buffer, Symmetric 16-Deep	Xilinx	LogCORE																						Not recommended for new designs.		
TMS32025 DSP Processor core	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																		
Math Functions																										
1s and 2s Complement	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Bus Gate of Twos Complementer	
Accumulator	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														1-256s bit wide	
Address Subtractor	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Multiplier	
Constant Coefficient Multiplier	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Multiplier	
Constant Coefficient Multiplier - Pipelined	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Multiplier	
Dynamic Constant Coefficient Multiplier	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Multiplier	
Floating Point Adder	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	DSP, Math, Arithmetic apps	
Floating Point Divider	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	DSP, Math, Arithmetic apps	
Floating Point Multiplier	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	DSP, Math, Arithmetic apps	
Floating Point Square Comparator	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	DSP, Math, Arithmetic apps	
Floating Point Square Root Operator	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	DSP, Math, Arithmetic apps	
Floating Point to Integer Converter	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	DSP, Math, Arithmetic apps	
Integer to Floating Point Converter	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	DSP, Math, Arithmetic apps	
Integrator	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Cascaded Integrator Comb Filter	
Multiply-Accumulator (MAC)	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Input width up to 32 bits, 65-bit accumulator, truncation rounding	
Multiply Generator	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														64-bit input data width, constant, readable or variable inputs, parallel sequential implementation	
Parallel Multipliers - Area Optimized	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Multiplier	
Pipelined Divider	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	32-bit input data width, multiple clock per output	
Registered Adder	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Adder Subtractor	
Registered Loadable Adder	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Adder Subtractor	
Registered Loadable Subtractor	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Adder Subtractor	
Registered Scaled Adder	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs.	
Registered Serial Adder	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Adder Subtractor	
Registered Subtractor	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Accumulator	
Scaled-by-One-Half Accumulator	Xilinx	LogCORE																							3-10 bit in, 4-32 bit out, distributed/block ROM	
Sine Cosine Look Up Table	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: CORDIC	
Square Root	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Input width up to 256 bits	
Two's Complementer	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Multiplier	
Variable Parallel Virtex Multiplier	Xilinx	LogCORE																							1-256 bits, 2-13k words	
Memories & Storage Elements																										
ATM Utopia Level 2	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														1-256 bits, 2-128k words	
Block Memory, Dual-Port	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														1-512 bits, 2-10k words, SRL16	
Block Memory, Single-Port	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														1-1024 bit, 16-65536 word, BRAM/MSRL16, opt. output regs and pipelining	
Content-Addressable Memory (CAM)	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														1-256 bits, 15-65535 words, DMAP or BRAM, independent I/O clock domains	
CAM, for Internet Protocol	Telecom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE																							Synchronous FIFO supporting Spartan-II/Spartan-IIIe	
Distributed Memory	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Spartan-II/Spartan-IIIe	
FIFO, Asynchronous	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														1-256 words, distributed/block RAM	
FIFO, Synchronous	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Distributed Memory	
FIFO, Synchronous	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Distributed Memory	
Pipelined Delay Element	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Distributed Memory	
Registered ROM	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Distributed Memory	
Registered Single Port RAM	Xilinx	LogCORE																							Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Distributed Memory	
Microprocessors, Controllers & Peripherals																										
10/100 Ethernet MAC	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-IIP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIe	S-II														Interfaces through CoreConnect Bus	
16450 UART	Virtual IP Group	AllianceCORE																							Independently controlled transmit, receive and data interrupts, 16k, clock, prog. data width parity, stop bits, 16k internal clock, FIFO mode, false start bit detection	
16550 UART w/FIFOs	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Serial data applications, modems	
16-bit proprietary RISC Processor	Loarant Corporation	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Serial and modem applications	
16-Word-Deep Registered Look Up Table	Xilinx	LogCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Control functions, State machines, Coprocessor	
2901 Microprocessor Slice	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Simple microcontroller applications	
2910A Microprogram Controller	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	High-speed bit slice design	
32-bit Java Processor	Digital Communications Technologies, Ltd.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Based on AMD 2910a	
68010 compatible microprocessor	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Internet appliance, industrial control, HAV multimedia, set top boxes	
80186 compatible microprocessor	elintchips Pat. Ltd.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Embedded systems, professional audio, video	
8051 compatible microcontroller	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE				V-II	V-E	V																	Industrial, wireless, communications, embedded	
																									Embedded systems, telecon	

Microprocessors, Controllers & Peripherals (continued)	Vendor Name	IP Type	Virtex-II Pro		Virtex-II	Virtex-E	Virtex	Spartan-IIIe	Spartan-II	Spartan	Implementation Example		Key Features	Application Examples
			MHz	Occ							Device	MHz		
8051 compatible microcontroller	Digital Core Design AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				73	XC2V250-5	80C31 instruction set, RISC architecture 6.7X faster than standard 8051	Embedded systems, telecom, video
8051 compatible microcontroller	Digital Core Design AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				90	XC2V250-5	80C31 instruction set, high speed multiplier, RISC architecture 6.7X faster than standard 8051	Embedded systems, telecom, video
8051 compatible microcontroller	Digital Core Design AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II	S			29.8	XC2V300-6	12X faster (average) and code compatible w/ legacy 8051, verification bus monitor, SFR interface	Telecom, industrial, high speed control
8051 compatible microcontroller	Dolphin Integration AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				38	XC2V1000-5	8X faster (average) and code compatible w/ legacy 8051, verification bus monitor, SFR interface, DSP focused	DSP, Telecom, industrial, high speed control
80515 high-speed 8-bit RISC Microcontroller	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V					42	XCV200E-8	RISC implementation, 8 bit ALU, 8 bit control, 32 bit I/O, 16 bit timer/counters, SFR w/ ext. memory I/F	High speed embedded systems, audio, video
8052 compatible microcontroller	Digital Core Design AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				71	XC2V250-5	80C31 instruction set, high speed multiplication and division, RISC architecture 6.7X faster than standard 8051	Embedded systems, telecom, video
80530 8-bit compact microcontroller	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V	S-II				51	XC2S150-6	32 bit I/O, 3 counters, interrupt controller, SFR interface, dual data pointer	Low cost embedded systems, telecom
80530 8-bit Microcontroller	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V	S-II				66	XCV200E-8	32 bit I/O, 3 counters, 27-bit watchdog timer, 3 priority interrupt controller, SFR interface	Embedded systems, telecom
80531 Compatible RISC microcontroller	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-E		V	V	S-II				34	XC2S150-6	12X faster, SFR I/F	Embedded systems
80537 Programmable DMA Controller	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II				40%	XC2S100-6	4 independent DMA channels (expandable), software DM	Microprocessor based systems
8250 UART	Memic Core AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S				10	XC2S100-4	DC to 625K baud	Serial communications
825-4 programmable interval timer/counter core	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II				68	XCV280-5	Status feedback, counter latch, Square wave mode, 6 counter modes, binary/BOD count, LSBMSB RAW	Event counter, baud rate generator
8254 Programmable Timer	Virtual IP Group AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V	S-II	S			51	XC2V1000-4	Status red, Six prog. counter modes, Intel8254 like	Processor I/O interface
8254 programmable timer/counter	enrichips Pvt. Ltd. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				175	XC2V1000-5	Three 8-bit parallel ports, 24 programmable I/O lines, 8-bit bidirectional data bus	Processor I/O interface
8255 Programmable I/O controller	enrichips Pvt. Ltd. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				8	XC505-4	Bit set/reset support	Embedded systems
8255 Programmable Peripheral Interface	Memic Core AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V	S-II	S			227	XCV50E-8	Three 8-bit peripheral ports, 24 programmable I/O lines, 8-bit bidirectional data bus	Processor I/O interface
8255A Programmable Peripheral Interface	Virtual IP Group AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V	S-II				227	XCV50E-8	Three 8-bit peripheral ports, 24 programmable I/O lines, 8-bit bidirectional data bus	Processor I/O interface
8256 Multifunction Microprocessor Support Controller	Memic Core AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V	S				10	XC520-4	Baud rate generator for 13 common baud rates, parallel I/O ports, prog. microcounters	Communication, embedded systems
8259 Programmable Interrupt Controller	Virtual IP Group AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II				142	XC2V50-6	8 vectored priority interrupts, all 8259A modes programmable - e.g., special mask, buffer	Real-time interrupt based up designs
8259A Programmable Interrupt Controller	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S				8	XC520-4	8 vectored priority interrupts, all 8259A modes programmable - e.g., special mask, buffer	Real-time interrupt based up designs
8279 Programmable Keyboard Display Interface	Memic Core AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V	S-II				37	XC2S150-6	8 char keyboard FIFO, 2-key lockout, n-key rollover, 4-16 char display	Embedded systems interface
ARC 32-bit Java Processor	ARC International plc AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V		V	V					20	XC2V1000-5	4-stage pipeline, 16 single cycle instructions, 3 interrupt exception levels, 24 bit stack pointer	32 bit processing, DSP
Configurable Java Processor Core	Denition Systems, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II				133	XC2V1000-5	32b data/address optional DES	Internet appliance, industrial control
DDR SDRAM Controller	Memic Core AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II				7%	XC2V1000-5	DDR SDRAM burst length support for 2,4,8 per access, supports data 16,32, 64, 72	Digital video, embedded computing, networking
Generic compact UART	Memic Core AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II	S			73	XC2S50E-6	UART and baud rate generator	Serial data communication
ILC	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II	S				Virtex-II	Interfaces through OPB to MicroBlaze/PPC405	Networking, communications, processor apps
Memory Tests BRAM	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
Memory Tests DDR	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
Memory Tests SRAM	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
Memory Tests ZBT	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
MicroBlaze Soft RISC Processor	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II				125	XC2V80-5	Soft RISC Processor, 82 D-MIPS, 125 MHz, 900 LUTs in Virtex-II	Networking, communications
OPB Arbiter	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II				125	XC2V80-5	Bundled in the Development Kit, CoreConnect Bus (OPB)	Processor applications
OPB BRAM	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB Bus Structure	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB Flash	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB GPIO	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB Interrupt Controller	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB IP/F Address Decode	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB IP/F DMA	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB IP/F Interrupt Controller	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB IP/F Master/Slave Attachment	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB IP/F Read/Write Packet FIFO	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB IP/F Scatter/Gather	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB Memory Interface (Flash, SRAM)	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB SRAM	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB Timebase/MDT	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB Timer/Counter	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB UART (16450, 16550)	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB UART Lite	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
OPB ZBT	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP	V-E	V	V	S-II							
PIC125X fast RISC microcontroller	Digital Core Design AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				126	XC2V80-5	PIC 12x4-like, 2X faster, 12-bit wide instruction set, 33 instructions	Embedded systems, telecom, audio and video
PIC1655X fast RISC microcontroller	Digital Core Design AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				140	XC2V80-5	SW compatible with PIC16C55X, 14-bit instruction set, 35 instructions	Embedded systems, telecom, audio and video
PIC165X compatible microcontroller	CAST, Inc. AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II		V	V	S-II				128	XC2V80-5	Microchip 16C5X PIC like	Embedded systems, telecom
PIC1655 fast RISC microcontroller	Digital Core Design AllianceCORE	AllianceCORE	V-II	V-E	V	V	S-II				126	XC2V80-5	PIC 12x4-like, 2X faster, 12-bit wide instruction set, 33 instructions	Embedded systems, telecom, audio and video
PLB Arbiter	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP		V	V								
PLB BRAM	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP		V	V								
PLB Flash	Xilinx LogiCORE	LogiCORE	V-IP		V	V								

Function	Vendor Name	IP Type	Implementation Example		Spartan	Spartan-II	Spartan-III	Virtex	Virtex-II	Virtex-II Pro	Device		Key Features	Application Examples
			MHz	Occ										
Microprocessors, Controllers & Peripherals (Continued)														
PLB SRAM	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										PowerPC embedded system design	
PLB ZBT	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										PowerPC embedded system design	
PLB->OPB Bridge	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										PowerPC embedded system design	
PowerPC Bus Master	Eureka Technology	AllianceCORE	V								80	XCV400-6		
PowerPC Bus Slave	Eureka Technology	AllianceCORE	V-E								10%	XCV400E-8		
PPC405 Boot Code	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										PowerPC embedded system design	
SDRAM Controller, 200 MHz	Rapid Prototypes, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V								91	XCV50-6		
SDRAM Controller	Eureka Technology	AllianceCORE	V								137	XCV50-6	Embedded systems using SDRAMs	
SDRAM Controller	NMI Electronics, Ltd.	AllianceCORE	V									Virtex-II	Networking, communications, processor apps	
SPI	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								16	XC4000E	Embedded systems, 8-bit processing apps.	
System Reset for PPC405	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										Embedded system design	
V8-uRISC 8-bit RISC Microprocessor	ARC International Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-IIP										Embedded system design	
VxWorks Board Support Package (BSP)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										Programmable frequency divider, pulse counter, pulse generator, interrupt controller	
VxWorks Support	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										Programmable, dual-port device, keyboards, printers, paper table readers	
Z80 compatible programmable timer/counter core	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								9%	XCV500-5		
Z80 peripheral I/O controller core	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								49%	XC2S50-6		
Z80CPU Microprocessor	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								56%	XC2V1000-5	Embedded systems, Communications	
Standard Bus Interfaces														
Arbiter	Telekom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE	V								24%	XC2V1000-5	General purpose bus arbitration	
IIC	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										Networking, communications, processor apps	
I2C Bus Controller	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II										Embedded microcontroller and communications	
I2C Bus Controller Master	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE	V-II								21%	XC2S100-6	Embedded systems	
I2C Bus Controller Slave	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE	V-II										Embedded	
I2C Bus Controller Slave Base	Digital Core Design	AllianceCORE	V-II								157	XC2V40-5	Embedded Systems	
I2C Two-Wire Serial Interface Master-Only	Memicore	AllianceCORE	V-II								187	XC2V40-5	Embedded microprocessor systems, I2C peripherals	
I2C Two-Wire Serial Interface Master-Slave	Memicore	AllianceCORE	V-II								16%	XC2S50E-6	Embedded microprocessor systems, I2C peripherals	
PCI 64-bit/66-MHz master/target interface	Eureka Technology	AllianceCORE	V-II								28%	XC2V80-4	Embedded microprocessor systems, I2C peripherals	
PCI host bridge	Eureka Technology	AllianceCORE	V-II								22%	XC2V1000-5	PC boards, CPC, Embedded, hyper video, gb ethernet	
PCI32 Interface Design Kit (DO-DI-PCI32-DKT)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								6%	XC2V1000-5	PC boards, CPC, Embedded, hyper video, gb ethernet	
PCI32 Interface, IP Only (DO-DI-PCI32-IP)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								6%	XC2V1000-5	PC add-in boards, CPC, Embedded	
PCI32 Single-Use License for Spartan (DO-DI-PCI32-SPL)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								12%	XC2S100-6	PC add-in boards, CPC, Embedded	
PCI64 & PCI32, IP Only (DO-DI-PCI64-IP)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								6-7%	XC2V1000-5	PC boards, CPC, Embedded, hyper video, gb ethernet	
PCI64 Interface Design Kit (DO-DI-PCI64-DKT)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								7%	XC2V1000-5	PC boards, CPC, Embedded, hyper video, gb ethernet	
PCI64 Interface, IP Only (DO-DI-PCI64-IP)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								7%	XC2V1000-5	PC boards, CPC, Embedded, hyper video, gb ethernet	
PCI-X 64/100 interface for Virtex-II (DO-DI-PCI64-VE)	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-II								30%	XC2V1000-5	Server, Embedded, gb ethernet, I320 SCSI/Fibre Ch RAID controllers	
Includes PCI 64-bit interface at 33 MHz													Comm systems, SAN, clustered servers,	
Includes PCI 64-bit interface at 66 MHz													Ultra 3 SCSI/Fibre Ch RAID, multi-port Gb	
Includes PCI 64-bit interface at 133 MHz													Routers, switches, backbone, control plane, data path, embedded sys	
RapidIO 8-bit port LP-LVDS Phy LayerXilinx (DO-DI-RI08-PHY)	LogCORE	LogCORE	V-II								24%	XC2V1000-5	high speed interface to memory and encryption engines, high end video	
Serial Protocol Interface (SPI) Slave	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								14%	XC2S50E-6	Embedded microprocessor boards, and SOCs, audio/video, home and auto-	
USB 1.1 Device Controller	Memicore	AllianceCORE	V-II								12	XC2V1000-5	Scanners, Printers, Handhelds, Mass Storage	
USB 1.1 Function Controller	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								48	XC2S200-6	Embedded systems, communications	
Video & Image Processing														
2D Forward/Inverse cosine transform	Barco-Silex	AllianceCORE	V-II								77%	XC2V250-5	Picture and video, archiving, digital television compression and transmission, teleconference	
2D Inverse Discrete Cosine Transform	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								42%	XC2V500-5		
Block-based 2D Discrete Wavelet Transform	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								95	XC2V500-5	JPEG, MPEG, H.261, H.263	
Combined 2D Forward/Inverse Discrete Cosine Transform	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								52	XC2V250-5	JPEG coding and security, medical imaging, scanners, copiers, digital still cameras	
Combined 2D Forward/Inverse Discrete Wavelet Transform	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								65%	XC2V500-5	Video editing, digital camera, scanners	
Compact Video Controller	Xylon d.o.o.	AllianceCORE	V-II								55%	XC2V500-5	Video editing, digital camera, scanners	
DC/IDCT Forward/Inverse Discrete Cosine Transform, 1-D	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP								88	XC2V250-4	Video phone, set-top box, PDA, display	
DC/IDCT Forward/Inverse Discrete Cosine Transform, 2-D	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IIP										JPEG, MPEG, H.261, H.263	
Fast JPEG color image decoder	elintchips Pvt. Ltd.	AllianceCORE	V-II								32%	XC2V1000-5	JPEG, MPEG, H.261, H.263	
Fast JPEG gray scale image decoder	Barco-Silex	AllianceCORE	V-II								83	XC2V1000-5	Video coding and security, medical imaging, scanners, copiers, digital still cameras	
Fast JPEG color image decoder	Barco-Silex	AllianceCORE	V-II								35%	XC2V1000-4	Video editing, digital camera, scanners	
FDCT Forward/Inverse Discrete Cosine Transform	Telekom Italia Lab S.p.A.	AllianceCORE	V-II								78%	XC2V1000-4	Video editing, digital camera, scanners	
Huffman Decoder	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE	V-II								68%	XC2V200-6	Video editing, digital camera, scanners	
											77%	XC2V200-6	JPEG, MPEG, H.26X	
											25	XC2V1000-5	JPEG, MPEG, H.26X	

Function	Vendor Name	IP Type	Virtex-II Pro	Virtex-II	Virtex-E	Virtex	Spartan-IIIe	Spartan-II	Spartan	Implementation Example		Key Features	Application Examples
										Occ	MHz		
Video & Image Processing (continued)													
JPEG encoder/decoder	inSilicon Corporation	AllianceCORE				V		S-II	S	20	XCV400E-8	Conforms to ISO/IEC Baseline 10918-1, 4-quantization tables, 4-Huffman tables, Scalable	Video editing, digital camera, scanners
Line-based programmable forward DWT	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V		S-II		51	XCV400E-8		
Longitudinal Time Code Generator	Dellatrac S.A.	AllianceCORE				V				145%	XCV400E-8		
Motion JPEG Codec core V1.0	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V				36%	XCV400E-8		
Motion JPEG Decoder core V1.0	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V				40	Virtex-II	SM/PEBU compliant, PAL/NTSC, lock-on external video reference	Audio/Video recording and editing equipment
Motion JPEG Encoder core V2.0	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V				42	Virtex-II		
Motion JPEG Decoder core V2.0	Amplion Semiconductor Ltd.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V				70	Virtex-II		
RGB2YCbCr Color Space Converter	CAST, Inc.	AllianceCORE		V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II		96	XCV400E-8	8-bit (IO), 10-bit coeff, 13-bit internal precision; 5-cycle latency; fully synchronous.	Digital RGB to TV output conversion; image filtering, machine vision, still and video image processing.
YCbCr2RGB Color Space Converter	Perigee, LLC	AllianceCORE				V	S-II	S-II	S	202	XCV100E-8	One clock cycle throughput	HDTV, real time TV output modulation
	Perigee, LLC	AllianceCORE				V	S-II	S-II	S		XCV100E-8	One clock cycle throughput	HDTV, real time video
Basic Elements													
Binary Counter	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				2-256 bits output width	
Binary Decoder	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				2-256 bits output width	
Bit Bus Gate	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
Bit Gate	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
Bit Multiplexer	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
BUFE-based Multiplexer Slice	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
BUFT-based Multiplexer Slice	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
Bus Gate	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
Bus Multiplexer	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				IO widths up to 256 bits	
Comparator	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
FD-based Parallel Register	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
FD-based Shift Register	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-64 bits wide	
Four-Input MUX	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II	S			Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Bit Multiplexer or Bus Multiplexer	
LD-based Parallel Latch	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide	
Parallel-to-Serial Converter	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II	S			Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: FD-based Shift Register	
RAM-based Shift Register	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II				1-256 bits wide, 1024 words deep	
Register	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II	S			Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: FD-based Parallel Register	
Three-Input MUX	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II	S			Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Bit Multiplexer or Bus Multiplexer	
Two-Input MUX	Xilinx	LogCORE	V-IP	V-II	V-E	V	S-IIIe	S-II	S			Not recommended for new designs. Suggested replacement: Bit Multiplexer or Bus Multiplexer	

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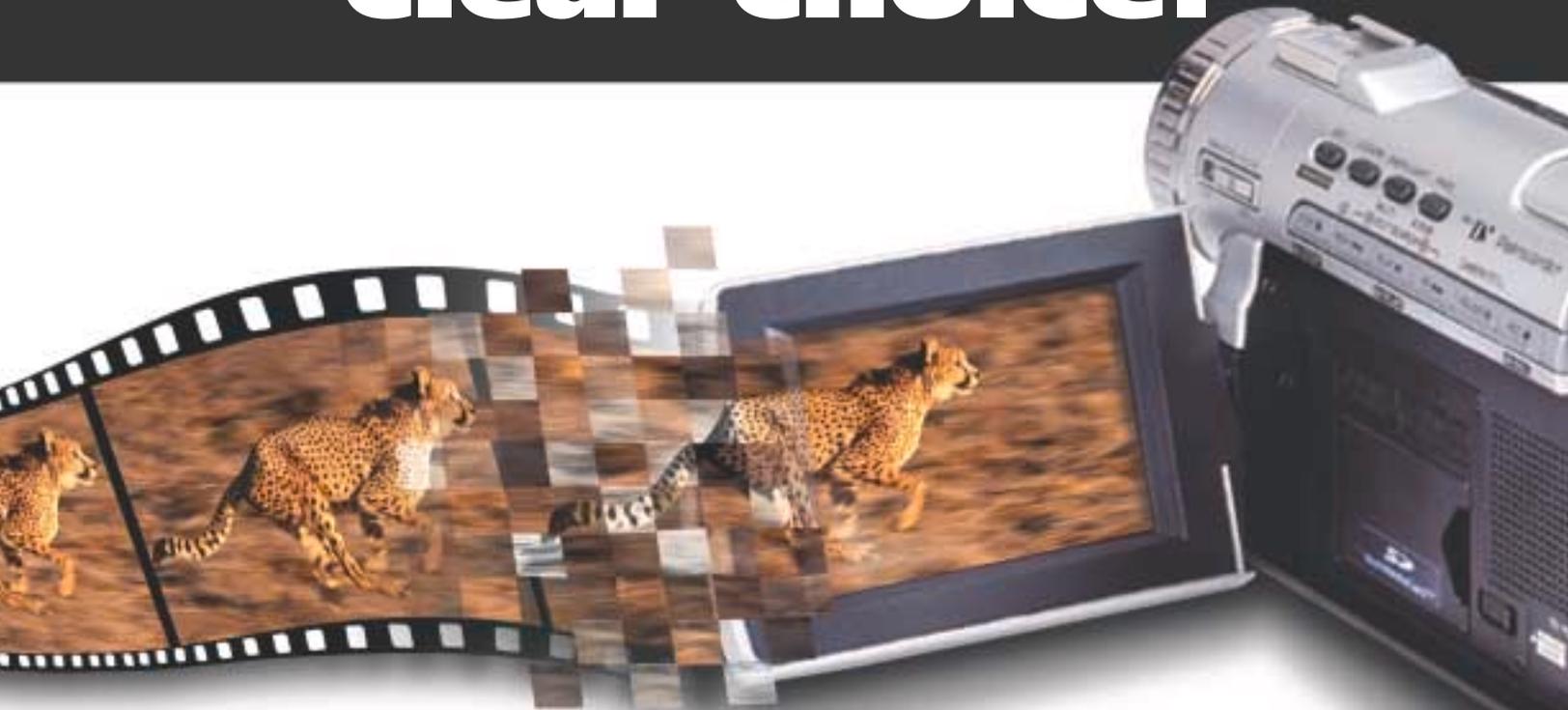
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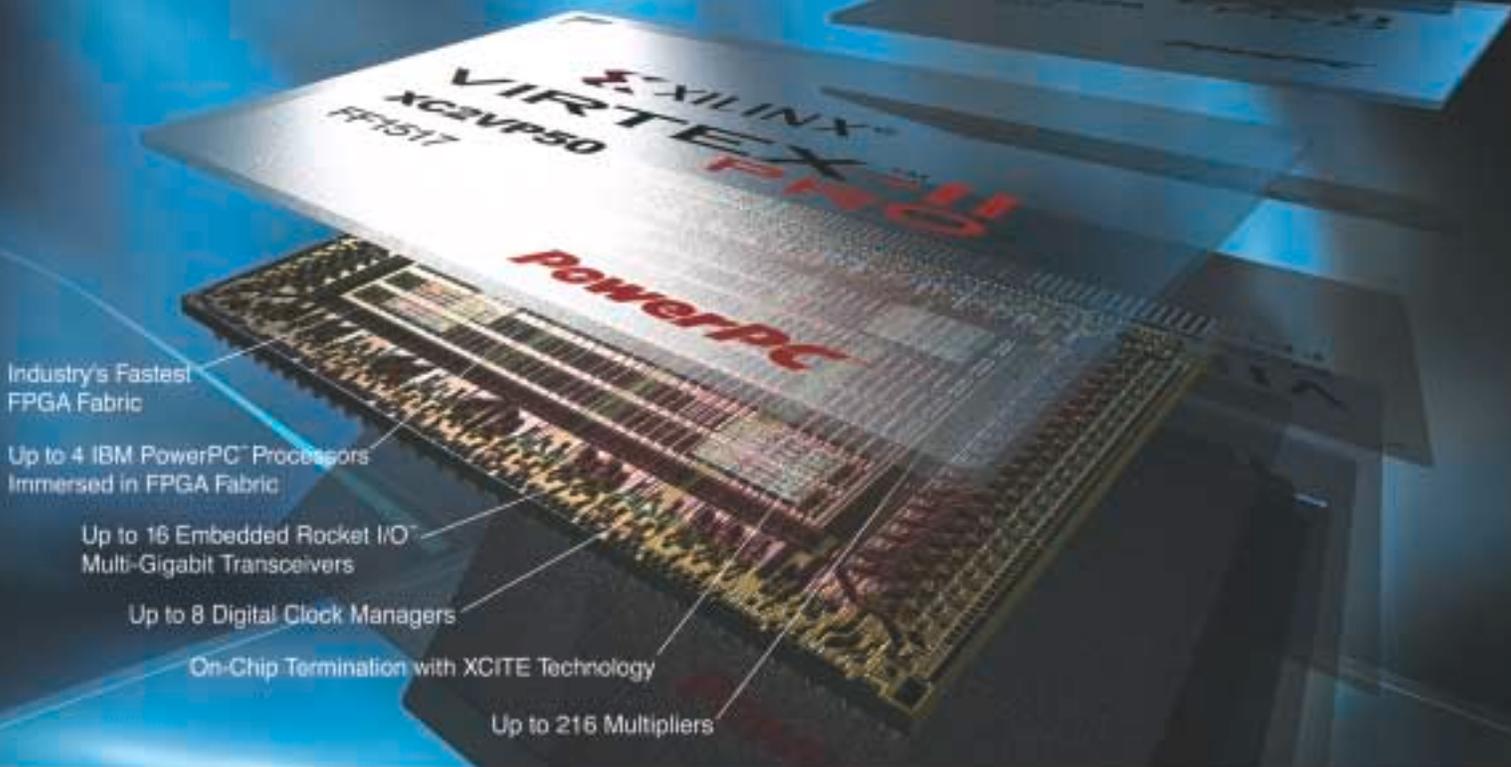
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