# initiative It's OK to develop standards for custom design

Nick English November, 2003



#### The 30,000 Foot View: A Jungle





#### The 30,000 Foot View: Future





### Silicon World: 5 Basic Components

- Components
  - Transistor
  - Diode
  - Res
  - Cap
  - Ind

- But... Standards?
  - GDSII?
  - HSPICE?
  - Artist?
  - Calibre?
  - Virtuoso?
  - Cadence PDK?
- Lack of standards at elemental level
  - Creates huge inefficiencies
  - Inhibits progress in the custom design world

#### "We're proposing a stronger foundation"







Put a Strong Foundation to the IC Design Process

Reduce Redundant Work by Multiple Companies and the Inefficiencies and Nuisances

Work in Areas of Minimal Competition Between Vendors

**Continue Standardization Efforts** That are helping the industry



## Things to work on

- Design function, nomenclature and categories
- Design kit elements and formats
- Tool & technology fit
- Design type and applications
- Management of all this stuff
  - Ownership
  - Qualification
  - Revision Control
  - Distribution





- Designer community
- Library & IP developers
- Internal DA groups
- EDA tool providers
- Foundries



## **OK Participating Companies**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Silicon
- ADA
- AMIS
- Artisan
- AWR
- Barcelona
- Cadence
- Chartered
- Cira Nova
- Conexant
- HPL
- IC Methods
- Mentor
- Motorola



- National
- NEC
- Philips
- Qualcomm
- Sagantec
- Silterra
- Silvaco
- Skyworks
- Sony
- Synopsys
- Texas Instruments
- TSMC
- Virage Logic



### **OpenKit Technology Reference**

- 180 130nm BiCMOS process technology with copper interconnect
- Broad range of supported devices to use in setting standards for all design styles
- Initial focus on custom digital design using CMOS devices
- Rapidly cover analog and RF by setting standards for the broader set of devices
- The roadmap is intended to track the ITRS roadmap with 3 design class & device category releases per technology node.



## **OpenKit Roadmap thru `05**





### **Time To Take Action**

- Time to find a better way
- Time to stop subscribing to the old beliefs
- Time to establish a foundation that everyone can build on
- Time to empower the Custom IC designer





## Q&A and Invitation

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