

Xilinx Joins Virtual Socket Interface Alliance

Last September, a group of more than 35 leading electronics firms announced the formation of the Virtual Socket Interface (VSI) alliance. This open alliance is dedicated to promoting the growth of the system level integration (SLI) chip industry by developing the technical standards required to enable the "mix and match" of system level modules (SLMs). Xilinx has entered the VSI alliance, and is actively participating in standardization efforts affecting programmable logic technologies. Our participation augments our current programs for the development of a diverse set of high-quality SLMs, called LogiCore™ modules, for the various Xilinx FPGA and CPLD families.

The goal is to establish a set of open SLM design interface and productization standards. Through use of the developed standards, design engineers will be able to use SLMs from several sources in the design of highly-integrated programmable logic devices. For example, a designer could construct a system combining SLMs supplied by Xilinx (such as the LogiCore PCI master/slave), SLMs from third-party providers (such as the members of the

Xilinx LogiCore Alliance), and reusable modules from his/her previous designs.

SLMs from all sources will be designed to common standards, much like physical components that are mixed-and-matched today on a printed circuit board. These VSI-compliant SLMs can be viewed as "virtual components" that, through common interface standards, fit quickly into "virtual sockets." In order to rapidly provide a solution, the design data standards will be based on open formats commonly supported by all EDA vendors.

High-quality SLMs are a key component for high-performance and high-density programmable logic design. The use of pre-defined and pre-verified SLMs can dramatically reduce system development cost and time, resulting in faster time-to-market and a greater competitive advantage.

For further information about the VSI Alliance, see their web site at www.ip-net.org. For additional information about the LogiCore products and LogiCore Alliance Program, see the WebLINX web site at www.xilinx.com/products/logicore/logicore.htm. ♦



New AppLINX CD-ROM Shipped

An updated AppLINX CD-ROM has been shipped to all registered Xilinx users. The CD contains a complete collection of Xilinx applications and product information. Access to the AppLINX CD is another benefit of maintenance support for the Xilinx development system.

The AppLINX CD-ROM includes:

- Updated September 1996 data book
- All Xilinx application notes and their corresponding design files
- Development system documentation
- The last six issues of the *XCell* journal
- Adobe Acrobat® Reader™ with full content-searching capabilities

- Presentation notes for the Xilinx 1996 Fall Seminar

The AppLINX CD merges the best aspects of the Xilinx WebLINX web site and the Xilinx FTP site. Users with access to an HTML browser can navigate the files quickly and easily off-line, while links are available to find the latest information on-line.

The AppLINX CD will be updated on a regular basis. Make sure you visit the Xilinx WebLINX web site at www.xilinx.com for the latest information.

Regarding the fall seminar, contact your local Xilinx sales office to inquire about a presentation to your company. ♦

