Wim Roelandts New Xilinx CEO

New Xilinx CEO Wim Roelandts

In late January, Bernie Vonderschmitt retired as Chief Executive Officer of Xilinx. His successor is Willem "Wim" Roelandts, a 28-year veteran of Hewlett-Packard. Vonderschmitt, 72, who co-founded Xilinx in 1984, remains with the company as chairman of the board of directors, and continues to be active in the business affairs of the company.

Roelandts joined HP in 1967 as a service engineer in his native Belgium and most recently served as a senior vice president in Hewlett-Packard's Computer Systems Organization. He was responsible for all aspects of the computer systems business worldwide, including research and development, manufacturing, marketing and sales.

"Wim Roelandts is a seasoned veteran who possesses the right mix of leadership and management skills to guide Xilinx through its next period of growth," Vonderschmitt stated. "Employees, customers, and shareholders can be confident he is the right man to take the helm at Xilinx." ◆

Xilinx Ireland Earns ISO 9002 Certification

The team of Xilinx Ireland

Xilinx Ireland, the new manufacturing facility in Dublin, was awarded ISO 9002 certification in November. The Xilinx manufacturing facility in San Jose, California, obtained ISO 9002 certification last October. The ISO quality standards were developed by the International Organization for Standardization, a Geneva-based organization with representatives from 91 countries.

As noted by Derek Kernan, quality manager at Xilinx Ireland, "The ISO standard is widely-recognized in Europe and is a very good means of measuring the quality of our processes and the extent to which the development of the company is keeping pace with our overall strategy. Acquiring ISO certification has made us look at all our processes and all our customers' requirements and understand what we can do better. For us, it represented a good external measure of the value and quality of our systems."

Xilinx Ireland, the company's first wholly-owned manufacturing facility outside of the United States, produces and distributes component products for Europe and other international markets. More than one million FPGA devices were shipped from Xilinx Ireland within the first six months of operation. The facility will eventually replicate all the activities of the company headquarters in San Jose, with the exception of field sales and marketing.

The first group of Xilinx Ireland's software engineers has returned from training in California and has begun development work in Ireland. More than 80 staff members are now employed in Dublin. ◆