Using the OpenCore Evaluation Feature

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The Altera® MAX+PLUS® II development software provides the OpenCore™ evaluation feature, which allows designers to evaluate an Altera MegaCore™ function or an Altera Megafunction Partners Program (AMPP℠) megafunction prior to purchase. Altera is the only programmable logic device (PLD) supplier that provides this capability for designers. This technical brief discusses the process of evaluating MegaCore functions or AMPP megafunctions using the OpenCore feature.

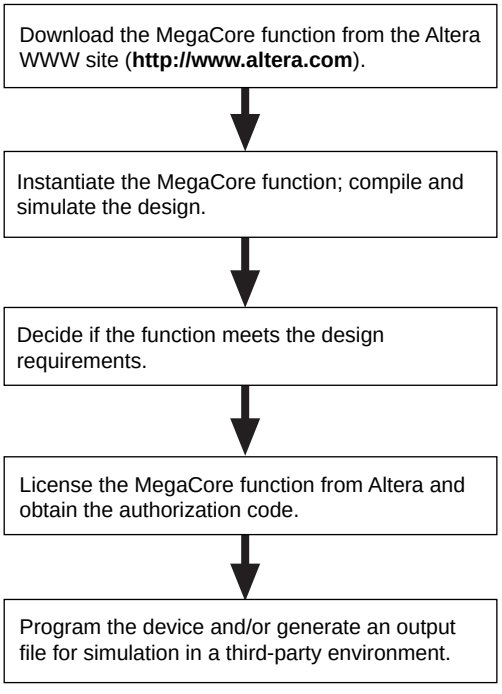
Altera's Unique OpenCore Feature

The OpenCore evaluation feature offers designers a risk-free method of evaluating MegaCore functions and AMPP megafunctions. The OpenCore feature allows designers to instantiate, compile, and simulate their designs to verify a function's size and performance. Programming files and output files for third-party EDA tool simulation can only be generated with an authorization code provided upon licensing of a function. Once designers license a function and enter an authorization code, the MAX+PLUS II software will generate programming files as well as EDIF, VHDL, or Verilog HDL netlist files for simulation in third-party EDA tools.

No-Cost Downloading of MegaCore Functions

Designers can download MegaCore functions for OpenCore evaluation from the Altera world-wide web (WWW) site at **http://www.altera.com**. The functions are available from Altera as migration products. Figure 1 shows a typical design flow for evaluating MegaCore functions.

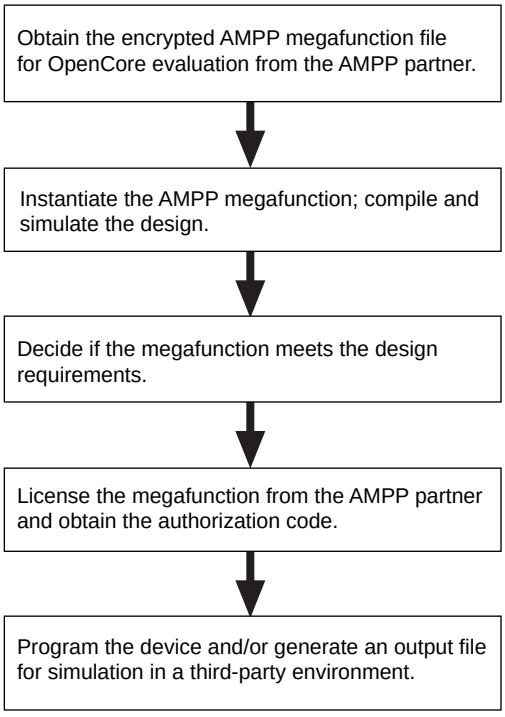
Figure 1. Design Flow for Evaluating MegaCore Functions



Obtaining Megafunction Files from AMPP Partners

To obtain an encrypted AMPP megafunction file for OpenCore evaluation, or to license an AMPP megafunction and obtain a full authorization code, contact the appropriate AMPP partner. Figure 2 shows a typical design flow for evaluating an AMPP megafunction.

Figure 2. Design Flow for Evaluating an AMPP Megafunction



The documents listed below provide more detailed information. Part numbers are in parentheses.

- ***AMPP Catalog*** *(M-CAT-AMPP-02)*
- ***Microperipheral MegaCore Library Data Book*** *(A-DB-MEGA-01)*
- *PCI Master/Target MegaCore Function with DMA Data Sheet (A-DS-PCI1-01)*
- *fft Fast Fourier Transform Data Sheet (A-DS-FFT-02)*
- *RGB2YCrCb & YCrCb2RGB Color Space Converters Data Sheet (A-DS-RGB-01)*
- *crc MegaCore Function Parameterized CRC Generator/Checker (A-DS-CRC-01)*

You can request documents from:

- Altera Literature Services at (888) 3-ALTERA
- Word-wide web at **http://www.altera.com**

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