

**View**

from the top

# Interesting Times at Xilinx

Witness the worldwide, world-class debut of the Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA solution for programmable systems.



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There is an ancient curse: May you live in interesting times. No doubt, we are living in

interesting times. I choose, however, to view this as a blessing rather than a curse. True, competition is fierce and economic conditions are chaotic, but opportunities for growth and change in the programmable logic industry are limitless.

Big drops in revenues and even the sudden disappearance of large customers have forced us revisit our strategies and redouble our efforts. Preserving capital, maintaining time to market, coping with lower budgets, reducing unnecessary risks, and staying the course in the face of uncertain market conditions has tested the mettle of all of us.

As we climb back up from the bottom of this recession, we are bringing with us a new paradigm for Xilinx®. With the introduction of the Virtex-II Pro™ Platform FPGA, we have changed from a programmable logic supplier to a purveyor of programmable systems.

### What If?

Consider this:

- What if your corporation had access to an off-the-shelf, system-level product that allowed your design teams the maximum flexibility at system level without the traditional inventory risks?
- What if this off-the-shelf product had all the latest functionality they were looking for – and were way ahead of standard cell technologies?
- What if they could chose to never again deal with 0.13 micron silicon design issues or budget for huge NRE expenses?

The what-ifs for this dream can go on and on – but this is not a dream. This is what a Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA solution can do for you right now.

### Strategic Partnerships

Xilinx, IBM®, and Conexant™ Systems have been quietly working together to respond to the issues and challenges facing design teams and their corporations. Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs feature as many as four IBM PowerPC™ 405 processors immersed and embedded within the FPGA fabric. Moreover, the Virtex-II Pro devices connect to the outside



world via as many as 16 Rocket I/O™ 3.125 multi-gigabit serial transceivers capable of interfacing with multiple parallel and serial protocols and standards.

The Virtex-II Pro solution delivers both high-performance processing and high-bandwidth connectivity all in one device. And that's not all. Xilinx XCITE™ digitally controlled impedance technology removes hundreds of termination resistors from the printed circuit board. Xilinx IP Immersion and Active Interconnect technologies allow the PowerPC processors to bypass peripheral bus bottlenecks to connect directly with the FPGA logic and memory array.

Our partnerships on the software side with Wind River Systems, The MathWorks, Cadence Systems, Mentor Graphics, Synopsys, Synplicity, and more have paid

off as well. The Virtex-II Pro solution comes with a complete set of Xilinx-specific embedded software tools for development, simulation, and debugging.

The close alliance with our partners and the tight integration of hardware and software in the Virtex-II Pro platform allows on-demand architectural synthesis with tremendous flexibility and scalability. You can efficiently divide complex functions between high-speed implementation in hardware and high-flexibility implementation in software.

### See for Yourself

In the process of delivering the Virtex-II Pro solution, Xilinx has had to change its infrastructure to go beyond being a programmable logic supplier into becoming a programmable system provider. We knew that being a system-level provider didn't mean just innovation in silicon. It meant acquisitions and alliances in areas of I/O speed and connectivity, software development, design services – and preparing our entire workforce – from the experts in the field to the experts in customer support – to truly deliver a complete solution to our partners and customers.

Talk is cheap. So, let us show you what the family of Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGAs can do for you. I personally invite you and your engineering design teams to

Programmable World 2002 to be held April 17 in San Jose, Boston, Paris – and more sites to be announced later.

This worldwide exposition and conference will offer a general session and feature 16 presentations in four technical tracks.

Registration is mandatory, seating is limited, but participation is free. We, and our world-class partners, want to train you for the next generation of embedded, system-level programmable devices. For more information, read this issue of *Xcell Journal* (including the back cover) and register online at [www.xilinx.com/pw2002](http://www.xilinx.com/pw2002).

