

FROM THE EDITOR

What's Ahead in the Year 2000...

What do you think will be the big technology news in the year 2000?



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It has been a great year for the programmable logic industry. During 1999, we have seen dramatic advancements in every area: device densities have skyrocketed to two million gates, with unprecedented performance; development tools have become very fast, efficient, and easy to use; intellectual property has become plentiful and widespread; device prices have fallen; unique new applications have arisen.

So, what can you expect in the year 2000?

- **Ever Denser FPGAs** - We already have 2-million gate Virtex™-E FPGAs available, and soon we will be shipping our 3.2-million gate, very high performance devices. This much power, in a programmable logic device, gives you unprecedented design freedom and helps you get very complex designs to market as quickly as possible.
- **Very Low Cost FPGAs** - You will continue to get more gates for less money. Our Spartan™ family of low cost FPGAs keeps getting better and less expensive. Why develop costly, time consuming, risky ASICs, when you can get the flexibility, ease of use, low risk, and low cost of FPGAs? High volume, consumer applications will take full advantage of this breakthrough.
- **Design Reuse** - To reach the marketplace sooner, with robust

designs that work right the first time, companies will create libraries of in-house and third-party intellectual property. Xilinx already provides the tools you need to create and manage intellectual property, and we will continue to lead the industry in this critical area through our Design Reuse Initiative.

- **Internet Reconfigurable Logic** - You will begin to see many more companies designing hardware that can be reconfigured remotely. The era of single use hardware is over, because it is so easy to build "universal" hardware systems that can change and adapt to new requirements. Using the evolving Xilinx Online™ technology, you can create field upgradable systems that last longer and provide more benefits to your customers for less cost.
- **Advanced Development Tools** - It takes a full team to design with multi-million gate devices, and our new software tools will make it easy to collaborate on designs with engineers anywhere in the world. Look to Xilinx to lead the effort in creating the high-level, fully-integrated, development tools you will need for both large and small designs.

In the year 2000 you will not only see bigger, better, faster, cheaper devices, you will also see the decline of single use, fixed logic hardware and the beginning of a new paradigm of field upgradable logic. ❧