

# Designing Next-Generation MAN Products with Xilinx

Xilinx enables designers to meet the challenges of building metro and edge access products.

by Diane Katsuyoshi  
Marketing Manager, Strategic Solutions  
Xilinx, Inc.  
[diane.katsuyoshi@xilinx.com](mailto:diane.katsuyoshi@xilinx.com)

With over four million visitors since its introduction, the eSP web portal has quickly become an invaluable resource for the engineering community. A rich source of information, the eSP site includes technology tutorials, market overviews, system block diagrams, in-depth presentations on product applications, and comprehensive glossaries. Since its inception, the portal has covered the emerging markets of home networking, wireless, and digital video technologies by providing comprehensive solutions that accelerate product development and time-to-market. The site has now been expanded with a new segment targeted at metro and edge access networks.

This article discusses the eSP web portal, as well as giving details on the recent Metro-Optical Networking Forum.



## eSP Introduces Metro Access Networks Segment

Metro Access Networking (MAN), the industry's only online resource dedicated to addressing the challenges of designing products for the MAN market, is the latest segment to be added to the eSP portal.

The key components of the MAN portal include:

- **Building Blocks within the Network** – This section provides detailed system solutions and block diagrams from Xilinx to accelerate time-to-market in the areas of the 10 GE (gigabit Ethernet) router, GE switch, backplane switch fabric, and much more.
- **Xilinx in Networking** – Xilinx offers comprehensive design solutions for the entire line card, control card and backplane including, PHY, Framer/MAC, network processor, memory interface, backplane interface and system interface. This section also provides detailed information on IP, silicon solutions and system design details.
- **Comprehensive Resource for MAN Technologies** – Provides detailed descriptions of the myriad of MAN, wide-area networks (WANs), local area networks (LANs), and access technologies, along with complete presentations and tutorials on the Xilinx fit-for-each-optical-networking technology, from SONET/SDH and RPR to 10 GE and ATM.
- **MAN Products** – This section provides details on how Xilinx solutions provide value in MAN products including ADM, DCS, MSPPs, and more.

In conjunction with the eSP MAN segment launch, Xilinx also held an industry forum to bring together MAN leaders to discuss issues in this dynamic market.

### Metro-Optical Networking Forum

Xilinx, along with Reed Electronics Group, Avnet Design Services and Cilicon, an Avnet Company, recently hosted the Metro-Optical Networking Forum. This was truly a premier gathering of key industry leaders and visionaries who addressed the technologies and challenges of developing and deploying successful products for the MAN market.

This highly successful event brought together over 700 design engineers, system architects and executives to hear first-hand from executives from the top MAN box builders, standards committees and semiconductor suppliers about the future of the MAN market in terms of its technologies, solutions and applications. Here's an overview of the discussion.



*Executives debate whether RPR or MEF will be the leading metro standard.*



*Vint Cerf explains the metro from a service provider perspective.*

MAN. Many of the industry experts from companies, including Allegro Networks, Lantern Communications™, Luminous Networks™ and more, agreed industry standards are still in flux and the MAN bandwidth bottleneck must be resolved by upgrading the infrastructure in terms of providing performance and flexibility at a low cost. Those who presented believe programmable logic plays an integral part in making sure that their MAN products are flexible enough to adapt to the vastly changing networking technologies and standards.

The event gave engineers, system architects and technology executives a good top-to-bottom understanding of the current MAN market and what the future holds for companies designing products for the

The key highlights of the event included:

- Panel discussion – Executives debated whether RPR or Metro Ethernet would prevail as the standard for the MAN industry.
- Keynote Presentation – Vinton G. Cerf, Sr. Vice President of Architecture and Technology of WorldCom, widely known as one of the “Fathers of the Internet,” shared an exciting and interactive view on the future of the MAN from a service provider perspective with the audience.
- Exhibits and Live Demonstrations – A key component of the event was to showcase various solutions available from many top IP, reference board, ASSP, and semiconductor companies in the MAN industry.



*Attendees viewing the MAN solutions offered by participating companies.*

### For More Information

For information on the Metro Access Networks portal on eSP, visit [www.xilinx.com/esp/optical](http://www.xilinx.com/esp/optical). You can download the material presented at the Metro-Optical Networking Forum. Visit [www.xilinx.com/esp/knowledge\\_center/events/monf.htm](http://www.xilinx.com/esp/knowledge_center/events/monf.htm). 