

Xilinx Now Shipping Cadence Interface Kit

To provide the best possible support to our users, Xilinx and Cadence Design Systems have mutually agreed to have Xilinx take over development, sales and support of the interface kit for using Cadence design entry and simulation tools with the Xilinx XACTstep system. Cadence has discontinued sale and support of their Xilinx interface kit; the last Cadence version of that kit is the 97A release.

A new Cadence interface kit is available directly from Xilinx. The currently-released beta version is for the XACTstep version M1.2 release — full production will start in conjunction with the introduction of M1.3, scheduled for mid-summer. This new interface kit has superior schematic and HDL support for all Xilinx architectures, including the XC4000EX/XL FPGA families. The new release supports EDIF netlist entry, VHDL- and Verilog-based design, as well as both functional and timing simulation. The VITAL libraries in XACTstep M1 will work with the Cadence Leapfrog VHDL simulator. (The EDIF netlist is available from Cadence on its ftp site.)

Xilinx is committed to fully support our Cadence users, including the timely introduction of schematic and HDL libraries for new component architectures. Resources in engineering and software quality assurance

are now dedicated to developing and testing Concept and Verilog libraries; dedicated Cadence experts have been added to the technical support organization. Xilinx has developed detailed documentation on the design flow, including a new guide for users migrating from XACTstep v5.2.1 to M1.

Cadence will continue to sell and support its HDL synthesis solution for Xilinx components. Synergy synthesis libraries for the XC4000EX family will be available on the Cadence ftp site by early summer. *(For more information on the availability of synthesis libraries, please contact the Cadence support organization in your area.)*

Cadence discontinued sales of Xilinx place and route tools in November 1996 — version 9604 was the last release. All in-warranty owners of these tools can receive the latest XACTstep package by calling Xilinx customer service.

If you are currently a Cadence Design Systems customer and are using Xilinx tools purchased from Cadence, please fax a copy of the following information to the Xilinx Customer Service group (408-559-0115) — company name, user name, mailing address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. ♦