



NEWS RELEASE

Forte Design Systems Joins TSMC Reference Flow 11.0 with Cynthesizer
Cynthesizer SystemC High-Level Synthesis Selected For ESL, Hardware Design

ANAHEIM, CALIF. — June 15, 2010 — Forte Design Systems, a leading provider of High-Level Synthesis software, today announced that TSMC has validated its Cynthesizer™ SystemC high-level synthesis product for Reference Flow 11.0 inclusion. Forte is demonstrating Cynthesizer in Booth #750 at the 47th Design Automation Conference (DAC) through Wednesday, June 16, at the Anaheim Convention Center here.

“TSMC and Forte have been working together to meet the unique challenges associated with ESL design,” remarks Tom Quan, TSMC’s deputy director of Design Service Marketing. “Forte provides the much-needed high-level synthesis tools for Reference Flow 11.0, allowing our joint customers to quickly produce high-quality, TSMC-compliant hardware designs from a high-level SystemC description.”

Release 11.0 is the first generation of TSMC Reference Flow featuring electronic system level (ESL) design. Forte’s Cynthesizer v4.0 was included in the new flow to support SystemC high level synthesis.

Designers create abstracted models of their hardware using a high-level SystemC description. Cynthesizer processes the SystemC model, automatically creating the datapath and finite state machine. Designers can easily generate a number of candidate

register transfer level (RTL) implementations by varying tool directives to specify latency, performance or area constraints.

Cynthesizer's advanced algorithms and patented datapath optimization engine create high-quality building blocks tuned to the given TSMC library to minimize area and perform detailed timing analysis, eliminating timing closure problems inherent in typical RTL design processes. The design flow introduction based on Cynthesizer will be available on TSMC-Online.

“Joining TSMC's Reference Flow marks a major milestone for Cynthesizer and for SystemC-based design,” concludes Sean Dart, Forte's president and chief executive officer (CEO). “With a documented flow and methodology from SystemC to silicon, our mutual customers can be confident they will receive a high-quality implementation while addressing the complex issues of deep sub-micron design.”

About Forte Design Systems

Forte Design Systems is a leading provider of software products that enable design at a higher level of abstraction and improve design results. Its innovative synthesis technologies and intellectual property offerings allow design teams creating complex electronic chips and systems to reduce their overall design and verification time. More than half of the top 20 worldwide semiconductor companies use Forte's products in production today for ASIC, SoC and FPGA design. Forte is headquartered in San Jose, Calif., with additional offices in England, Japan, Korea and the United States. For more information, visit www.ForteDS.com.

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