

PRESS RELEASES

- FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION -

Silica marches ahead with exclusive Spartan-3 evaluation kit

Munich – 13th May, 2004 -- Specialist semiconductor distributor Silica has announced details of a new evaluation kit for the Xilinx® Spartan™-3 FPGA family. Created by the design services arm of Silica's parent company Avnet, the kit supports fast, efficient development and testing of Spartan-3 embedded applications.

Compatible with existing Xilinx architectures and incorporating up to five million system gates, Spartan-3 devices offer a high degree of flexibility and class-leading cost-per-gate and cost-per-I/O. The new evaluation kit from Silica (ADS-XLX-SP3-EVL400) provides an extremely stable prototyping platform for designers seeking to realise these benefits. The installed XC3S400 device is supported by a 32-bit PCI bus, 10/100 Ethernet and video peripherals, PS2 and JTAG ports and an RS232 cable interface. Demonstration VHDL code is also included, along with schematics and a user's guide, enabling rapid familiarisation with the device. Used in conjunction with Xilinx IP cores and design tools, the kit represents an ideal starting point for applications that include digital video, networking, test and measurement, medical, industrial and automotive systems.

Commenting on the introduction of the new kit, Tesfay Embaye, vice president technical marketing for Silica, said: "In an increasing number of applications, Xilinx's Spartan FPGAs are providing our customers with critical commercial advantages over traditional ASIC-based solutions, particularly in terms of speed, flexibility and risk. With the help of this new kit, more designers will be able to jump-start the development cycle and achieve even greater reductions in overall time to market."

Silica is an authorised distribution partner for Xilinx in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. Across all these markets the company provides in-depth technical support via a dedicated team of manufacturer-trained FAEs and a range of development kits that complement the rich design environment created by Xilinx. The new ADS-XLX-SP3-EVL400 is available from Silica now. It will be joined later this quarter by a second kit, the ADS-XLX-SP3-EVL1500, which is based on the XC3S1500.

Xilinx, Inc. (NASDAQ:XLNX) is the worldwide leader of programmable logic solutions. Additional information about Xilinx is available at www.xilinx.com.

Silica is a highly specialised semiconductor distributor with sales and marketing offices throughout Europe providing a broad portfolio of semiconductor products and solutions from world leading suppliers to all market segments in the electronics industry. The company's Web site is located at www.silica.com.

Silica is a division of Avnet Electronics Marketing EMEA (Europe, Middle-East, Africa), an operating group of Avnet, Inc. (NYSE: AVT). Avnet enables success at the centre of technology, providing cost-effective services and solutions vital to a broad base of more than 100,000 customers and 250

suppliers. The company markets, distributes and adds value to semiconductors, interconnect, passive and electromechanical (IP&E) components, enterprise network and computer equipment, software and embedded sub-systems. Avnet generated revenue of \$ 9.05 billion in fiscal 2003 (year ended June 27, 2003) through sales in 68 countries. Via its premiere market position, Avnet brings a breadth and depth of capabilities, which help its trading partners accelerate growth and realise cost efficiencies.

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