

PRESS RELEASES

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Silica Launches Evaluation Kit for Virtex-4 SX

First kit aimed at optimizing DSP applications within the Virtex-4 platform FPGA family

MUNICH, March 8, 2005 – Silica, semiconductor distribution specialist of Avnet Electronics Marketing, has released the Xilinx® Virtex-4® SX35 Evaluation Kit providing designers with a powerful platform for developing very high performance signal processing systems.

The SX35 evaluation kit, developed by Avnet Design Services, features an XC4VSX35-FF668 device optimized for digital signal processing (DSP) applications. Engineers will be able to take advantage of the feature-rich kit for learning, evaluation, prototyping, benchmarking, and development. The integrated peripherals give the developer the capability of testing how the Virtex-4 SX FPGA can be used with a variety of output devices, memory options and bus architectures. The Virtex-4 SX family provides blazing DSP performance with unrivalled economy, providing the ideal solution for a broad array of system functions including implementing intermediate frequency (IF) to baseband down-conversion channels, spread spectrum systems and high definition H.264 and MPEG-4 encode/decode algorithms.

The kit comes complete with a robust selection of memory devices, graphic displays and connectivity options. To make it easier for designers to get to work right away using the evaluation platform, the kit also includes a 5V wall-mount power-supply (fitted with USA style plug) as a standard feature. The Virtex-4 SX35 Evaluation Kit adds to Silica's suite of Xilinx Virtex-4 related kits, which also includes the Virtex-4 LX25 and Virtex-4 LX60 Evaluation Kits.

"Enabling DSP algorithms within any application can be a challenging task for System Designers", states Andy Thorne, Director Technical Marketing at Silica. "Engineers can leverage our SX35 kit to make this process significantly easier. We deliver a robust and stable development system to aid customers in the adoption of Xilinx' breakthrough technology."

The Kit is priced at 9 and available from Silica now with ordering part number ADS-XLX-V4SX-EVL35.

The Virtex-4 SX35 Evaluation Kit includes the following features:

- Xilinx Virtex-4 SX35 FPGA
- USB 2.0 controller
- Xilinx platform FLASH
- 10/100 Ethernet PHY
- 8 MB FLASH
- 128x64 graphical OLED display from Osram
- 32 MB DDR SDRAM
- RS-232 console interface
- Clock multiplier/divider
- AvBus connectivity
- Wall Mount Power Supply (5V) (fitted with USA style plug)

About Xilinx Virtex-4 Platform FPGAs

Enabled by the revolutionary ASMBL (Advanced Silicon Modular Block) architecture and advanced 90nm triple-oxide technology, Virtex-4 FPGAs deliver more options, higher performance and lower power than any other FPGA family available today. With more than 100 technical innovations, the Virtex-4 family consists of 17 devices and three domain-optimized platforms; Virtex-4 LX FPGAs optimized for logic-intensive designs, Virtex-4 SX FPGAs optimized for high-performance signal processing, and Virtex-4 FX FPGAs optimized for high-speed serial connectivity and embedded processing. A multi-platform approach makes it possible for customers to select the optimal mix of resources for their application to achieve the highest functionality and breakthrough performance at the lowest cost. Devices are shipping now. For more information on the Virtex-4 product family, visit www.xilinx.com/virtex4.

About Silica

Silica, a division of Avnet Electronics Marketing EMEA (Europe, Middle-East, Africa), is a highly specialised semiconductor distributor. Silica has 36 sales & marketing offices throughout Europe and provides a broad portfolio of semiconductor products and solutions from world leading suppliers to all market segments in the electronics industry. More about Silica at: www.silica.com

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