Tektronix and FS2 Collaborate on Real-Time Logic Debug Solution for Xilinx FPGAs

Tektronix TLA Series Logic Analyzers and FS2 FPGAView Software Provide Complete Debug Package for Xilinx FPGAs

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Tektronix, Inc. and First Silicon Solutions (FS2) , today announced the FPGAView™ software package for Tektronix® TLA Series logic analyzers that enables real-time debugging of Xilinx® FPGAs. Using the FPGAView software, design engineers can quickly and easily measure signals inside their Xilinx FPGA design and select which group of internal signals to probe without having to recompile their design.

"Our collaboration with Tektronix enables customers to increase productivity and reduce debugging time when designing with Xilinx FPGAs," said Rick Leatherman, vice president and general manager of FS2. "By leveraging our debug intellectual property, probing technology and PC software expertise, we provide a tool for designers to quickly and easily measure signals without time-consuming synthesis, place, and route cycles. This translates into real savings of both time and money."

The FPGAView software package is installed onto a Tektronix logic analyzer. It includes a utility to automatically generate a block of logic that is configured in the FPGA -- the Logic Analyzer (LA) Core. The LA Core handles the signal definitions and external connects mapped to the Logic Analyzer pins. The software allows for a large set of internal signals to be mapped to a small number of output pins via a user-configurable multiplexer. With the Tektronix logic analyzer connected to the FPGA pins and a standard JTAG port, FPGAView software controls which internal FPGA signals are mapped to the output pins, enabling real-time display and debug. The software also eliminates the need to manually enter and map signal names into the logic analyzer. Designers will find the combination of FS2's FPGAView software, Xilinx logic analyzer interface feature, and the Tektronix logic analyzer, easier to use and less intrusive than other debug methodologies.

"With the ever increasing pressure to rapidly develop new products, designers are looking for easier, more productive means of debugging internal nodes of an FPGA," said David Bennett, vice president, logic analyzer product line, Tektronix. "Available for Tektronix logic analyzers, this new debug solution from FS2 for Xilinx not only gives design teams the ability to view the internal operation of their FPGA design but also allows them to correlate these signals with other signals on their board."

"As FPGA designs grow more complex and pressures to reduce design cycles increase, the ability to rapidly debug FPGAs becomes even more crucial, driving the demand for solutions such as FPGAView," said Mark Aaldering, vice president of the Embedded Processing and IP Divisions at Xilinx. "Designers can take advantage of the advanced capabilities within Tektronix logic analyzers and the automated debugging process of FPGAView to quickly and easily complete their designs and meet their go-to-market goals."

FPGAView software is available for all Tektronix TLA Series logic analyzers, including the new TLA5000B Series which offers increased record lengths and enhanced usability. It requires the Platform Cable USB programming cable from Xilinx and also Xilinx FPGA design tools. This eliminates the need to manually enter signal names into the logic analyzer.

Pricing and Availability

FS2's FPGAView software will begin shipping in October 2006. Pricing for a one-year use license with support is US$ 1,695. Pricing for a perpetual-use license and three years of support is US$ 4,995. For further information, please contact FS2 at 503-489-0311 x103 or visit www.fs2.com .

About First Silicon Solutions

FS2, a division of MIPS Technologies, Inc., provides silicon IP and design services using OCI (On-Chip Instrumentation). This includes custom development tools for programming, testing and debug of FPGA, SoC, SOPC, ASSP and ASIC devices. FS2 products help silicon vendors and their customers develop and more effectively market their products, reducing development cycles, and allowing them to focus on delivering all the potential of the system on silicon. Additional information is available at www.fs2.com .

About Tektronix

Tektronix is a leading supplier of test, measurement, and monitoring products, solutions and services for the communications, computer, and semiconductor industries -- as well as military/aerospace, consumer electronics, education and a broad range of other industries worldwide. With 60 years of experience, Tektronix enables its customers to design, build, deploy, and manage next-generation global communications networks, advanced and pervasive technologies. Headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon, Tektronix has operations in 19 countries worldwide. Tektronix' Web address is www.tektronix.com .

NOTE: Tektronix is a registered trademark of Tektronix, Inc. FPGAView is a trademark of First Silicon Solutions. All other trade names referenced are the service marks, trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies.

SOURCE: Tektronix, Inc.

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