Synopsys Boosts Designer Productivity by Launching Liberty NCX Characterization Solution

Liberty NCX Accelerates Delivery of Production-Quality Current-Source Libraries

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif., April 4 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Synopsys, Inc. (NASDAQ: SNPS), a world leader in semiconductor design software, today unveiled its new Liberty™ NCX next-generation library characterization solution for 65-nanometer (nm) and below process technologies. Liberty NCX is architected around Composite Current Source (CCS) models, the technology proven to deliver comprehensive characterization, performance and accuracy for advanced designs. Liberty NCX comprises an optimized model characterization engine with a suite of library quality checkers and compaction and model translation functions that significantly boost designer productivity by providing the fastest path to high-quality production libraries.

"Synopsys' Liberty modeling technology has enjoyed widespread adoption for over 15 years because of continued innovation," said Ahsan Bootehsaz, vice president of Research and Development, Synopsys Implementation Group. "With the advent of current-source models, simply defining a good library format no longer assures industry-wide adoption. Current-source models require a complete library delivery system that encompasses efficient model generation, verification and compaction. The new Liberty NCX solution efficiently generates and validates CCS-based libraries to significantly boost designers' productivity and enable semiconductor companies to reap the full benefits of sub-65-nanometer process geometries."

Current-source models increase accuracy by using current waveforms instead of delay and slew values in the library. Proper segmentation and verification of current waveforms are crucial to current-source model fidelity. Previous- generation library characterization engines were designed for delay and slew measurements and lacked the infrastructure to support efficient current waveform segmentation and verification.

Specially architected for current-source models, the Liberty NCX solution is a complete library delivery system specially featuring an optimized, single-pass CCS library generation flow that performs simultaneous characterization and model accuracy verification. Liberty NCX also includes a suite of library quality assurance, compaction, merging, scaling and model translation tools. These tools provide exceptional flexibility in delivering verified libraries at scaled voltage or temperature corners for tool flows from multiple EDA vendors. Liberty NCX supports all the latest open-source Liberty modeling innovations approved by the Liberty Technical Advisory Board (TAB) in December 2006, including base-curve compaction technology.

Pricing and Availability

Synopsys Liberty NCX is in limited customer availability today, and is expected to be generally available in June 2007. The Liberty NCX solution includes Library Compiler, which Synopsys today announced has been enhanced to assure high-quality current-source libraries while reducing characterization cost (see "Synopsys Enhances Library Compiler to Put Current-source Models Within Reach of Every Designer"). The Liberty NCX solution supports all variation-aware modeling capabilities required for emerging statistical timing analysis applications. U.S. list pricing starts at $81,340 for a one-year Technology Subscription License (TSL).

About Synopsys

Synopsys, Inc. is a world leader in EDA software for semiconductor design. The company delivers technology-leading semiconductor design and verification platforms and IC manufacturing software products to the global electronics market, enabling the development and production of complex systems-on-chips (SoCs). Synopsys also provides intellectual property and design services to simplify the design process and accelerate time-to-market for its customers. Synopsys is headquartered in Mountain View, California and has offices in more than 60 locations throughout North America, Europe, Japan and Asia. Visit Synopsys online at https://www.synopsys.com/.

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