

Princess Sumaya University for Technology Receives Charles Babbage Grant from Synopsys

First in MENA Region to Establish New Full- and Semi-custom IC Design Laboratories

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif., May 30, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- Synopsys, Inc. (Nasdaq: SNPS), a world leader in software and IP used in the design, verification and manufacture of electronic components and systems, today announced that Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT) in Amman, Jordan is the first university in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region to receive the Charles Babbage Grant from Synopsys. Through the grant, PSUT receives licenses for Synopsys' comprehensive, industry-leading electronic design automation (EDA) software, along with curriculum support and professor training. The grant also provides new computer hardware, printers and educational equipment, enabling PSUT to create two new laboratories for full- and semi-custom integrated circuit (IC) design for 20 students.

Lack of access to commercial-grade design tools for advanced research and microelectronic design is a common issue facing universities today. Synopsys helps solve this challenge through initiatives like the Charles Babbage Grant and its Worldwide University Program, which provide select universities with design software for modern electronic design flows and leading commercial IC fabrication processes. Previous grant recipients outside of United States include the Chinese Academy of Sciences, University of Southampton, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, Moscow Institute of Electronic Technology (MIET), Yerevan State University and the State Engineering University of Armenia.

"PSUT is very grateful for this grant," said Professor Issa Batarseh, PSUT president. "It will provide our engineering students with access to world-leading software and tools and allow us to enhance our curricula."

"We always welcome industry collaboration and support," Dr. Wejdan Abu Elhaija, the Dean of King Abdullah II School for Electrical Engineering, added. "We're pleased to strengthen our relationship with Synopsys."

"Supporting programs that enable semiconductor design through academia continues to be an important priority for Synopsys," said Anwar Awad, vice president of engineering of the IP/Solutions group at Synopsys. "Working with PSUT, we have been able to create an educational program that will cultivate advanced IC design skills in Jordan and prepare graduates to establish local industry." Awad formally opened the lab in a ceremony attended by PSUT students and faculty on May 28.

Synopsys and the Department of Electronics Engineering at the King Abdullah II School of Electrical Engineering at PSUT began collaborating in 2010 by establishing a microelectronics education program through a VLSI course integrated into the Electronics Engineering curriculum in IC design. In addition to EDA software and computer resources, Synopsys provides PSUT with support, advisors, faculty training and facilitates student and faculty exchanges. In 2011, Jordanian students participated in internships and joined Student Working Groups at the Synopsys Armenia Educational Department and R&D center. The students also successfully competed in the International Microelectronics Olympiad of Armenia, an annual competition that recognizes and inspires young talented engineers involved in microelectronics. PSUT and Synopsys are continuing to strengthen their cooperation in research and education. Again this year, PSUT students will intern at Synopsys Armenia and participate in the Seventh International Microelectronics Olympiad of Armenia.

About the Charles Babbage Grant

The Charles Babbage Grant provides select universities worldwide with state-of-the-art EDA tools, training, support and technology. It enables institutions of higher education to enhance their expertise in microelectronics circuits and system design. Use of the Synopsys tools on modern, powerful computers from the grant helps universities to better prepare their graduates for the future by providing hands-on experience with current industry practices, modern design techniques and actual design tools and computer hardware. This enhances the students' understanding of how learning applies to the real world of IC design. The grant is named after British mathematician and inventor Charles Babbage, who designed and built mechanical computing machines on principles that anticipated the modern electronic computers of today over 150 years ago. For more information about the Synopsys Worldwide University Program, visit us at <http://www.synopsys.com/Community/UniversityProgram/Pages/default.aspx>.

About Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT)

Founded in 1991, Princess Sumaya University for Technology is a not-for-profit, top-ranked private university offering bachelors and masters degrees in business, IT and engineering. Its location within the El-Hassan

Science City and the Royal Scientific Society has granted the university a special status within the scientific matrix of Al-Jubeiha, Amman, which includes the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research, the Higher Council for Science and Technology and the Royal Geographic Center. For more information, please visit the PSUT website at <http://www.psut.jo/main>.

About Synopsys

Synopsys, Inc. (Nasdaq:SNPS) is a world leader in electronic design automation (EDA), supplying the global electronics market with the software, intellectual property (IP) and services used in semiconductor design, verification and manufacturing. Synopsys' comprehensive, integrated portfolio of implementation, verification, IP, manufacturing and field-programmable gate array (FPGA) solutions helps address the key challenges designers and manufacturers face today, such as power and yield management, system-to-silicon verification and time-to-results. These technology-leading solutions help give Synopsys customers a competitive edge in bringing the best products to market quickly while reducing costs and schedule risk. Synopsys is headquartered in Mountain View, California, and has approximately 70 offices located throughout North America, Europe, Japan, Asia and India. Visit Synopsys online at <http://www.synopsys.com/>.

Editorial Contacts:

Monica Marmie
Synopsys, Inc.
650-584-2890
monical@synopsys.com

Deanna Doyon
MCA, Inc.
650-968-8900 ext. 203
ddoyon@mcapr.com

SOURCE Synopsys, Inc.
