

Panel 8A

Is there a Market for SystemC Tools?

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Abstract

SystemC, users and tool providers are at a crossroads. More and more companies are using SystemC; however EDA companies are hesitant to give a full commitment to SystemC tools, especially at system-level. There are several reasons for this dichotomy. While users seem excited about SystemC for its technical qualities for system-level design, tool providers may not share this excitement because of the current small market for such tools. Are the existing (free) reference implementation and the current small market for system level tools to blame, or are there any technical issues impeding the fast development of SystemC tools? Among the SystemC users from industry and academia there is currently some uncertainty about the future availability of state of the art EDA tools supporting SystemC. This panel brings together industrial SystemC users as well as EDA companies to discuss these issues. The industrial panellists will present the current situation regarding the use of SystemC in industry, its importance (or lack thereof) for system design and future needs for such tools. The tool providers will explain their current position regarding the commitment to SystemC and clarify their future plans for supporting it.

Panellists:

Reinaldo A. Bergamaschi, IBM, USA
Frank Ghenassia, STMicroelectronics, France
Thorsten Groetker, Synopsys, Germany
Masamichi Kawarabayashi, NEC Electronics, Japan
Marinus C. van Lier, Philips Semiconductors, The Netherlands
Albrecht Mayer, Infineon, Germany
Mike Meredith, Forte Design Systems, USA
Mark Milligan, CoWare, USA
Stuart Swan, Cadence, USA