

News

Upcoming Events

Apr - Aug 2007

Information Technology Enrichment Project
Course for Gifted Students: co-organized by the
Computer Science and Engineering Department
and Education and Manpower Bureau.

16-21 July ; 23-28 July 2007

IT Youth Summer Camp : run by the Computer
Science and Engineering Department together
with the Hong Kong Federation of Education
Workers from 16-21 July and 23-28 July 2007

4-5 May

CSE Department works with the Hong Kong
Federation of Education Worker and Electronic
Technology Publishing Group to organize the
Hong Kong RoboCupJunior 2007 which will be
held on 4-5 May at HKUST Sports Hall.

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13 Apr 2007

HKUST Cross-Licensing Agreement Advances Hong Kong as Semiconductor IP Application Hub

科大、VSIA交互授權協議促進香港成為半導體知識產權應用中心

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) has entered a cross-licensing agreement with VSI Alliance (VSIA), the leading standards body for the electronics industry, which will see HKUST research and development incorporated into an international standard for evaluating semiconductor intellectual property (SIP). The agreement, the first of its kind by an organization in Hong Kong, represents a major step forward for Hong Kong in securing a place as a key player in international SIP qualification and strengthening its position as the center for SIP application in the Greater China region.

Under the agreement, HKUST has cross-licensed its SIP Deliverables Checklist Framework to VSIA and together VSIA and HKUST will further develop the methodology and tools within the VSIA Quality IP (QIP) Metric, an international standard adopted by leaders of the semiconductor industry worldwide.

HKUST developed the Deliverables Checklist Framework as part of the first phase of the Greater China SIP Trading Center project, funded by the HKSAR Innovation and Technology Fund and sponsored by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation. The project seeks to provide a global collaboration network to facilitate SIP application in Greater China. The first phase is focused on SIP quality measurement and the legal framework associated with SIP licensing. HKUST's Deliverables Checklist Framework is an SIP tool that will allow third party providers to evaluate customer's IP by categorizing deliverables using quality evaluation line items. It can be used to automate the generation of objective evaluation data for the determination of customer's SIP quality, ultimately easing the process of IP integration.

"We were impressed with VSIA's leadership in quantifying a metric for evaluating IP and felt that we could add value to the QIP Metric and to the industry through the contribution of our deliverables checklist framework," said Prof. Philip Chan, HKUST Dean of Engineering and principal investigator of the HKUST project. "Additionally, we look forward to supporting VSIA QIP Metric development efforts in China and we hope we can work together on further development of QIP Metric and other VSIA initiatives."

VSIA President Kathy Werner said, "HKUST has put in a great deal of time and effort into the successful creation of the Deliverables Checklist Framework and we are pleased that they recognized the value of combining the efforts of both groups. We look forward to the successful integration of the checklist and to the benefit it will bring to the industry."

The semiconductor business represents a huge market opportunity. It is currently worth US\$30 billion in China alone and forecast to rise to US\$100 billion in 2010. Among Hong Kong's competitive advantages as the SIP application center for Greater China are a solid legal framework based on common law and with established intellectual property protection; international business and financial know-how at world-class levels to support trading; the city's position as a major purchasing center for semiconductors and ICs; the Pearl River Delta's consumption of 75% of ICs in China and Hong Kong's role as the "Dragon Head" of the Pearl River Delta; and internationally enforceable low-cost legal arbitration through the

About VSIA QIP Metric

The VSIA QIP Metric is a tool that can aggressively reduce the time typically required to make an SIP purchase decision and to integrate the core. The Metric helps the SIP vendor and SIP consumer communicate based on an objective foundation. Besides setting up the basis for measuring a core's characteristics against an industry-approved list of attributes, the metric provides a view of the SIP vendor's general approach to SIP development. This enables a continuous improvement mechanism, and in turn, levels the playing field for vendors and allows an integrator to evaluate similar cores from competing vendors. VSIA is currently working on the development of the verification SIP quality extension to the QIP Metric. VSIA QIP Metric was released to the public in January 2006 and has seen over 1,000 downloads.

About VSIA

The VSI Alliance (VSIA) is an open, international organization that includes representatives from all segments of the SoC industry: System houses, Semiconductor vendors, Electronic Design Automation (EDA) companies, and SIP providers. VSIA's mission is to dramatically enhance the productivity of the SoC design community by providing leading edge commercial and technical solutions and insight into the development, integration and reuse of IP. VSIA has wide industry participation with more than 70 member companies from around the world. Membership is open to any company with an interest in the development and promotion of business solutions and open standards used in the design of System-on-Chip. For more information, visit the VSIA web site at www.vsi.org, or e-mail to info@vsi.org.

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香港科技大學與主導半導體行業標準制定的組織VSI Alliance (VSIA)，達成交互授權(cross-licensing)協議，使科大的研發成果，被納入評估半導體知識產權的重要國際標準之列。此項協議，為本港開創先河，有助香港在全球半導體知識產權品質評估領域佔主導地位，促進香港成為大中華地區內半導體知識產權應用中心。

根據本協議，科大將其研發成果 - 半導體知識產權之可交付清單框架 (deliverables checklist framework)，與VSIA 交互授權，雙方將會進一步研發已被全球半導體龍頭公司採用的VSIA半導體知識產權質量評估度量系統 (Quality IP Metric)。

科大所研發的可交付清單框架，是大中華半導體知識產權交易中心項目首期工作的一部份，項目由香港特別行政區創新及科技基金提供資金，並獲香港科技園贊助。該項目為促進大中華地區的半導體知識產權應用提供了全球性合作網絡，項目首期的工作，主要集中於完善半導體知識產權的品質度量系統和建立半導體知識產業授權的法律框架。科大的可交付清單框架乃一種工具，令第三方服務商能夠按質量評測單項條目 (Line Items)，將交付清單分類及評估，使半導體知識產權品質的評估過程更客觀和自動化，最終簡化整合不同半導體知識產權的程序。

香港科技大學工學院院長及本項目首席研究員陳正豪教授表示：「VSIA在量化半導體知識產權評估系統上，具領導地位，相信科大的可交付清單框架，能對VSIA的質量評估度量系統以及整個半導體行業有所貢獻。此外，我們鼎力支持VSIA於此領域在中國的發展，希望能與VSIA有進一步合作的機會。」

VSIA主席Kathy Werner認為：「科大為成功開發可交付清單框架，投入了大量時間和努力。VSIA為科大讚賞雙方的努力成果而感到高興。我們期望雙方成果的成功整合，能惠及業界。」

半導體的市場商機巨大。目前它在中國市值約為300億美元，預期將於2010年增至1,000億美元。在成為大中華地區半導體知識產權應用中心的競爭中，香港有多項競爭優勢，包括建基於普通法上的司法制度、國際貿易及金融中心的有效設施、香港是半導體及集成電路的重要採購中心、珠江三角洲的集成電路銷售量佔全中國的百分之七十五與香港在珠江三角洲內所擔當的「龍頭」角色，以及透過香港國際仲裁中心所提供國際認可的低成本法律仲裁等。

關於VSIA知識產權質量評估度量系統 (QIP Metric)

VSIA 之半導體知識產權質量評估度量系統，能大量節省採購半導體知識產權的決策時間，並簡化整合所採購之SIP的程序。這個度量系統有助SIP代理廠商及SIP採購者在一個客觀的基礎上溝通。該系統除了建立業界認可的評測准則，用以測量特定芯片的特性外，更能幫助用戶了解供應商開發SIP所採用的模式。它促成了一個持續改善的機制，讓集成商能在同一平台上評估所有供應商供應的芯片。VSIA現正將Quality IP Metric質量評估度量系統延伸至IP質量的認證。VSIA Quality IP Metric質量評估度量系統自2006年1月公佈至今，下載已超過1,000次數。

關於VSIA

VSIA是一所公開的國際機構，有系統芯片行業代表的參與，包括系統集成商、半導體代理廠商、電子設計自動化Electronic Design Automation (EDA)公司以至半導體知識產權服務商等。VSIA致力於提供最尖端的商業及科技方案，促進系統芯片設計生產、知識產權的發展、整合和再用。VSIA通過與全球逾70個會員公司，與業界聯繫緊密，並歡迎系統芯片行業任何致力開發商業方案及推動公開標準的公司加入本會。有關詳情，請瀏覽VSIA網址www.vsi.org 或電郵至info@vsi.org 查詢。

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