



Takumi Technology Announces Deployment of Criticality Aware Design Flow by NEC Electronics

DFM Solution Reduces Cost and Shortens Time-to-Tapeout for Advanced Sub-wavelength IC Process

Sunnyvale, California, U.S.A.—April 19, 2006—Takumi Technology Corporation, the technology leader in system solutions for design for manufacturing (DFM), today announced that NEC Electronics, a world leader in advanced semiconductor manufacturing, has recently completed development of a mask data preparation (MDP) flow using Takumi's Criticality Aware design flow. NEC Electronics will use the DFM flow in its advanced IC production process.

"Takumi's Criticality Aware methodology enables us to reduce our tapeout turnaround time and technology costs," remarked Mr. Hiroshi Sakuma, General Manager of the Design Engineering Division at NEC Electronics. "They understand that DFM technologies are system level issues that cannot be addressed by simple point tool solutions. Takumi's vendor-agnostic approach also allows us to drive further productivity with our existing EDA software investment and will give us a competitive edge in our advanced semiconductor processes."

SIMPLIFYING MASK DATA

Takumi's Criticality Aware solution eliminates technology overuse by identifying manufacturing criticality and by locally adjusting the use of technology accordingly to those criteria. The Critically Aware flow addresses the many challenges of MDP such as increased complexity of layout, larger data file sizes, an escalating number of design rules, and unpredictable results caused by "brute force" iterations. By enabling layout analysis, criticality marking and splitting, model and hierarchy analysis, and optimized fracturing, this new DFM methodology dramatically shortens tapeout turnaround time and reduces costs.

"Our company's endorsement by NEC Electronics is a clear sign that we are providing tangible and measurable value to our customers and that our Criticality Aware methodology can close the growing gap between design and manufacturing for sub-wavelength processes," said Dr. Adriaan Ligtenberg, President and CEO of Takumi Technology Corporation. "Our early investment in our Japan operation and our local presence enables us to provide the close support and collaboration our Japanese customers need in such a complex technology partnership."

About Takumi Technology Corporation

Founded in October 2003 and headquartered in Sunnyvale, California, Takumi Technology Corporation is the leading provider of system solutions for DFM for sub-wavelength process nodes. The company presently offers Criticality Aware solutions for backend tapeout flow, defect analysis and layout optimization. Takumi's Criticality Aware methodologies are completely vendor-agnostic and enable our customers to maximize their productivity and investment in their existing third-party EDA tools. Takumi's technologies have been deployed with leading IDMs in 45nm, 65nm and 90nm technology nodes. Takumi Technology B.V. (The Netherlands) and Takumi Technology KK (Japan) are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Takumi Technology Corporation.

For more information, contact:

Mr. Tom Wong

VP of Marketing

Takumi Technology Corp.

+1-408-530-8898

t.wong@takumi-tech.com

Mr. Matthew Quint

Principal

Quint Public Relations

+1-650-599-9450

mquint@quintpr.com

© 2006 Takumi Technology Corporation. All rights reserved.

Takumi Technology and Takumi Technology logos are trademarks of Takumi Technology Corporation.