

For Immediate Release

SoftJin Announces Nirmaan, a toolkit for developing DFM/DFY tools

SANTA CLARA, Calif. & BANGALORE, India--May 17, 2005--SoftJin, an EDA (Electronic Design Automation) software development services company, today announced its first building block product for DFM/DFY (Design For Manufacturing/ Design For Yield) software tool development, called Nirmaan.

The Nirmaan software toolkit allows EDA companies and in-house CAD groups of semiconductor companies to develop optimized post-layout EDA tools, including DFM/DFY tools (software) faster. It includes an efficient geometric data organization and a host of fast geometrical operations commonly required for developing a whole range of post-layout EDA tools, especially DFM/DFY tools.

Nirmaan will be demonstrated for the first time at the Design Automation Conference in Anaheim, June 13-16, SoftJin booth # 1956.

"Our goal with Nirmaan is to support an important and growing segment of the EDA market--the development of customized DFM/DFY tools with our building blocks and services," said Nachiket Urdhwareshe, SoftJin's CEO. "We believe that the availability of an EDA toolkit like Nirmaan reduces the overall cost of development and time to market for customized post-layout EDA tools. With it, tool developers can focus on the development of their core application rather than spending time and effort on essential but non-core aspects."

Currently, the only alternative for post-layout EDA tool developers is to develop their own geometric data-organization and geometrical operations as part of their EDA tool development. Nirmaan is the first offering in the market that provides a ready-made, performance tuned and customized tool-kit for these developers. Since no single geometric data organization can satisfy the requirements of all post-layout tools, Nirmaan has been designed so that multiple structural, spatial and basic geometric data organization options are available for EDA tool developers to choose from as per the specific requirements of the tool. All the interfaces to the data organizations remain the same, including the read/write interfaces with the industry standards, and the operations on the data.

More about Nirmaan

At sub 90 nanometer geometries, the post-layout tool development challenges include handling of huge layout data files and performing complex geometrical operations in an efficient manner. Nirmaan is the first development toolkit that addresses this challenge. Nirmaan's key benefits for post-layout EDA tool developers include accelerating time to market for EDA tools by more than 2X with its a ready-made, performance tuned and customized development platform. Nirmaan enables scalability and high performance of post-layout EDA tools, due to the scalable underlying geometrical data model and fast geometrical operations.

The Nirmaan toolkit's features include:

1. Efficient Geometric Data-Organization: Nirmaan stores and represents geometric data in multiple levels of organizations – these include Structural, Spatial and Basic Geometry level, with mix and match of different types of organizations at different levels possible. This organization of data makes it highly efficient for performing a range of geometrical operations required by post-layout tools. The data would be persistent and would be stored in compressed form to be decompressed *just-in-time*.

2. Geometrical Operations: Nirmaan includes a range of built-in geometrical operations including Boolean, Sizing, Islanding, Tiling/Binning and Window querying. These operations work on the in-memory data organization in Nirmaan and can be performed at Polygon, Cell, Island, Window, Layer, Block and Full-Chip levels. Intuitive and well documented APIs to these operations as well as data manipulation functions allow easy tool development.

3. Standard Interfaces: Nirmaan supports industry standard layout data formats, such as GDSII, OASIS, LEF/DEF, and the OpenAccess and Milkyway databases.

Future versions of Nirmaan will support API functions so that tool developer can plug-in customized data model. Also Nirmaan's data-organization and operations will support multi-threading and distributed computing.

For more information about Nirmaan, please visit www.softjin.com/Nirmaan.

Price and Availability

Nirmaan is available now to select Beta sites and will be in production release in Q3. Nirmaan is licensed as object code to EDA tool developers to include, build upon and/or sell as part of their post-layout tools. Licenses for Nirmaan start at \$150,000 (USD).

About SoftJin

SoftJin Infotech Pvt. Ltd. is an EDA software development services company that develops software for the specific requirements of semiconductor and EDA companies. SoftJin's customized EDA software development and enhancement services and design flow development services offer the advantages of enhanced EDA software capability, flexible capacity and cost savings. More information about SoftJin is available at www.softjin.com.

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