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For Immediate Release

CYPRESS SEMICONDUCTOR AND CIRCUIT SEMANTICS ANNOUNCE NEW CELL DESIGN AND CHARACTERIZATION FLOW

Time To Characterize 740 Cell Library Reduced By 50%

SAN JOSE, CA, —November 20, 2000 — Cypress Semiconductor Corporation (NYSE: CY) and Circuit Semantics Inc. today jointly announced the availability of Circuit Semantics' DynaCell cell characterization solution in the Cypress ASIC standard cell library flow.

Cypress, like all of the companies doing high performance design, must bring products to market ever faster as market windows continue to get smaller and product life cycles shorter. Older methodologies for characterizing new standard cell libraries, or doing process changes and recharacterizing the libraries, within the required timeframe are no longer meeting these needs. With this problem in mind Cypress did an in depth study of the standard cell timing characterization solutions available on the market today and came to the conclusion that DynaCell provided the best and most cost effective solution.

"An evaluation of DynaCell by Cypress demonstrated that the Circuit Semantics solution completed characterization of 740 cells in less than three weeks, more than halving the process of previous methodologies," said Michael C. LaBouff, senior director, Design Technology, Cypress Semiconductor, "Additionally, the accuracy of the results was within 1% of Spice. Not only do we benefit from a tremendous productivity improvement but so do our end users."

"Customers are replacing or enhancing their existing design flows with Circuit Semantics products because our patented core technology provides faster throughput with Spice-like accuracy and automates a significant portion of manual preparation required to run characterization," said Tom Daspit, VP of product marketing for Circuit Semantics. "We are seeing an increase of customers using DynaCell to characterize their cell libraries and generating their next-generation library models to be used with DynaCore for characterization and timing analysis at the block and chip level. The combination of the two products produces a much higher degree and better design flow efficiency over traditional methodologies."

"The demonstrated success of our products and increase in new customers validates that Circuit Semantics' technology is solving customer needs for better timing and characterization solutions, said Gary Larsen, president and CEO of Circuit Semantics. "Our new customers are claiming tremendous gains in terms of reducing their design cycles and or improving the performance of their designs."

About Cypress

Cypress Semiconductor is "Driving the Communications Revolution"™ by providing high-performance integrated circuit solutions to fast-growing markets, including data communications, telecommunications, computation, consumer products, and industrial control. With a focus on emerging communications applications, Cypress's product portfolios include networking-optimized and micropower static RAMs; high-bandwidth multi-port and FIFO memories; high-density programmable logic devices; timing technology for PCs and other digital systems; and controllers for Universal Serial Bus (USB). Cypress is No. 1 in the USB and clock chip markets.

More than two-thirds of Cypress's sales come from fast-growing communications markets and dynamic companies such as Alcatel, Cisco, Ericsson, Lucent, Motorola, Nortel Networks, and 3Com. Cypress's ability to mix and match its broad portfolio of intellectual property enables targeted, integrated solutions for high-speed systems that feed bandwidth-hungry Internet applications. Cypress aims to become the preferred silicon supplier for Internet switching systems and for every Internet data stream to pass through at least one Cypress IC.

Cypress employs more than 4,100 people worldwide with international headquarters in San Jose, California. Its shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CY. More information about Cypress is accessible electronically on the company's worldwide web site at http://www.cypress.com or by CD-ROM (call 1-800-858-1810). An electronic investor forum, and other investor information, is located at http://www.cypress.com/investor/index.html.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements herein that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" involving risks and uncertainties, including by not limited to: the effect of global economic conditions, shifts in supply and demand, market acceptance, the impact of competitive products and pricing, product development, commercialization and technological difficulties, and capacity and supply constraints. Please refer to Cypress's Securities and Exchange Commission filings for a discussion of such risks.

About Circuit Semantics

Circuit Semantics, Inc. provides timing and characterization solutions for high performance cells, cores, and blocks based on innovative technology for which patents are currently pending. IC designers employ these mixed-level solutions to create high-performance chips using full-custom and structured-custom methodologies. The company's products support precise, gate-level abstraction of transistor-level circuits to accelerate timing closure for designs fabricated in deep submicron (DSM) process technologies. These solutions are especially well suited for the microprocessor, digital signal processing, graphics and the high-speed communications markets. Circuit Semantics is headquartered at 2590 North First Street, Suite 301, San Jose, California 95131, telephone 408/571-4800; fax 408/468-1468. For more information, visit www.circuitsemantics.com.

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