

XC8100 FPGA Product Family is Discontinued

Citing the strong market success of SRAM and FLASH technologies, Xilinx announced on Aug. 31, 1996, that it will discontinue the XC8100™ family of one-time programmable antifuse FPGA devices. The XC8100 family, first introduced last autumn, was just entering production.

No layoffs or reductions in R&D spending are associated with this decision. Xilinx employees involved with antifuse development are taking on new duties in other areas of the company. Resources and research and development spending are being redirected to focus more effectively on SRAM-based FPGAs, CPLDs and new opportunities more closely aligned with those products, such as LogiCore modules.

“The XC8100 team successfully developed a number of patented, industry-first innovations in antifuse architecture, design, programming and processes — accomplishments no one else in the entire semiconductor industry has been able to achieve so far with

this difficult technology,” stated Xilinx CEO Wim Roelandts.

“But, compared to SRAM development, there are very few people working in antifuse. As a result, antifuse will lag behind SRAM, entail disproportionately large development costs, and be relegated to limited markets. For these reasons we believe further investment in antifuse product development are too large to be justified.”

A number of options are available to support current XC8100 users, including assistance in moving designs to other pin-compatible Xilinx devices, software upgrades to support other programmable logic products and refunds for XACTstep™ 8000 software. ♦

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