

PUBLISHER Forrest Couch  
forrest.couch@xilinx.com  
408-879-5270

EDITOR Charmaine Cooper Hussain

ART DIRECTOR Scott Blair

ADVERTISING SALES Dan Teie  
1-800-493-5551

[www.xilinx.com/xcell/embedded](http://www.xilinx.com/xcell/embedded)



Xilinx, Inc.  
2100 Logic Drive  
San Jose, CA 95124-3400  
Phone: 408-559-7778  
FAX: 408-879-4780

© 2006 Xilinx, Inc. All rights reserved. XILINX, the Xilinx Logo, and other designated brands included herein are trademarks of Xilinx, Inc. PowerPC is a trademark of IBM, Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

The articles, information, and other materials included in this issue are provided solely for the convenience of our readers. Xilinx makes no warranties, express, implied, statutory, or otherwise, and accepts no liability with respect to any such articles, information, or other materials or their use, and any use thereof is solely at the risk of the user. Any person or entity using such information in any way releases and waives any claim it might have against Xilinx for any loss, damage, or expense caused thereby.

# Endless Possibilities

Welcome to our third edition of Xilinx *Embedded Magazine*. As we prepared this issue, the theme for this year's Embedded Systems Conference – “Five Days, One Location, Endless Possibilities” – resonated with the array of potential articles. Simply stated, we seemed to have endless possibilities for our embedded solutions to choose from and to share with you.

To capitalize on this theme, our ease-of-use initiative continues with Xilinx® Platform Studio and the Embedded Development Kit (EDK), as we recently released our latest version, 8.1i. This comes on the heels of EDN's recognition of our 32-bit MicroBlaze™ soft-processor core as one of the “Hot 100 Products of 2005.” Taken together, the MicroBlaze core, the industry-standard PowerPC™ core embedded in our Virtex™ family of FPGAs, and a growing list of IP and supported industry standards offer more options than ever to create, debug, and launch an embedded system for production.

The latest version of our kit serves one of the greatest appeals that the embedded solution holds for our FPGA customers – to create a “just-what-I-needed” processor subsystem that “just works.” In so doing, our customers can concentrate on the added value that differentiates their products in their marketplace. Here again, “endless possibilities” resonates with unlimited design flexibility.

In this issue of *Embedded Magazine* we offer a collection of diverse articles unlocking the endless possibilities with Xilinx platforms. We welcome industry icon Jim Turley and his clever insight regarding shifts in the embedded industry with his article “Change Is Good.” In addition, our partners Echolab, Impulse, PetaLogix, Poseidon, Teja, Avnet, and Nu Horizons highlight their latest innovations for our embedded platforms. Our own experts provide tutorials on the latest release of EDK 8.1, along with a background look at the newly launched Xilinx ESL Initiative.

Join us as we plumb the depths of these exciting new embedded solutions. I'm sure you'll find our third edition of *Embedded Magazine* informative and inspiring as we endeavor to help you unlock the power of Xilinx programmability. The advantages are enormous, the possibilities ... endless!



Mark Aaldering

Vice President  
Embedded Processing  
& IP Divisions