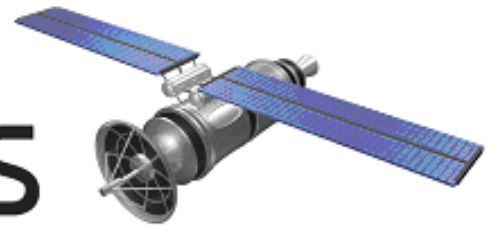


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The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

FH MONDAY

6 February 2017

Nokia Applies IMPACT to IoT Fragmentation

MADISON, Wis. – Lack of security and fragmentation are often cited as basic reasons why the Internet of Things market has been slow to catch fire.

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FPGA-Based AI System Recognizes Faces at 1,000 Images per Second

There is tremendous potential for facial recognition technology, such as informing visually impaired persons if someone they know is approaching them.

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TALK TO US



Smartphones to replace access cards in 2017

By 2020, organisations using smartphones instead of physical access cards (PACS) in offices and restricted premises will increase to 20% from less than 5% recorded in 2016, according to Gartner.

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ARC processor, interface IP boost SSD SoC

Starblaze has achieved first-pass silicon success for its MB1000 enterprise SSD controller using Synopsys' DesignWare ARC HS38 processor as well as DDR4 and PCI Express controller and PHY IP.

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Nokia Applies IMPACT To IoT Fragmentation

MADISON, Wis. – Lack of security and fragmentation are often cited as basic reasons why the Internet of Things market has been slow to catch fire.

By offering updates to its own IoT platform called IMPACT, unveiled last June, Nokia hopes to provide service providers, enterprises and governments with pre-integrated applications that help alleviate customers' initial trepidation before plunging into IoT.

During an interview with EE Times, Frank Ploumen, CTO of IoT platform and applications at Nokia, said, "Traditional Machine-to-Machine (M2M) applications tend to be point solutions."

For instance, you pick a specific IoT device with specific protocols to collect data, run a specific application and analyze data at a data center in the backend. This may work for a specific "connected" project, but such an approach "does not scale well," said Ploumen

FPGA-Based AI System Recognizes Faces at 1,000 Images per Second

There is tremendous potential for facial recognition technology, such as informing visually impaired persons if someone they know is approaching them.

I find it difficult to believe just how fast things are moving with regard to using artificial neural networks (ANNs) and deep learning techniques (for example, see Deep learning machine vision system aids blind and visually impaired, Deep learning hits a sweet note, Machine learning platform speeds optimization of vision systems, Unlocking the power of AI for all developers, and Push-button generation of deep neural networks).

Of course, one really interesting application is to perform object detection and identification, including the really tricky task of recognizing and identifying faces in images and videos.

This sort of task benefits from the extreme parallelism offered by FPGAs. Of particular interest are Intel's current generation of FPGAs, whose hard-core DSP slices offer both fixed-point and floating-point capabilities, making them suitable for a wide range of artificial intelligence (AI) and embedded vision applications.

Record iPhone Sales Lift Apple

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While both iPhone and Mac sales fared better than expected, sales of iPads and declined versus the year ago quarter, Apple said.

Kevin Krewell, principal analyst at Tirias Research, said a higher than normal number of "switchers" from Android to Apple during the quarter—the first quarter of Apple's fiscal 2017—may have been related to rival Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.'s disastrous Galaxy Note 7 recall last year.

Tim Cook, Apple's CEO, said in a conference call following the quarterly report that the fiscal first quarter was also a record quarter for Apple Watch in terms of both revenue and sales. "We couldn't be more excited about Apple Watch," Cook said.

Smartphones To Replace Access Cards In 2017

By 2020, organisations using smartphones instead of physical access cards (PACS) in offices and restricted premises will increase to 20% from less than 5% recorded in 2016, according to Gartner.

PACS technology, which includes physical cards issued to individuals, is widely deployed across multiple industries to secure access to facilities (buildings, offices, data centres, plant rooms and warehouse), to ensure that only authorised individuals (employees, contractors, visitors, maintenance staff) get access to specific locations.

Mobile technology is already widely used for logical access control. Phone-as-a-token authentication methods continue to be the preferred choice in the majority of new and refreshed token deployments as an alternative to traditional one-time password (OTP) hardware tokens.

ARC Processor, Interface IP Boost SSD SoC

Starblaze has achieved first-pass silicon success for its MB1000 enterprise SSD controller using Synopsys' DesignWare ARC HS38 processor as well as DDR4 and PCI Express controller and PHY IP.

According to Synopsys, Starblaze selected the ARC HS38 processor because it offers multicore support for SMP Linux, a 40bit physical address space and the ARC Processor EXtension (APEX) technology that enabled them to add instructions to reduce I/O latency. Furthermore, the ARC HS38 processor offers higher performance at half the power consumption. Starblaze also selected DesignWare DDR4 and PCI Express 3.1 IP to meet their performance requirements and deliver a differentiated, production-ready design within a tight time-to-market schedule.

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