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Introducing the MORPHEUS consortium and its flexible computing platforms
Wednesday 07 March 2007

Thales is among the partners to have formed the MORPHEUS* consortium, which is presenting a project to develop a cost-effective, embedded computing platform for future applications.



MORPHEUS, coordinated by Thales Research & Technology's Gilbert Edelin, brings together large companies, universities and small and medium-sized enterprises from six European countries, and is developing the innovative concept of dynamically reconfigurable computing systems. The 36-month project began in January 2006 and has received sponsorship from the European Commission.

Enabling the next generation of computer applications

In essence, MORPHEUS is an example of a "soft/hardware" platform that will enable high-performance computing, low-power consumption and short time-to-market for the next generation of embedded systems (terminals, networks, cameras and sensors for consumer and professional applications). Current solutions built around rigid multiprocessing platforms do not meet these requirements, because they are either specific for only one domain of applications or highly inefficient in terms of performance and power consumption.

MORPHEUS therefore aims to design, prototype and demonstrate a flexible platform based upon the usage of reconfigurable architectures, along with the development of a dedicated tool-chain for the management of the whole design flow. The project will end with a set of trials, with target applications including broadband wireless access, network routing, professional video, and homeland security systems.

The MORPHEUS consortium's initial findings and future plans were recently presented to the technical community at the Castness workshop, held in Rome and at the ECSI Institute Workshop on Reconfigurable Systems-on-Chip, held in Paris. Further information is available on the MORPHEUS website:

www.morpheus-ist.org

*MORPHEUS: Multipurpose Dynamically Reconfigurable Platform for Intensive and Heterogeneous Processing.

MORPHEUS partners: Thales Research & Technology, Deutsche Thomson Brandt, Thomson Germany, INTRACOM Telecom Solutions, Alcatel-Lucent Technologies Systems Germany, Thales Optronique, STMicroelectronics, PACT XPP Technologies, M2000, Associated Compiler Experts, Critical Blue, Institute for Information Processing Technology - University of Karlsruhe, Delft University of Technology Computer Engineering Laboratory, CEA-LIST, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Advanced Research Centre on Electronic Systems for Information and Communication Engineering, ARTTIC, University of Technology Technische Universität Carolo-Wilhelmina zu Braunschweig and University of Technology Chemnitz.

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