

Press Release - July 2003

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## State-of-the-art RFIC Course Sequence at USF Supported by Industry Leaders Intersil, Insyte, IBM, Cadence, and Agilent Technologies

The University of South Florida's Center for Wireless and Microwave Information Systems, also known as the *WAMI Center* has launched an exciting new Analog RFIC-1 and Advanced RFIC-2 design course sequence within USF's Department of Electrical Engineering.

The two-course sequence was first offered in the 2002/2003 Fall and Spring semesters by a team consisting of USF faculty in addition to experienced RFIC designers in industry. The instructors consisted of Drs. Thomas Weller and Lawrence Dunleavy from USF (Tampa, FL), Jim Paviol from Intersil Corporation (Palm Bay, FL), as well as Brittin Kane and Michael Wyatt from Insyte Inc. (St Petersburg, FL).

Software support for this and the up-coming 2003/2004 offering of the course sequence is being provided by IBM's donation of their SiGe 5HP-AM design kit, and Agilent Technologies' RF Design Environment (RFDE) to complement USF's existing Advanced Design System (ADS) electronic design automation (EDA) software suite, also from Agilent Technologies. RFDE works together with USF's existing and extensive installed license base of Cadence Design Systems EDA tools, SpectreRF, to provide a very complete and state-of-the-art tool set for USF students to learn the latest in analog and mixed signal silicon RFIC design techniques.

"We are delighted to support this program that introduces future communications IC designers to contemporary, state-of-the-art design tools and processes," said Chris Mueth, marketing manager, Agilent EEs of EDA division.

Students from the 2002/2003 course sequence teamed up to design a single chip RFIC transceiver, fabrication, which is being planned for the coming year. This work will provide hardware and software models for advanced "bits-to-bits" wireless links for a state-of-the-art wireless local area network (WLAN) radio system. The chips will be tested with the WAMI CommLink Test Bed R&D project using Intersil's PRISM 5 chips.

**Intersil Corporation** is a global semiconductor leader in the design and manufacture of high performance analog and wireless networking solutions. Intersil's product portfolios address four fast growing markets – wireless networking, power management, optical storage (CD and DVD recordable), and flat panel displays. [www.intersil.com](http://www.intersil.com)

**IBM Corp.** is the world's largest information technology provider, with 80 years of leadership in helping businesses innovate. The company had 2002 revenues of \$81 billion, employs more than 315,000 people and does business in more than 160 countries. For more information about IBM, please visit <http://www.ibm.com>

**Innovative System and Technologies Corporation (Insyte)** is a system on chip design services integrator, dedicated to bringing together the market requirements, technology, and critical IP from third parties or Insyte's own internal design teams. Insyte specializes in mixed-signal systems integration in advanced Silicon Germanium, CMOS, and SOI processes. Insyte offers complete digital and analog design services for SOC integration and works with partner companies to develop mixed signal standard platforms. For more information, please visit Insyte on the web at <http://www.insytec.com>

**Cadence Design Systems Inc.** is the largest supplier of electronic design technologies, methodology services, and design services. Cadence solutions are used to accelerate and manage the design of semiconductors, computer systems, networking and telecommunications equipment, consumer electronics, and a variety of other electronics-based products. With approximately 5,000 employees and 2002 revenues

of approximately \$1.3 billion, Cadence has sales offices, design centers, and research facilities around the world. The company is headquartered in San Jose, Calif., and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CDN. For more information, visit <http://www.cadence.com>

**The University of South Florida Center for Wireless and Microwave and Wireless Information Systems** was established in 2001 as an extension of a highly successful related research and teaching program supported by a strong list of industrial and government affiliates, the mission of WAMI Center is to further develop integrated research and educational programs excelling in wireless and microwave technology as applied to information systems involving high frequency communication and sensor systems. Basic and applied research will support collaborative and integrative efforts in this and related fields at local and international levels.

*More information on the WAMI Center can be found at <http://ee.eng.usf.edu/WAMI> Course Descriptions may be viewed at: <http://ee.eng.usf.edu/gradcourses/AnalogRFIC/> and <http://ee.eng.usf.edu/gradcourses/ADV-RFIC-Design/>.*

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