



Transceiver Portfolio FAQ

Transceiver portfolio

Q: What are you announcing today?

A: Altera announced today two new FPGA families with integrated transceivers. The new Stratix[®] IV GT and Arria[®] II GX 40-nm FPGA families join the Stratix IV GX FPGAs and HardCopy[®] IV GX ASICs to expand the industry's broadest portfolio of transceiver FPGA and ASIC solutions. Altera's portfolio offers transceiver speeds from 155 Mbps to 11.3 Gbps to address a wide range of applications, from the most cost sensitive to the highest performance.

Q: Which protocols does the Altera transceiver portfolio support?

A: The Altera transceiver FPGA and ASIC portfolio supports over 25 different protocols including PCI Express (PCIe) Gen1 and Gen2, Serial RapidIO[®] (SRIO), Gigabit Ethernet (GbE), XAUI, CPRI, Interlaken, SATA/SAS and 802.3ba(40G/100G). A complete listing of all the supported protocols can be found on our website.

Q: Which devices are available now? When will the other devices be shipping?

A: Currently all of the devices are supported in the Quartus[®] II design software v9.0. Altera is shipping the EP4SGX230 and EP4S100G2 devices. The rest of the Stratix IV GX and GT family members will begin shipping during 2009. Arria II GX devices will begin shipping in May 2009 and the first customer samples of HardCopy IV ASIC devices are scheduled for the first quarter of 2010.

Q: What markets are you targeting with your transceiver portfolio?

A: This transceiver portfolio targets a wide range of applications, from cost-sensitive video cameras to ultra-high-performance backhaul systems.

Arria II GX FPGAs

Q: What are Arria II GX FPGAs?

A: Arria II GX devices are the lowest power 3.75-Gbps transceiver FPGAs and are cost optimized for applications using mainstream protocols, such as PCI Express (PCIe) and Gigabit Ethernet (GbE), and targeted protocols, such as CPRI for LTE and WiMAX wireless infrastructure access equipment, GPON and XAUI for wireline infrastructure access and networking equipment, and triple-speed SDI for broadcast and other video processing equipment.

Q: What applications are you targeting with Arria II GX FPGAs?

A: Both cost and power optimized, Arria II GX FPGAs are an ideal fit for applications such as wireless remote radio heads, broadcast and other video-imaging applications and for wireline communications applications like GPON, IP-DSLAMs and enterprise routers.



Stratix GT FPGAs

Q: What are Stratix IV GT FPGAs?

A: Stratix IV GT devices are the highest performing FPGAs available and are the industry's first FPGAs to include integrated transceivers operating at 11.3 Gbps.

Q: What applications are you targeting with Stratix IV GT FPGAs?

A: The architecture of the Stratix IV GT devices is optimized specifically for 40G and 100G applications such as communications systems, high-end test equipment and military communications systems.

Quartus II Design Software

Q: What is new in Quartus II design software v9.0?

A: Version 9.0 of Quartus II design software includes full support for Altera's portfolio of transceiver FPGAs and HardCopy ASICs. Enhanced features within this latest version ensure customers can deliver their Altera® solutions to market sooner and with reduced engineering expenses. These features include the SSN Analyzer tool, the enhanced SOPC Builder, Metastability Analysis and Pin Planner enhancements. More information about additional features in Quartus II software version 9.0 can be found at www.altera.com/pr/quartus2/whatsnew.