

California Inventors Develop Integrated Circuit Computer Aided Design

Mark B. Roberts and Scott K. Roberts, both of Auburn, Calif., have developed a computer aided design (CAD) of integrated circuits (ICs).

According to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office: "A method and system for generating from a high-level placement specification the layout and schematic implementation data is disclosed. In addition packaging data and a software model may also be generated. In one embodiment an array of rows and columns is formed on an IC in which all elements in a row have the same height and all elements in a column have the same width. This array, which may be displayed in a textual or spreadsheet format, forms the high-level placement specification."

An abstract of the invention, released by the Patent Office, said: "A software program of this embodiment converts this high-level placement specification into layout and schematic files that can be used by a commercial CAD tool to produce a file for fabrication."

The inventors were issued U.S. Patent No. 7,334,209 on Feb. 19.

The patent has been assigned to Xilinx Inc., San Jose, Calif.