

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **IPL Alliance Expands Charter to Address PDK Interoperability**

*TSMC invites IPL Alliance to participate in its “Partner & Services Pavilion” at the 2008 U.S. Technology Symposium*

**MOUNTAN VIEW, Calif.** – April 21, 2008 – The IPL Alliance announced today its expanded charter to address the broader interoperability challenges associated with foundry process design kits (PDK) and design flows. The IPL Alliance also announced today the change of its name from “Interoperable PCell Libraries” to “Interoperable PDK Libraries” to reflect its expanded charter. A PDK is a comprehensive set of foundry verified data files, including PCells (parameterized cells), used in a complete analog and mixed signal design flow.

The IPL Alliance was originally formed in April of 2007 to promote and enable PCell interoperability. PCells are the fundamental building blocks for analog physical designs. PCell interoperability among design tools and flows is essential to improve analog and custom designer productivity. The IPL Alliance has made tremendous progress in solving PCell interoperability since its inception a year ago. A free IPL reference library and an online interoperability demonstration are available for download at [www.iplnow.com](http://www.iplnow.com), the IPL Alliance web site. An IPL ecosystem was established to validate PCell interoperability within all members’ tools. The expansion of the IPL Alliance charter is the next logical step in developing standards that can enable a single, interoperable PDK works with all tools and flows.

“An open and interoperable PDK is important for maintaining design accuracy throughout the custom design process,” said Jim Solomon, Board Member, Ciranova. “An industry standard like this promotes reuse and reduces PDK development cost. It also promotes innovation in analog and full custom design, enables customization and improves productivity and efficiency. I am pleased to see the progress IPL Alliance has made to date. And I encourage others in the industry to join the effort.”

The IPL Alliance will present its latest update at the TSMC “Partner & Services Pavilion” at the 2008 U.S. Technology Symposium. Please visit the IPL booth at the San Jose Convention Center on April 22nd from 7:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. For more information about the IPL Alliance and to join, please contact Jingwen Yuan, IPL Alliance, at [info@iplnow.com](mailto:info@iplnow.com).

#### About IPL

IPL (Interoperable PDK Libraries) is an industry alliance established on April 2007 to collaborate on the creation and distribution of an open-source interoperable PCell library that supports the OpenAccess database from the Silicon Integration Initiative (Si2). IPL has formed three technical working groups for Properties and Parameters, PCells and Constraints, expanded its charters to address broader interoperability issues with foundry process design kits (PDK) and design flows. IPL current members include Applied Wave Research (AWR), Ciranova, Helic, JEDAT, Magma Design Automation, Micro Magic, Silicon Canvas, Silicon Navigator, Synopsys and Virage Logic. Mentor Graphics and Pulsic are supporting members. Visit the IPL Alliance on the Web at [www.iplnow.com](http://www.iplnow.com)

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