

Memorandum of Understanding

between
the Accellera VHDL Technical Committee and
the IEEE 1076 VHDL Working Group

Background

The Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is the publisher and copyright owner of IEEE Std 1076, VHSIC Hardware Description Language (VHDL). This standard is maintained and extended by the IEEE VHDL 1076 Working Group (hereinafter "IEEE 1076 WG"), also known as the VHDL Analysis and Standardization Group (VASG). In particular, the Issues Screening and Analysis Committee (ISAC), a subcommittee of the IEEE 1076 WG, is responsible for analyzing any language definition issues that arise, and for making recommendations to the IEEE 1076 WG regarding how to resolve those issues. The IEEE 1076 WG has the authority and responsibility to update the IEEE standard periodically, as required by the IEEE, to address user requirements as they continue to evolve over time. The current version of this standard is IEEE Std 1076-2002.

Accellera is an organization devoted to standards for the Electronic Design Automation (EDA) industry. Accellera often works with other standards organizations such as the IEEE in order to accelerate the development of new standards and revision of existing standards. IEEE Std 1076 VHDL is one such EDA standard. The Accellera VHDL Technical Committee (hereinafter "Accellera VHDL TC") is responsible for accelerating development of extensions for IEEE Std VHDL.

Collaboration

Accellera and IEEE intend to collaborate on future versions of IEEE Std 1076 VHDL. To that end, the IEEE has granted to Accellera the right to create derivative works based upon IEEE Std 1076 VHDL, provided that any derivative work is eventually returned to the IEEE for standardization.

The IEEE 1076 WG and the Accellera VHDL TC jointly intend to work together to create the next version of IEEE Std 1076 VHDL. In order to accomplish this collaboration most effectively, the IEEE 1076 WG and the Accellera VHDL TC both agree to the following principles:

1. The Accellera VHDL TC shall create a draft of the next version of IEEE Std 1076 VHDL (hereinafter "VHDL 200x"), building upon the existing IEEE Std 1076-2002 VHDL. The Accellera VHDL TC shall collect and prioritize requirements, develop proposed language extensions, review proposed extensions for usability, and incorporate language extensions into the VHDL 200x draft. As part of this process, the Accellera VHDL TC shall consider existing requirements identified by the IEEE 1076 WG and the current status of work already done by the IEEE 1076 WG to address those requirements.

2. During the development of the VHDL 200x draft, the IEEE 1076 WG shall not modify IEEE Std 1076 VHDL. All requests for VHDL enhancements received or generated by the IEEE 1076 WG shall be forwarded to the Accellera VHDL TC for consideration. However, the ISAC shall continue to analyze language issues and propose resolutions (IRs) to the IEEE 1076 WG. The IEEE 1076 WG shall forward approved IRs to the Accellera VHDL TC for inclusion in the VHDL 200x draft.
3. During the development of the VHDL 200x draft, the Accellera VHDL TC shall coordinate with the IEEE 1076 WG to ensure that ISAC rulings on issues are incorporated into the VHDL 200x draft, and to obtain ISAC review of proposed language extensions.
4. Upon completion of the VHDL 200x draft, the Accellera VHDL TC shall deliver the VHDL 200x draft source files to the IEEE 1076 WG.
5. Upon receipt of the VHDL 200x draft source files, the IEEE 1076 WG shall take the VHDL 200x draft through the IEEE standardization process to produce the next version of IEEE Std 1076 VHDL.
6. The Accellera VHDL TC Chair and the IEEE 1076 WG Chair shall coordinate with each other to ensure that the above principles are followed.

Termination

The Accellera VHDL Technical Committee or the IEEE 1076 Working Group can terminate this MOU with 30-days written notice signed by the respective chair.

Effective Date

This MOU will go into effect when it has been approved by both the Accellera VHDL TC and the IEEE 1076 WG memberships.

Approvals

Approved by the Accellera VHDL Technical Committee on 4 August, 2005.

Approved by the IEEE 1076 Working Group on _____(date).