

# **IPL Alliance and Interoperable PDK Overview**

September 2010

# PDK Trend

**Past**

**Now**

Private databases

OpenAccess database

Single vendor centric

Virtuoso + Custom Designer  
+ Laker + Titan + Others

Main Stream processes  
and basic PCells

Advanced processes  
and complex PCells

Basic design flows

Complex design flows  
and IP reuse

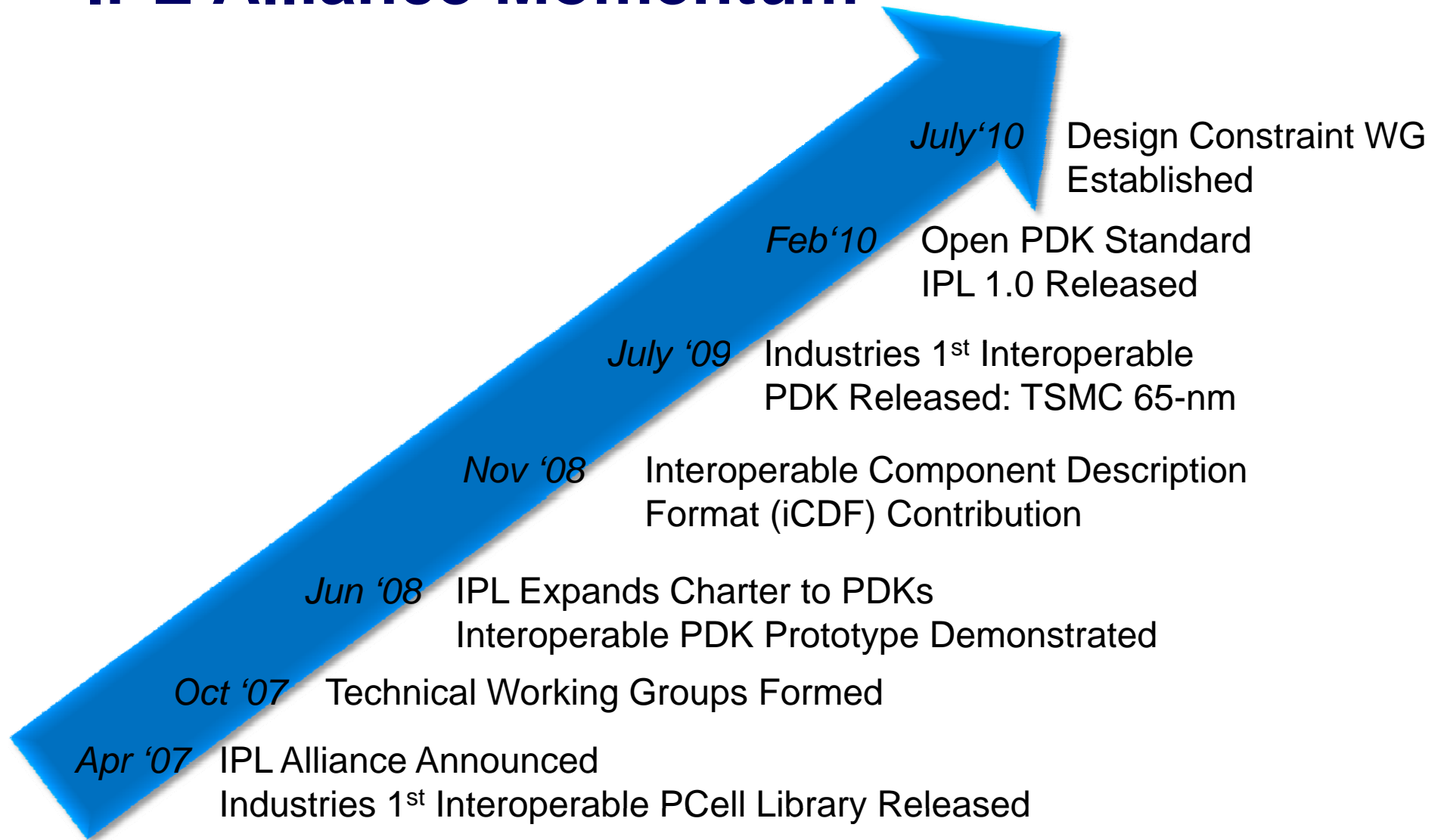


# IPL Alliance Established in 2007

- Charter
  - Create and promote standards for Interoperable Process Design Kits (PDKs) and flows
- Goal
  - Enable a single PDK to support any OpenAccess tool
- Benefits:
  - Reduce PDK development and support costs
  - Create choices in building your analog flow
  - Increase design reuse and portability



# IPL Alliance Momentum



# IPL Alliance

One PDK Works in Multiple Vendor Environments



Growing  
Membership  
Go to [www.IPLNow.com](http://www.IPLNow.com) for  
more information

# IPL's Approach To Achieving PDK Interoperability

- Involve EDA vendors, foundries and users
- Use existing standards where feasible
- Validate standards with prototype interoperable PDK's and flows
- Target modern process technology nodes
  - Collaborate with a foundry to implement production interoperable PDK
- Release open standard for industry adoption



# IPL 1.0 Available

## *Open Standard For Interoperable PDK (iPDK)*

- IPL 1.0 90nm reference iPDK download package
  - Available for public download at [www.iplnow.com](http://www.iplnow.com)
  - iPDK developer & User guide
  - Generic 90nm sample iPDK including source code
  - Generic 90nm OpenAccess-based reference design
- IPL 1.0 standard documents
  - Available for IPL Alliance members
  - iCDF and Tcl callbacks
- Benefits
  - Test drive IPL iPDK with multiple custom design flows
  - Learn, review and comply with IPL 1.0 standard
  - Create and provide iPDK using IPL 1.0 standard



# Next Steps for IPL Alliance

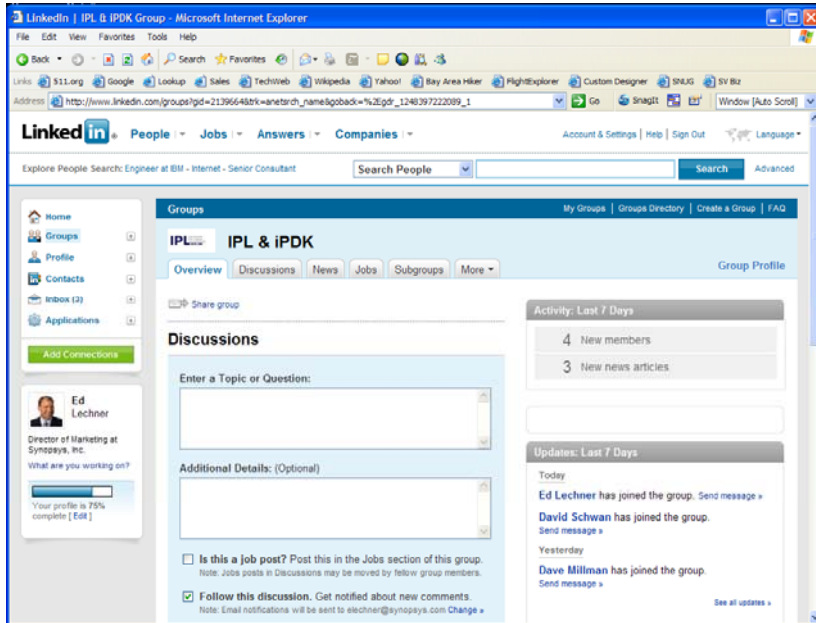
- Collaborate with Si2's OpenPDK coalition to avoid multiple standards for PDK
- Maintain and improve IPL 1.0 standard
- Work on standards for analog constraints
- Educate the industry
- Grow IPL Alliance membership



# Get Involved



www.IPLnow.com



**IPL** Interoperable PDK Libraries  
**NOW.COM**

The IPL 1.0 Standard is here, now.

Follow us on LinkedIn

- IPL Members
- Join IPL or Get Info
- Download IPL 1.0
- Discussion Forum
- FAQ
- White Papers
- News
- Events
- IPL at DAC 2009

### IPL 1.0

The semiconductor industry's first open standard for interoperable Process Design Kits (iPKDs)

It includes:

- > iPKD developer's guide
- > sample 90nm reference iPKD
- > reference design
- > user guide

**DOWNLOAD NOW!**

The IPL (Interoperable PDK Libraries) Alliance is an industry organization established to develop an interoperable eco-system for custom design. The current focus is to create and promote standards for interoperable PDK.

**IPL Lunch Workshop Video**

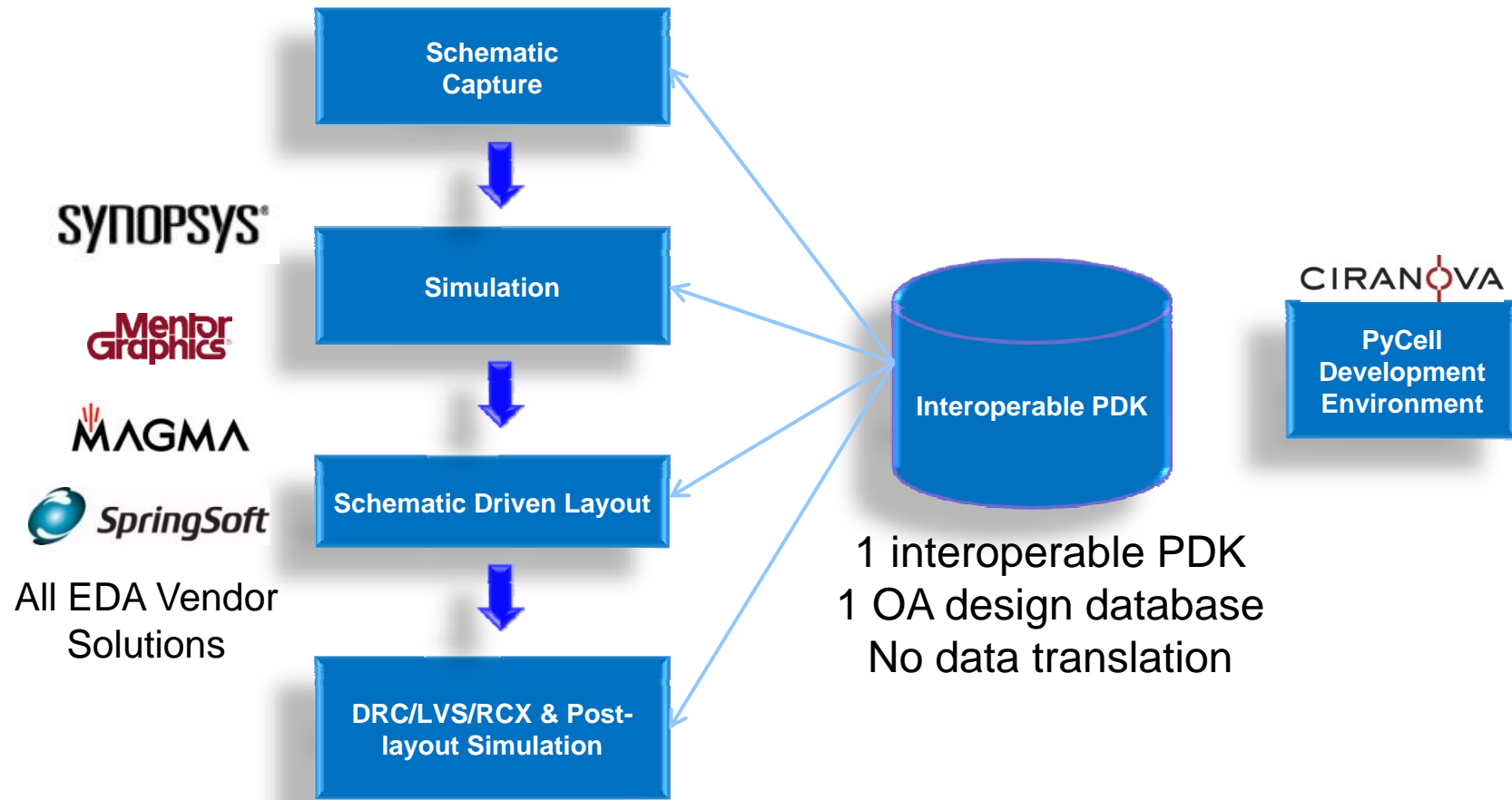
TSMC presents the industry's first interoperable process design kit (iPKD) for 65nm process. Wipro presents their experience using the iPKD from the customer point of view.

**Become a Corporate Member**

All interested foundries, EDA vendors and semiconductor companies are invited to join the IPL Alliance. [Join IPL now!](#)

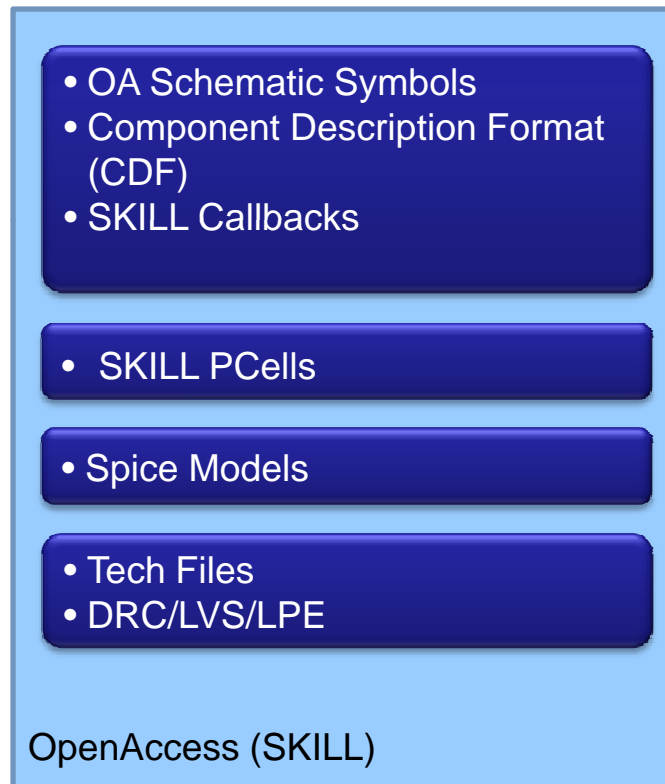
# Interoperable Multi-Vendor Flow

*One Interoperable PDK for All EDA Vendor Solutions*

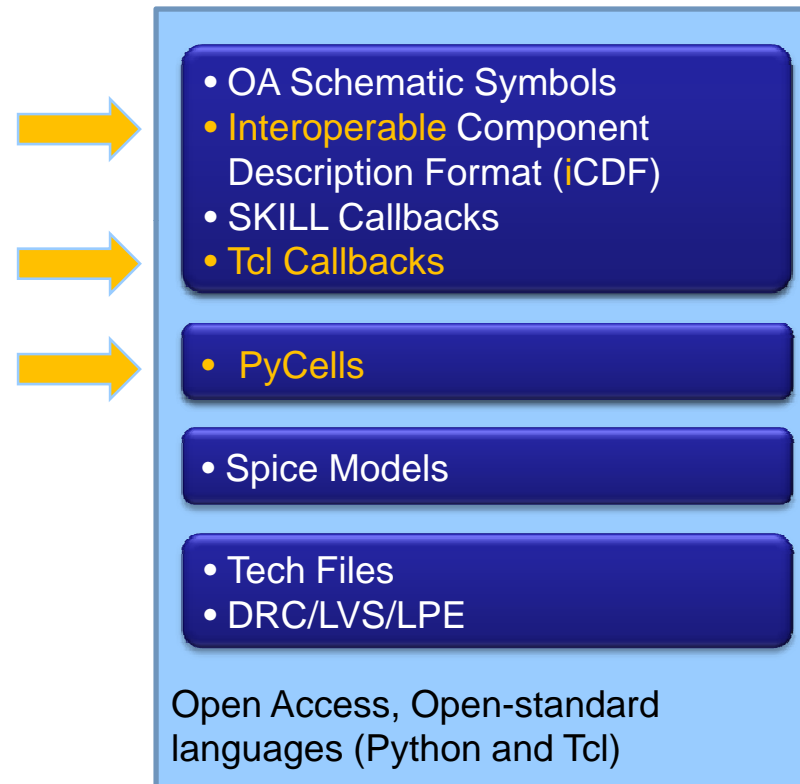


# Foundry iPDK Content

## Cadence OA PDK



## Foundry iPDK



One Foundry iPDK for all EDA vendors

# Modern Architecture Improves PDK Productivity

- Less PyCell code:  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  the code vs. Tcl/ SKILL™
- Faster PyCell runtime: 2X to 10X faster
  - ROD like APIs without the performance penalty
- Reuse
  - PyCells and iCDF are process independent
  - Can be re-used by rebinding to a new-node tech file
- Platform independent
  - Not dependent on OS, hardware and compiler
- 45/32/28nm Rules supported
  - PyCells can easily support DFM rules such as fixed pitches, conditionals etc.
- Interactive development environment improves development efficiency

**Interoperable PDK have all features supported by SKILL™ based PDK and more**



# Industry Support

“There’s a significant benefit to interoperable programmable layout cells usable across several Layout EDA environments.”

- Vincent Ross, Sr. Manager, Analog Mixed Signal Circuit CAD at **AMD**

“In some cases, using Ciranova’s API and PyCells have helped in reducing cycle time by several weeks in generating differentiated RF and analog elements, such as inductors, into ST’s first advanced 32/28nm RF PDKs.”

- Vincent Varo, CMOS and Derivative PDK Manager, Technology R&D, at **STMicroelectronics**

“The iPDK standard allows us to provide our customers with accelerated access to our advanced specialty technologies in a flexible way, resulting in fast product design timelines.”

- Ori Galzur, Vice President, VLSI Design Center at **TowerJazz**

“Ciranova’s PyCell technology and advanced architecture provides native support of interoperable PDKs”

- Fu-Chieh Hsu, vice president of Design & Technology Platform at **TSMC**.



# Summary

- IPL Alliance continue collaborating with industry leaders to standardize Interoperable PDK
- Interoperable OA PDK is gaining momentum
  - Multiple EDA tools support iPDK standard
  - Multiple foundries developing and providing iPDKs for customers

