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Understanding <u>Embedded - FPGAs (Field Programmable Gate Array)</u>

Embedded - FPGAs, or Field Programmable Gate Arrays, are advanced integrated circuits that offer unparalleled flexibility and performance for digital systems. Unlike traditional fixed-function logic devices, FPGAs can be programmed and reprogrammed to execute a wide array of logical operations, enabling customized functionality tailored to specific applications. This reprogrammability allows developers to iterate designs quickly and implement complex functions without the need for custom hardware.

Applications of Embedded - FPGAs

The versatility of Embedded - FPGAs makes them indispensable in numerous fields. In telecommunications.

Details	
Product Status	Obsolete
Number of LABs/CLBs	-
Number of Logic Elements/Cells	-
Total RAM Bits	-
Number of I/O	49
Number of Gates	30000
Voltage - Supply	1.425V ~ 1.575V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	-40°C ~ 100°C (TJ)
Package / Case	68-VFQFN Exposed Pad
Supplier Device Package	68-QFN (8x8)
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/microchip-technology/a3pn030-z2qng68i

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Routing Architecture

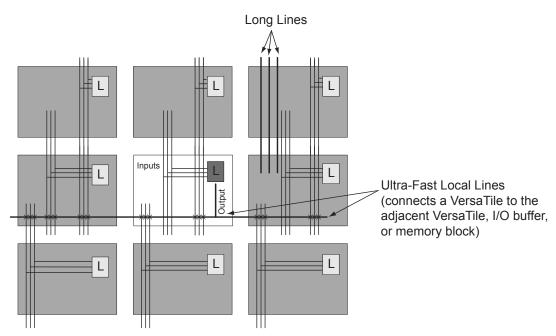
The routing structure of low power flash devices is designed to provide high performance through a flexible four-level hierarchy of routing resources: ultra-fast local resources; efficient long-line resources; high-speed, very-long-line resources; and the high-performance VersaNet networks.

The ultra-fast local resources are dedicated lines that allow the output of each VersaTile to connect directly to every input of the eight surrounding VersaTiles (Figure 1-10). The exception to this is that the SET/CLR input of a VersaTile configured as a D-flip-flop is driven only by the VersaTile global network.

The efficient long-line resources provide routing for longer distances and higher-fanout connections. These resources vary in length (spanning one, two, or four VersaTiles), run both vertically and horizontally, and cover the entire device (Figure 1-11 on page 19). Each VersaTile can drive signals onto the efficient long-line resources, which can access every input of every VersaTile. Routing software automatically inserts active buffers to limit loading effects.

The high-speed, very-long-line resources, which span the entire device with minimal delay, are used to route very long or high-fanout nets: length ±12 VersaTiles in the vertical direction and length ±16 in the horizontal direction from a given core VersaTile (Figure 1-12 on page 19). Very long lines in low power flash devices have been enhanced over those in previous ProASIC families. This provides a significant performance boost for long-reach signals.

The high-performance VersaNet global networks are low-skew, high-fanout nets that are accessible from external pins or internal logic. These nets are typically used to distribute clocks, resets, and other high-fanout nets requiring minimum skew. The VersaNet networks are implemented as clock trees, and signals can be introduced at any junction. These can be employed hierarchically, with signals accessing every input of every VersaTile. For more details on VersaNets, refer to the "Global Resources in Low Power Flash Devices" section on page 31.



Note: Input to the core cell for the D-flip-flop set and reset is only available via the VersaNet global network connection.

Figure 1-10 • Ultra-Fast Local Lines Connected to the Eight Nearest Neighbors

Figure 3-6 shows all nine global inputs for the location A connected to the top left quadrant global network via CCC.

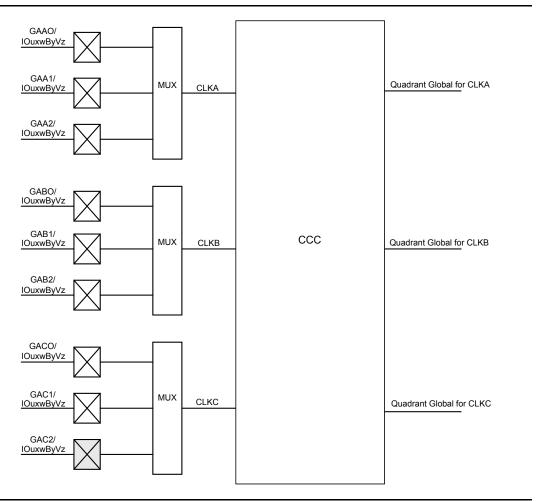


Figure 3-6 • Global Inputs

Since each bank can have a different I/O standard, the user should be careful to choose the correct global I/O for the design. There are 54 global pins available to access 18 global networks. For the single-ended and voltage-referenced I/O standards, you can use any of these three available I/Os to access the global network. For differential I/O standards such as LVDS and LVPECL, the I/O macro needs to be placed on (A0, A1), (B0, B1), (C0, C1), or a similar location. The unassigned global I/Os can be used as regular I/Os. Note that pin names starting with GF and GC are associated with the chip global networks, and GA, GB, GD, and GE are used for quadrant global networks. Table 3-2 on page 38 and Table 3-3 on page 39 show the general chip and quadrant global pin names.

Clock Aggregation Architecture

This clock aggregation feature allows a balanced clock tree, which improves clock skew. The physical regions for clock aggregation are defined from left to right and shift by one spine. For chip global networks, there are three types of clock aggregation available, as shown in Figure 3-10:

- Long lines that can drive up to four adjacent spines (A)
- · Long lines that can drive up to two adjacent spines (B)
- · Long lines that can drive one spine (C)

There are three types of clock aggregation available for the quadrant spines, as shown in Figure 3-10:

- I/Os or local resources that can drive up to four adjacent spines
- I/Os or local resources that can drive up to two adjacent spines
- I/Os or local resources that can drive one spine

As an example, A3PE600 and AFS600 devices have twelve spine locations: T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, and B6. Table 3-7 shows the clock aggregation you can have in A3PE600 and AFS600.

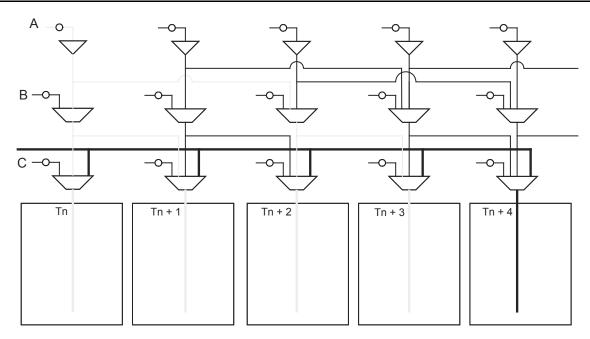


Figure 3-10 • Four Spines Aggregation

Table 3-7 • Spine Aggregation in A3PE600 or AFS600

Clock Aggregation Spine	
1 spine T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6	
2 spines	T1:T2, T2:T3, T3:T4, T4:T5, T5:T6, B1:B2, B2:B3, B3:B4, B4:B5, B5:B6
4 spines	B1:B4, B2:B5, B3:B6, T1:T4, T2:T5, T3:T6

The clock aggregation for the quadrant spines can cross over from the left to right quadrant, but not from top to bottom. The quadrant spine assignment T1:T4 is legal, but the quadrant spine assignment T1:B1 is not legal. Note that this clock aggregation is hardwired. You can always assign signals to spine T1 and B2 by instantiating a buffer, but this may add skew in the signal.

Global Resources in Low Power Flash Devices

Design Recommendations

The following sections provide design flow recommendations for using a global network in a design.

- "Global Macros and I/O Standards"
- "Global Macro and Placement Selections" on page 48
- · "Using Global Macros in Synplicity" on page 50
- "Global Promotion and Demotion Using PDC" on page 51
- "Spine Assignment" on page 52
- · "Designer Flow for Global Assignment" on page 53
- "Simple Design Example" on page 55
- "Global Management in PLL Design" on page 57
- · "Using Spines of Occupied Global Networks" on page 58

Global Macros and I/O Standards

The larger low power flash devices have six chip global networks and four quadrant global networks. However, the same clock macros are used for assigning signals to chip globals and quadrant globals. Depending on the clock macro placement or assignment in the Physical Design Constraint (PDC) file or MultiView Navigator (MVN), the signal will use the chip global network or quadrant network. Table 3-8 lists the clock macros available for low power flash devices. Refer to the *IGLOO*, *ProASIC3*, *SmartFusion*, *and Fusion Macro Library Guide* for details.

Table 3-8 • Clock Macros

Macro Name	Description	Symbol	
CLKBUF	Input macro for Clock Network	PAD CLKBUF	
CLKBUF_x	Input macro for Clock Network with specific I/O standard	CLKBUF_X PAD Y	
CLKBUF_LVDS/LVPECL	LVDS or LVPECL input macro for Clock Network (not supported for IGLOO nano or ProASIC3 nano devices)		
CLKINT	Macro for internal clock interface	A CLKINT	
CLKBIBUF	Bidirectional macro with input dedicated to routed Clock Network	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	

Use these available macros to assign a signal to the global network. In addition to these global macros, PLL and CLKDLY macros can also drive the global networks. Use I/O-standard-specific clock macros (CLKBUF_x) to instantiate a specific I/O standard for the global signals. Table 3-9 on page 47 shows the list of these I/O-standard-specific macros. Note that if you use these I/O-standard-specific clock macros, you cannot change the I/O standard later in the design stage. If you use the regular CLKBUF macro, you can use MVN or the PDC file in Designer to change the I/O standard. The default I/O

Figure 3-18 • Globals Management GUI in Designer

- 3. Occasionally, the synthesis tool assigns a global macro to clock nets, even though the fanout is significantly less than other asynchronous signals. Select **Demote global nets whose fanout is less than** and enter a reasonable value for fanouts. This frees up some global networks from the signals that have very low fanouts. This can also be done using PDC.
- 4. Use a local clock network for the signals that do not need to go to the whole chip but should have low skew. This local clock network assignment can only be done using PDC.
- 5. Assign the I/O buffer using MVN if you have fixed I/O assignment. As shown in Figure 3-10 on page 45, there are three sets of global pins that have a hardwired connection to each global network. Do not try to put multiple CLKBUF macros in these three sets of global pins. For example, do not assign two CLKBUFs to GAA0x and GAA2x pins.
- 6. You must click **Commit** at the end of MVN assignment. This runs the pre-layout checker and checks the validity of global assignment.
- 7. Always run Compile with the **Keep existing physical constraints** option on. This uses the quadrant clock network assignment in the MVN assignment and checks if you have the desired signals on the global networks.
- 8. Run Layout and check the timing.

Global Resources in Low Power Flash Devices

Step 1

Run Synthesis with default options. The Synplicity log shows the following device utilization:

Cell usage:

	cell count	area	count*area
DFN1E1C1	1536	2.0	3072.0
BUFF	278	1.0	278.0
INBUF	10	0.0	0.0
VCC	9	0.0	0.0
GND	9	0.0	0.0
OUTBUF	6	0.0	0.0
CLKBUF	3	0.0	0.0
PLL	2	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	1853		3350.0

Step 2

Run Compile with the **Promote regular nets whose fanout is greater than** option selected in Designer; you will see the following in the Compile report:

Device utilization report:					
==========	======	==			
CORE	Used:	1536	Total:	13824	(11.11%)
IO (W/ clocks)	Used:	19	Total:	147	(12.93%)
Differential IO	Used:	0	Total:	65	(0.00%)
GLOBAL	Used:	8	Total:	18	(44.44%)
PLL	Used:	2	Total:	2	(100.00%)
RAM/FIFO	Used:	0	Total:	24	(0.00%)
FlashROM	Used:	0	Total:	1	(0.00%)

The following nets have been assigned to a global resource:

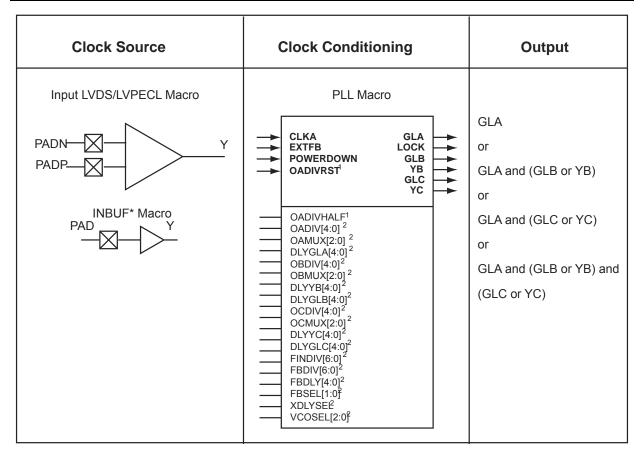
Fanout		Name	abbigned to a groba
1536	INT_NET	Net :	EN_ALL_c
		Driver:	EN_ALL_pad_CLKINT
		Source:	AUTO PROMOTED
1536	${\tt SET/RESET_NET}$	Net :	ACLR_c
		Driver:	ACLR_pad_CLKINT
		Source:	AUTO PROMOTED
256	CLK_NET	Net :	QCLK1_c
		Driver:	QCLK1_pad_CLKINT
		Source:	AUTO PROMOTED
256	CLK_NET	Net :	QCLK2_c
		Driver:	QCLK2_pad_CLKINT
		Source:	AUTO PROMOTED
256	CLK_NET	Net :	QCLK3_c
		Driver:	QCLK3_pad_CLKINT
		Source:	AUTO PROMOTED
256	CLK_NET	Net :	\$1N14
		Driver:	\$1I5/Core
		Source:	ESSENTIAL
256	CLK_NET	Net :	\$1N12
		Driver:	\$1I6/Core
		Source:	ESSENTIAL
256	CLK_NET	Net :	\$1N10
		Driver:	\$1I6/Core
		Source:	ESSENTIAL

Designer will promote five more signals to global due to high fanout. There are eight signals assigned to global networks.

Global Buffers with PLL Function

Clocks requiring frequency synthesis or clock adjustments can utilize the PLL core before connecting to the global / quadrant global networks. A maximum of 18 CCC global buffers can be instantiated in a device—three per CCC and up to six CCCs per device. Each PLL core can generate up to three global/quadrant clocks, while a clock delay element provides one.

The PLL functionality of the clock conditioning block is supported by the PLL macro.



Notes:

- 1. For Fusion only.
- 2. Refer to the IGLOO, ProASIC3, SmartFusion, and Fusion Macro Library Guide for more information.
- 3. For INBUF* driving a PLL macro or CLKDLY macro, the I/O will be hard-routed to the CCC; i.e., will be placed by software to a dedicated Global I/O.
- 4. IGLOO nano and ProASIC3 nano devices do not support differential inputs.

Figure 4-4 • CCC Options: Global Buffers with PLL

The PLL macro provides five derived clocks (three independent) from a single reference clock. The PLL macro also provides power-down input and lock output signals. The additional inputs shown on the macro are configuration settings, which are configured through the use of SmartGen. For manual setting of these bits refer to the *IGLOO*, *ProASIC3*, *SmartFusion*, *and Fusion Macro Library Guide* for details.

Figure 4-6 on page 71 illustrates the various clock output options and delay elements.

Clock Conditioning Circuits in Low Power Flash Devices and Mixed Signal FPGAs

Software Configuration

SmartGen automatically generates the desired CCC functional block by configuring the control bits, and allows the user to select two CCC modes: Static PLL and Delayed Clock (CLKDLY).

Static PLL Configuration

The newly implemented Visual PLL Configuration Wizard feature provides the user a quick and easy way to configure the PLL with the desired settings (Figure 4-23). The user can invoke SmartGen to set the parameters and generate the netlist file with the appropriate flash configuration bits set for the CCCs. As mentioned in "PLL Macro Block Diagram" on page 69, the input reference clock CLKA can be configured to be driven by Hardwired I/O, External I/O, or Core Logic. The user enters the desired settings for all the parameters (output frequency, output selection, output phase adjustment, clock delay, feedback delay, and system delay). Notice that the actual values (divider values, output frequency, delay values, and phase) are shown to aid the user in reaching the desired design frequency in real time. These values are typical-case data. Best- and worst-case data can be observed through static timing analysis in SmartTime within Designer.

For dynamic configuration, the CCC parameters are defined using either the external JTAG port or an internally defined serial interface via the built-in dynamic shift register. This feature provides the ability to compensate for changes in the external environment.

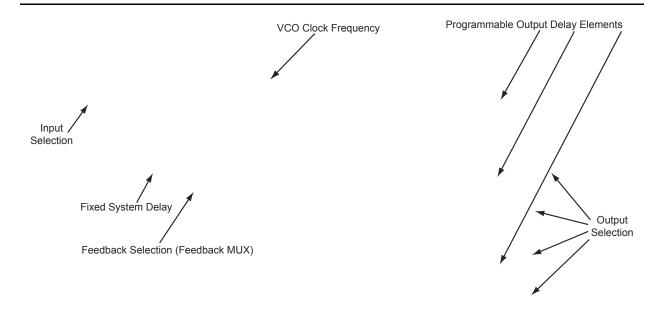


Figure 4-23 • Visual PLL Configuration Wizard

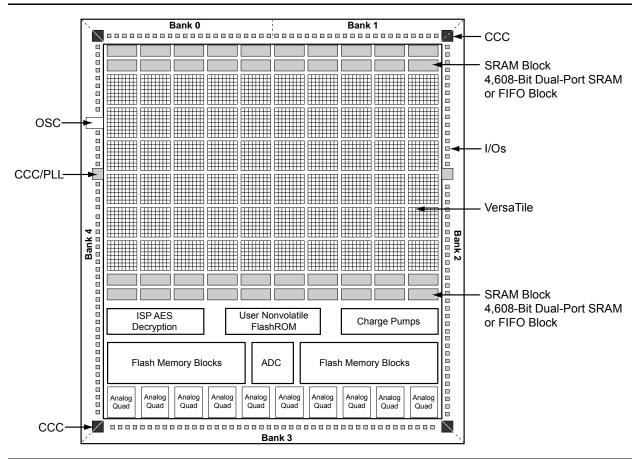


Figure 5-2 • Fusion Device Architecture Overview (AFS600)

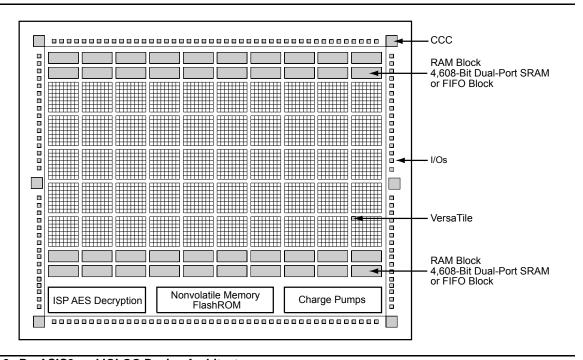


Figure 5-3 • ProASIC3 and IGLOO Device Architecture

SRAM and FIFO Memories in Microsemi's Low Power Flash Devices

 Designer software will automatically facilitate falling-edge clocks by bubble-pushing the inversion to previous stages.

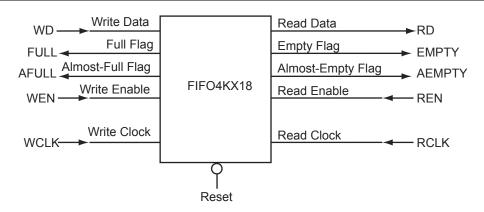


Figure 6-6 • FIFO4KX18 Block Diagram

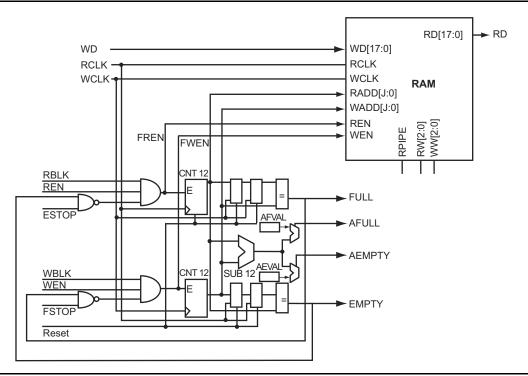


Figure 6-7 • RAM Block with Embedded FIFO Controller

The FIFOs maintain a separate read and write address. Whenever the difference between the write address and the read address is greater than or equal to the almost-full value (AFVAL), the Almost-Full flag is asserted. Similarly, the Almost-Empty flag is asserted whenever the difference between the write address and read address is less than or equal to the almost-empty value (AEVAL).

Due to synchronization between the read and write clocks, the Empty flag will deassert after the second read clock edge from the point that the write enable asserts. However, since the Empty flag is synchronized to the read clock, it will assert after the read clock reads the last data in the FIFO. Also, since the Full flag is dependent on the actual hardware configuration, it will assert when the actual physical implementation of the FIFO is full.

For example, when a user configures a 128×18 FIFO, the actual physical implementation will be a 256×18 FIFO element. Since the actual implementation is 256×18, the Full flag will not trigger until the

Pipeline Register

endmodule

endmodule

```
module D_pipeline (Data, Clock, Q);
input [3:0] Data;
input Clock;
output [3:0] Q;
reg [3:0] Q;
always @ (posedge Clock) Q <= Data;</pre>
```

4x4 RAM Block (created by SmartGen Core Generator)

```
module mem_block(DI,DO,WADDR,RADDR,WRB,RDB,WCLOCK,RCLOCK);
input [3:0] DI;
output [3:0] DO;
input [1:0] WADDR, RADDR;
input WRB, RDB, WCLOCK, RCLOCK;
wire WEBP, WEAP, VCC, GND;
VCC VCC_1_net(.Y(VCC));
GND GND_1_net(.Y(GND));
INV WEBUBBLEB(.A(WRB), .Y(WEBP));
RAM4K9 RAMBLOCKO(.ADDRA11(GND), .ADDRA10(GND), .ADDRA9(GND), .ADDRA8(GND),
     .ADDRA7(GND), .ADDRA6(GND), .ADDRA5(GND), .ADDRA4(GND), .ADDRA3(GND), .ADDRA2(GND),
     .ADDRA1(RADDR[1]), .ADDRA0(RADDR[0]), .ADDRB11(GND), .ADDRB10(GND), .ADDRB9(GND),
     .ADDRB8(GND), .ADDRB7(GND), .ADDRB6(GND), .ADDRB5(GND), .ADDRB4(GND), .ADDRB3(GND),
     .ADDRB2(GND), .ADDRB1(WADDR[1]), .ADDRB0(WADDR[0]), .DINA8(GND), .DINA7(GND),
     .DINA6(GND), .DINA5(GND), .DINA4(GND), .DINA3(GND), .DINA2(GND), .DINA1(GND),
     .DINAO(GND), .DINB8(GND), .DINB7(GND), .DINB6(GND), .DINB5(GND), .DINB4(GND),
     .DINB3(DI[3]), .DINB2(DI[2]), .DINB1(DI[1]), .DINB0(DI[0]), .WIDTHA0(GND),
     .WIDTHA1(VCC), .WIDTHB0(GND), .WIDTHB1(VCC), .PIPEA(GND), .PIPEB(GND),
     .WMODEA(GND), .WMODEB(GND), .BLKA(WEAP), .BLKB(WEBP), .WENA(VCC), .WENB(GND),
     .CLKA(RCLOCK), .CLKB(WCLOCK), .RESET(VCC), .DOUTA8(), .DOUTA7(), .DOUTA6(),
     . \verb"DOUTA5()", .DOUTA4()", .DOUTA3(DO[3])", .DOUTA2(DO[2])", .DOUTA1(DO[1])", .DOUTA1(DO[1])", .DOUTA2(DO[2])", .DOUTA1(DO[1])", .DOUTA2(DO[2])", .DOUTA1(DO[1])", .DOUTA2(DO[2])", .DOUTA2(DO[
     .DOUTA0(DO[0]), .DOUTB8(), .DOUTB7(), .DOUTB5(), .DOUTB5(), .DOUTB4(), .DOUTB3(),
      .DOUTB2(), .DOUTB1(), .DOUTB0());
INV WEBUBBLEA(.A(RDB), .Y(WEAP));
```



I/O Software Control in Low Power Flash Devices

those banks, the user does not need to assign the same VCCI voltage to another bank. The user needs to assign the other three VCCI voltages to three more banks.

Assigning Technologies and VREF to I/O Banks

Low power flash devices offer a wide variety of I/O standards, including voltage-referenced standards. Before proceeding to Layout, each bank must have the required VCCI voltage assigned for the corresponding I/O technologies used for that bank. The voltage-referenced standards require the use of a reference voltage (VREF). This assignment can be done manually or automatically. The following sections describe this in detail.

Manually Assigning Technologies to I/O Banks

The user can import the PDC at this point and resolve this requirement. The PDC command is set_iobank [bank name] -vcci [vcci value]

Another method is to use the I/O Bank Settings dialog box (MVN > Edit > I/O Bank Settings) to set up the V_{CCI} voltage for the bank (Figure 8-12).

Figure 8-12 • Setting VCCI for a Bank



DDR for Microsemi's Low Power Flash Devices

Instantiating DDR Registers

Using SmartGen is the simplest way to generate the appropriate RTL files for use in the design. Figure 9-4 shows an example of using SmartGen to generate a DDR SSTL2 Class I input register. SmartGen provides the capability to generate all of the DDR I/O cells as described. The user, through the graphical user interface, can select from among the many supported I/O standards. The output formats supported are Verilog, VHDL, and EDIF.

Figure 9-5 on page 211 through Figure 9-8 on page 214 show the I/O cell configured for DDR using SSTL2 Class I technology. For each I/O standard, the I/O pad is buffered by a special primitive that indicates the I/O standard type.

Figure 9-4 • Example of Using SmartGen to Generate a DDR SSTL2 Class I Input Register



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2. Choose the appropriate security level setting and enter a FlashLock Pass Key. The default is the **Medium** security level (Figure 11-12). Click **Next**.

If you want to select different options for the FPGA and/or FlashROM, this can be set by clicking **Custom Level**. Refer to the "Advanced Options" section on page 256 for different custom security level options and descriptions of each.

Figure 11-12 • Medium Security Level Selected for Low Power Flash Devices



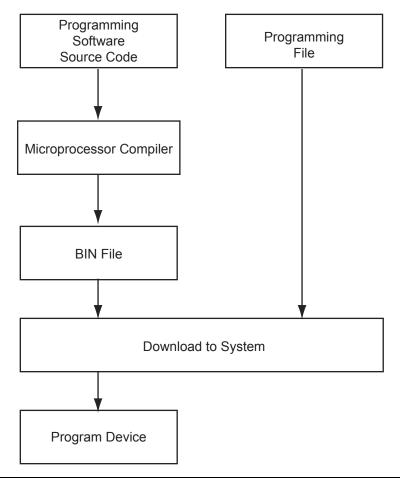


Figure 14-3 • MCU FPGA Programming Model

FlashROM

Microsemi low power flash devices have 1 kbit of user-accessible, nonvolatile, FlashROM on-chip. This nonvolatile FlashROM can be programmed along with the core or on its own using the standard IEEE 1532 JTAG programming interface.

The FlashROM is architected as eight pages of 128 bits. Each page can be individually programmed (erased and written). Additionally, on-chip AES security decryption can be used selectively to load data securely into the FlashROM (e.g., over public or private networks, such as the Internet). Refer to the "FlashROM in Microsemi's Low Power Flash Devices" section on page 117.



ProASIC3 nano FPGA Fabric User's Guide

I/O Behavior at Power-Up/-Down

This section discusses the behavior of device I/Os, used and unused, during power-up/-down of V_{CCI} and V_{CCI} . As mentioned earlier, VMVx and V_{CCI} Bx are tied together, and therefore, inputs and outputs are powered up/down at the same time.

I/O State during Power-Up/-Down

This section discusses the characteristics of I/O behavior during device power-up and power-down. Before the start of power-up, all I/Os are in tristate mode. The I/Os will remain tristated during power-up until the last voltage supply (VCC or VCCI) is powered to its functional level (power supply functional levels are discussed in the "Power-Up to Functional Time" section on page 312). After the last supply reaches the functional level, the outputs will exit the tristate mode and drive the logic at the input of the output buffer. Similarly, the input buffers will pass the external logic into the FPGA fabric once the last supply reaches the functional level. The behavior of user I/Os is independent of the VCC and VCCI sequence or the state of other voltage supplies of the FPGA (VPUMP and VJTAG). Figure 17-2 shows the output buffer driving HIGH and its behavior during power-up with 10 k Ω external pull-down. In Figure 17-2, VCC is powered first, and VCCI is powered 5 ms after VCC. Figure 17-3 on page 312 shows the state of the I/O when VCCI is powered about 5 ms before VCC. In the circuitry shown in Figure 17-3 on page 312, the output is externally pulled down.

During power-down, device I/Os become tristated once the first power supply (VCC or VCCI) drops below its brownout voltage level. The I/O behavior during power-down is also independent of voltage supply sequencing.





Summary of Changes

Revision (month/year)	Chapter Affected	List of Changes (page number)
Revision 1 (continued)	"In-System Programming (ISP) of Microsemi's Low Power Flash Devices Using FlashPro4/3/3X" was revised.	273
	"Core Voltage Switching Circuit for IGLOO and ProASIC3L In-System Programming" was revised.	281
	"Boundary Scan in Low Power Flash Devices" was revised.	296
Revision 0 (April 2010)	The ProASIC3 nano Low Power Flash FPGAs Handbook was divided into two parts to create the ProASIC3 nano Datasheet ProASIC3 nano Device Family User's Guide.	