Re: Prototyping?

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On Thu, 01 Nov 2007 17:47:42 −0500, Ben Jackson <ben@xxxxxxx> wrote:

> On 2007−10−30, Joerg <notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:
>
> > Depends. When you want to do unorthodox things a CPLD or FPGA doesn't cut it.
>
> If you want to prototype with CPLDs and FPGAs, just get a dev board.
> You can generally find one with the right combination of common peripherals
> already on it. Much cheaper and faster than designing your own board...

There's no reason to prototype stuff like this. These kinds of parts work as advertised, and are reprogrammable anyhow. You save a lot of time and expense by designing your actual product, laying out the board, and building a first article. If you're careful, you can usually sell it, too.

We only prototype small, tricky circuits, mostly when a datasheet doesn't have all the facts we need.

Today I'm debugging the code for a new product, a 4−channel DDS waveform generator with a uP, an fpga, ethernet, and a bunch of switching and linear power supplies. So far, everything seems to work, no cuts or jumpers. I'll probably change some resistor values, to tune LED brightness and maybe tweak a supply voltage or two.

Breadboarding is actually a bad habit. It wastes time and encourages sloppy design.

John

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