

Re: cPLDs and FPGAs we've known and loved (or hated)

Further disadvantages (not for Xilinx FPGA's only) are missing 5V tolerance or 5V drivers, and complex power supply requirements.

A few years ago i worked on an ALTERA Stratix project, and IMHO, ALTERA is the only serious competitor to Xilinx (I don't know the newer Lattice parts which seem to be great).

ALTERA FPGA's are slightly different, no SLR16's but large Mrams. The software never made any problems and seems to be better than ISE, but also has fewer features and a really bad fpga editor.

Actel has nice Proasic3 and Fusion Flash FPGA's, but with 10 times more marketing gates inside than brand A or X.

CPLD's are not recommended for densities > 144 to 256 macrocells, because FPGA's are cheaper and more verstaile.

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