

Re: Ever heard of Potato Semiconductor?

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2008-07/msg00778.html>

- *From:* Jim Thompson <To-Email-Use-The-Envelope-Icon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 06 Jul 2008 11:28:23 -0700
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On Sun, 06 Jul 2008 10:35:07 -0700, John Larkin
<jjlarkin@xx> wrote:

On Sat, 5 Jul 2008 22:03:55 -0700 (PDT), Al Borowski
<al.borowski@xxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Hi all,

Whilst looking for some high speed logic, I encountered a company called Potato Semiconductor (<http://www.potatosemi.com/2007/index.html>). They have some rather fast logic chips (1GHz or so). Has anyone used any of their parts?

Two things about their website stand out:

- 1) If you try to buy online, you are taken to an Ebay store. Fair enough, I guess. Saves having to reinvent the wheel.
- 2) If you click "About us" you get the following text:

"Why called Potatosemi as Brand?

We are the IC design house making chips. Potato chips are the most popular chips in the world. They are high volume, low price & taste good. All of the people like to eat them. All of the people are happy with them. This is exactly our goals. We will like to make our chips as popular as potato chips, as high volume as potato chips, as low price as potato chips. All of the computers & electronics devices like our chips' taste. All of the people like to use them because they are easy to use & all of the people are happy with potato chips. "

This is great. I wish more companies websites were like this.

Cheers,

Re: Ever heard of Potato Semiconductor?

AI

No, I hadn't heard of them, and I read all the usual mags. They look a little strange. The technology is "patented" but they cite no numbers and a quick patent search turns up nothing.

How can a simple inverter have a 0.8 ns rise/fall time and be good for 1.1 GHz? Their datasheets are very poorly specified, but their definition of "risetime" is nonstandard, something like 25–75%.

They spec their max frequencies with 2 pF loads, so one of their parts won't drive even one of their own parts at the promoted speeds; what good is that?

One might almost suspect them of rebranding other parts. There are lots of other peoples' parts with typical performance like this, some better.

One problem with running CMOS at high speeds is power consumption. They don't mention this in any usable form.

Fabless...

Potato Semiconductor Corporation is a private fabless IC design house which locates in San Jose, California.

In and Out via CMOS, probably CML or PECL inside...

By applying our powerful industry-leading technology in IO interface, logic cells & special design rule, we can design most of existing chips with higher frequency, higher performance, higher reliability, and less noise.

Their English is atrocious.

John

Taiwan

...Jim Thompson

—

| James E. Thompson, P.E. | mens |
| Analog Innovations, Inc. | et |
| Analog/Mixed-Signal ASIC's and Discrete Systems | manus |

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| Voice:(480)460-2350 Fax: Available upon request | Brass Rat |
| E-mail Icon at <http://www.analog-innovations.com> | 1962 |
||
| Obama-lackey! Obama-lackey! Boom! Boom! Boom! |
||
| Obama-lackey Wesley Clark opines:"He (McCain) hasn't held exe- |
| cutive responsibility. I don't think riding in a fighter plane|
| and getting shot down is a qualification to be president." |
||
| But being a small potatoes politician who's served only three |
| years in the Senate does ??? |

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