

**The best time to plant a tree
is 20 years ago. The second
best time is now**
(Chinese proverb)

Can leading politicians be honest?

"I did not have sexual relations with that woman." This quote from Bill Clinton, the 42nd President of the United States from 1993 – 2001, went round the world. It was uttered with such sincerity that most people believed him. It also helped that Clinton was attractive and had already done a lot of good.

At the very least, he was fantastic when it came to self-promotion and was adept at portraying himself as saviour and protector of the weak and poor. However, the aforementioned untruth brought the whole house of cards tumbling down and his reputation was badly tarnished.

As a consequence, he is not best remembered for his decisive intervention in the Balkans war, or for his introduction of a universal health care system, or for his turning of a budget deficit into a surplus. Instead, his reputation is sullied because he lied about an affair he had with a Monica Lewinsky. The Emperor Augustus hit the nail on the head 2,000 years ago when he said a good reputation requires three things: truth, goodness and beauty.

Politicians are only human as well. Their motives, reasons and purpose are no different from those of ordinary citizens. They are no more likely to lie than any one else. The big difference is that much more is expected of politicians when it comes to morality. And rightly so. Politicians are in



Politicians are often two-faced

charge of the community upon which our commerce is based. We vote for them and thus entrust them with the authority to handle both our values as a community and our wealth (in the form of taxes). How can we trust someone with our wealth and our future if we know that they lie? Thus, we place great emphasis on trust. Trust based on honesty and openness. And it is these two traits that can prove fatal in politics.

Politics is all about power. When a politician is open, honest and freely speaks his mind, this can lead to his ruin. Such a politician is vulnerable to attack from all sides and often suffers such onslaughts. This costs him votes at the next election. The result? Misleading statements, pot-stirring with untruths such as, for example, "De Coi demanded CHF 35 million from Canton" (Councillor Trachsel). Another example concerns the documentary on the de-selection of Swiss Minister Christoph Blocher and the comments of Minister Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf. She maintained that the programme had given a false impression of the events surrounding the Federal Council elections and insisted she had neither lied nor cut a deal with the SP. Nevertheless, the assertions to the contrary gathered momentum and have damaged politics in Switzerland as a whole.

Beat De Coi

New epc website is online

On June 1 2011, our new ESPROS Photonics website was put online. This is another important step towards our goals for the current business year. Over the course of the past three years, our emphasis has primarily been on technology and process development, as well as the creation of a competitive standard product portfolio. As of 2011, our sales and marketing strategy is being enforced and implemented on all levels of our company. And our new website is a key communication channel in our marketing strategy.

The website provides a comprehensive overview on our product and service portfolio. In addition to a general overview on our various market offers there are downloads with more in-depth information. Data sheets of all our standard products can directly be accessed as well as a process manual, detailing general flow and features of our ESPROS Photonic CMOS[®] process.

Come and visit us on the web under www.espros.ch and find out what we can do for you.

New epc headquarters



The new epc headquarter in Sargans

Finally! March 14 2011 was the big day! After almost 3 years of construction time the first epc staff could finally move to the new epc building in Sargans. 3500 square meters offer space for 150 workplaces. In the basement, our quality laboratory allows for dedicated temperature and climate testing and qualification of our products. The first floor integrates our 200m² class 1000 clean room, designed for a processing volume of up to chips per year. Our design department, formerly located in Baar, now found a new home on the second floor. The top floor hosts our Technology and IT department as well as our cafeteria which can be converted to a conference room with a seating capacity of up to 80 people.

The new building with its modular design will grow with epc's needs over time. And the second building stage is already planned. Once the current building becomes crowded, the next construction step will yield another 250 workspaces. But not only work has been taken into the focus of modularity. Two loading bays serve as logistic hub during the official working hours. On evenings or weekends however, the complete area can quickly be converted to a multifunctional convention area with the loading ramps serving as a stage for music concerts and the like.

ESPROS PDK released

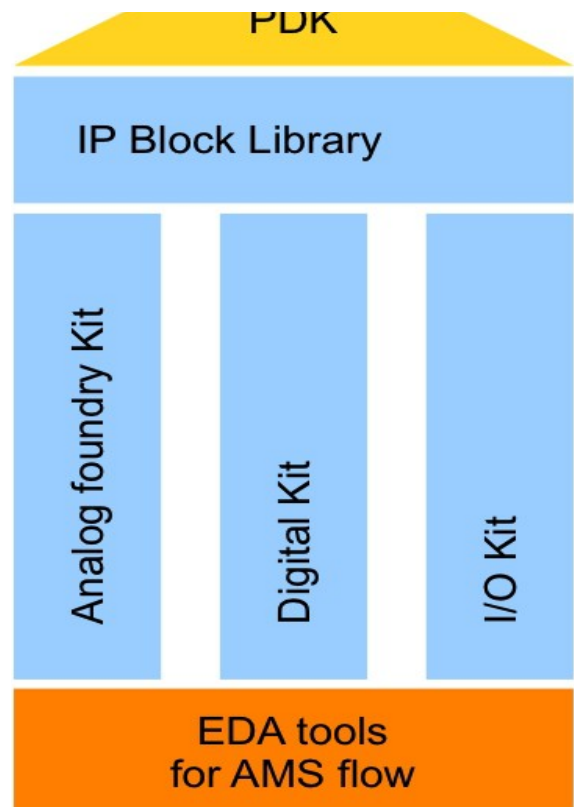
For all customers who wish to design their integrated circuits in-house we have released our Product Development Kit (PDK). Through the PDK, the customers have access to our unique CMOS process with its super characteristics.

The ESPROS-Cadence Analog Reference Flow streamlines the process of designing analog/MS chip targeted to our ESPROS Photonic CMOS® process. The flow has been proven through silicon. By taking advantage of ESPROS process technology and Cadence Virtuoso® Custom Design Platform, designers can benefit from a design flow that reduces time-to-silicon and avoids costly re-spins.

The ESPROS PDK is a foundry design kit created to build a bridge between design and foundry. The process design kit includes schematic symbols, techfiles, callback functions for design parameters, parameterized cells for custom layout, schematic-driven layout automation, and provides an easy link to the DRC/LVS/LPE rule deck. ESPROS PDK OHC15L. The base package of our PDK contains analog and digital building blocks, as well as a library with specifically designed I/O blocks.

The epc IP portfolio is constantly expanded with building blocks and macros such as buried channel CCD incl. Pcells 3D-TOF pixel, memory, signal processing blocks and more.

A unique addition to our PDK concept is our "IP store" program. Through this program we offer our design customers a marketing channel to commercialize their own IP blocks.



ESPROS Photonics Open Doors Day: Saturday, September 3, 2011, 10:00 - 16:00 hrs