

EUROCHIP OPENED THE DOOR FOR TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY TALLINN

In connection with the participation in the EC TEMPUS programme, it became possible to the Technical University Tallinn to become the member of EUROCHIP.

What is EUROCHIP? The lack of VLSI design resources in Europe was the reason why in 1989 by the Commission of the European Communities the Service Organization EUROCHIP as a part of the ESPRIT program was launched. The target of the EUROCHIP was to train an additional 3000 students in VLSI design each year.

The EUROCHIP Organization is composed by the consortium of 5 leading organizations: Circuits Multi-Projects (CMP) from Grenoble in France, the Technical University of Denmark (DTH) in Lyngby, the German National Research Center for Computer Science (GMD), the Interuniversitair Micro-Elektronica Centrum (IMEC) in Belgium, and the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) in the UK. A EUROCHIP Secretariat has been set up at GMD to take care of the administrative needs of the Service Organization.

EUROCHIP provides European universities with three major services: chip fabrication, hardware and software tool procurement, and training. It provides universities with consistent sets of CAD professional software tools running on various hardware platforms and operating systems, with routes to silicon, and with linking between CAD and the testing environment.

Eastern countries also accepted In the first phase of EUROCHIP actions, only western universities had the right to be the member of EUROCHIP. Now, in connection with the TEMPUS program, some eligible countries of Central/Eastern Europe could also be elected into the association. In the present time, together with Technical University Tallinn the membership of EUROCHIP was afforded also to Technical Universities of Budapest, Prague, Bratislava and Brno, to the Polytechnical Institute of Bucharest, to the Warsaw Institute of Technology and to the Higher College of Engineering Zielona Gora in Poland.

Estonia gets the chance to cooperate with WEST The EUROCHIP membership makes it possible for Technical University Tallinn to purchase the professional CAD software at low prices, gives estonian students and engineers access to the western microelectronics technology and gives the possibility to start in Estonia VLSI design activity with the same tools and in the same environments as it is being done in the western Europe, creating in such a way real ways for cooperation with the western countries in the form of subcontracts or joint projects.

EUROCHIP workshop in Toledo The results of the activity of EUROCHIP are reported at annual workshops, which include formal presentations, panels, circuits exhibition, university software demonstrations, reports on design contests. etc. The next EUROCHIP workshop will be held in 29.09.-1.10. 1993 in Toledo (Spain) where Technical University Tallinn will also present a paper about the CAD software TURBO TESTER developed at the university.

Prof. Raimund Ubar
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