



Subject: Actel New Programmer Release – Silicon Sculptor 3 and Advanced Product Discontinuation Notification of Silicon Sculptor II

June 5, 2006

Dear Customer,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of Actel's latest version of the Silicon Sculptor Programmer, Silicon Sculptor 3, which is based on the latest, advanced seventh generation programmer technology from BP Microsystems. Silicon Sculptor 3 offers USB 2.0 high-speed support, allowing parallel programming when connected via chained USB hubs with up to 12 such programmers with a single PC and software application. In addition, Silicon Sculptor 3 provides a very cost-effective way for a small production lab to expand capabilities without needing to acquire additional PCs. The Silicon Sculptor 3 programmer works with existing adapter modules that are used on the Silicon Sculptor II programmer; therefore, no investment in new adapter modules is required to use this latest programmer. Silicon Sculptor 3 is now available for ordering and shipment.

Silicon Sculptor 3 will replace Silicon Sculptor II, and therefore, Actel will eventually phase out the Silicon Sculptor II version as it makes way for the latest release. Actel will continue to deliver the Silicon Sculptor II over the next 9–12 months or until supplies are consumed, whichever comes first. Actel will continue to support Silicon Sculptor II in software for at least the next four years. New devices will be supported on both the Silicon Sculptor II and the Silicon Sculptor 3, but only if memory requirements of algorithms for new devices permit it. It should be noted that Actel will immediately cease new software support and programming updates for the Silicon Sculptor I and Silicon Sculptor 6X programmers, which were discontinued 4 years ago. The last version of software that supports Silicon Sculptor I and Silicon Sculptor 6X programmers will continue to be downloadable from the Actel website. This version is also the last version in which DOS support is provided. All new versions of Silicon Sculptor software are only available in Microsoft® Windows® 2000 Professional and Windows XP Professional.

Customers who have purchased a Silicon Sculptor II programmer within the warranty period (one year from delivery) may take advantage of an upgrade program offered by Actel. With this upgrade program, you can replace your Silicon Sculptor II programmer with a Silicon Sculptor 3 programmer at a significantly reduced price provided you meet the following guidelines:

- Receive a 50% discount off the original purchased price of the Silicon Sculptor II programmer. The discount amount will be deducted on the purchase order of the Silicon Sculptor 3 programmer
- A fully-functional Silicon Sculptor II programmer must be returned to Actel otherwise the discount will not be honored.



- The returned Silicon Sculptor II must be under warranty, which lasts one year from the date of its original shipment from Actel
- The purchase order of a Silicon Sculptor 3 must be submitted to Actel in conjunction with the RMA request of the Silicon Sculptor II programmer to complete the transaction and receive the discounted price

Should you have any questions regarding the Silicon Sculptor 3 upgrade program, discontinuation of Silicon Sculptor II, or the discontinuation of software support for the Silicon Sculptor 1 and Silicon Sculptor 6X programmers, please contact your local Actel Sales representative or regional FAE for assistance.

Regards,

Actel Corporation