

**Homegrown Tools and Equipment versus EDA and ATE Vendors:  
Future of Design to Test Product Lines**

**Greg Spirakis  
Intel Corporation**

For ASIC designs the test flows will continue to predominantly use off the shelf vendor tools because of the general adequacy of the existing technology. For high end custom designs, home grown tools will continue to exist either for niche applications or for IP reasons. In-house tools may also be chosen for cost savings. While in-house tools are necessary to plug the holes in the vendor capabilities, productivity improvement through integration with other design tools is very important for custom designs. Unless the vendors enable smooth integration of their tools with the in-house tools and in some occasions with other vendor tools, the in-house development teams continue to build capabilities that often overlap with vendor tools. If a vendor tool satisfies the need and can be integrated in to the flows, that would be the preferred solution. The Test technology vendors should work towards a unified, open infrastructure to design and develop tools to enable them to win over a bigger share of the test tool market.