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Sofics® ESDdoctor® Debugging Improves ESD Protection on Rad-Hard ICs

GISTEL, BELGIUM (*December 13, 2012*) – RUAG Space AB of Göteborg, Sweden has successfully used ESDdoctor®, the consulting and debugging test service from Sofics® bvba (www.sofics.com), to increase electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection on a radiation-hard IC from <200V HBM to more than 1kV HBM. The solution was implemented at the metal mask stage of IC production, helping to hold down manufacturing costs.

Sofics is a leading provider of ESD solutions for ICs.

According to Koen Verhaege, CEO of Sofics, this is exactly the kind of project that the ESDdoctor service is designed to handle.

“There were limited options for a solution because of the stage of manufacturing the ICs had reached,” he said. “Also, we were working in an unfamiliar process.

“But ESDdoctor gives clients access to our full range of expertise in identifying, diagnosing, and solving ESD and EOS (electrical overstress) problems quickly and definitively. Since we are constantly developing ESD/EOS solutions for different process nodes, technologies, and foundries, we’re used to adapting our approach to the client’s needs.”

In addition to identifying, diagnosing, and solving ESD/EOS issues, ESDdoctor clients can opt to have Sofics design ESD protection for their products. In this case the company draws on publicly available solutions when available, using proprietary Sofics technology only when necessary to find the most cost-effective approach.

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About Sofics

Sofics (www.sofics.com) focuses on product development, licensing, engineering tools and design services for on-chip device- and system-level protection and reliability. Sofics is an independent IP provider, formerly known as Sarnoff Europe.