

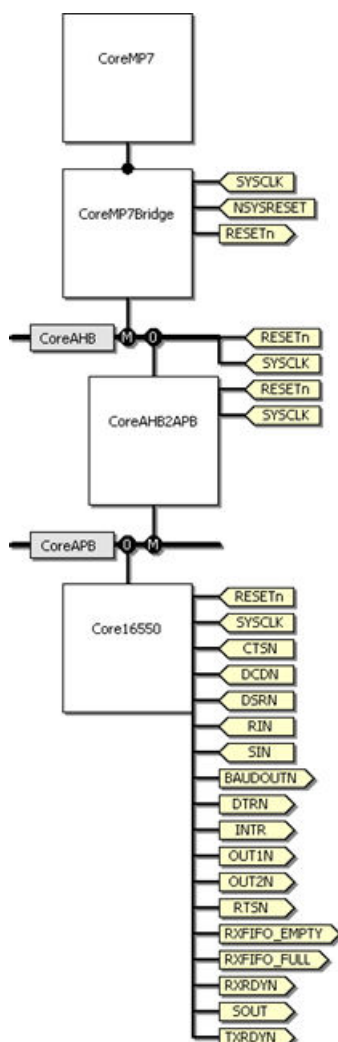
## Introduction [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

Core16550 is a standard Universal Asynchronous Receiver-Transmitter (UART) that ensures software compatibility with the widely used 16550 device. It handles serial-to-parallel data conversion for inputs from modems or other serial devices and performs parallel-to-serial conversion for data sent from the CPU to these devices.

During transmission, data is written in parallel into the UART's transmit First-In, First-Out (FIFO) buffer. The data is then serialized for output. When receiving, the UART converts incoming serial data into a parallel and enables easy access for the processor.

A typical application of the 16550 UART is illustrated in the following figure.

**Figure 1.** Typical 16550 Application



**Table 1. Core16550 Summary**

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Core Version</b>                       | This document applies to Core16550 v3.4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Supported Device Families</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RT PolarFire®</li> <li>• PolarFire® SoC</li> <li>• PolarFire</li> <li>• RTG4™</li> <li>• IGLOO® 2</li> <li>• SmartFusion® 2</li> <li>• SmartFusion®</li> <li>• ProASIC3E</li> <li>• ProASIC3</li> <li>• ProASIC® 3L</li> <li>• IGLOOe</li> <li>• IGLOO®</li> <li>• Fusion</li> </ul> |
| <b>Supported Tool Flow</b>                | Requires Libero® SoC v8.6 or later releases.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Licensing</b>                          | No license is required for using this core. Complete verilog RTL source code is provided for the core and testbench.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Installation Instructions</b>          | Core16550 must be installed to the IP Catalog of Libero SoC automatically through the update function. Alternatively, Core16550 is manually downloaded from the catalog. Once the IP core is installed, it is configured, generated and instantiated within the SmartDesign for inclusion in the project.                     |
| <b>Device Utilization and Performance</b> | A summary of utilization and performance information for the Core16550 is listed in the <a href="#">Device Utilization and Performance</a> section.                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Key Features

Following are the key features of Core16550:

- Transmitter and receiver are each buffered with upto 16-byte FIFOs to reduce the number of interrupts presented to the CPU.
- Adds or strips standard asynchronous communication bits (Start, Stop and Parity).
- Independently controlled transmit, receive, line status and data set interrupts
- Programmable baud generator
- Modem control functions (CTS<sub>n</sub>, RTS<sub>n</sub>, DSR<sub>n</sub>, DTR<sub>n</sub>, RI<sub>n</sub> and DCD<sub>n</sub>).
- Advanced Peripheral Bus (APB) register interface

## Discontinued Features

Very High Speed Integrated Circuit (VHSIC) Hardware Description Language (VHDL) support will be discontinued from this version.

## Core16550 Change Log Information

This section provides a comprehensive overview of the newly incorporated features, beginning with the most recent release.

| Version        | What's New                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Core16550 v3.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core16550 uses system verilog keyword "break" as register name which was causing syntax error issue. The keyword is replaced with another name to resolve this issue.</li> <li>• Added PolarFire® family support</li> </ul> |
| Core16550 v3.3 | Added Radiation-tolerant FPGA (RTG4™) family support                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

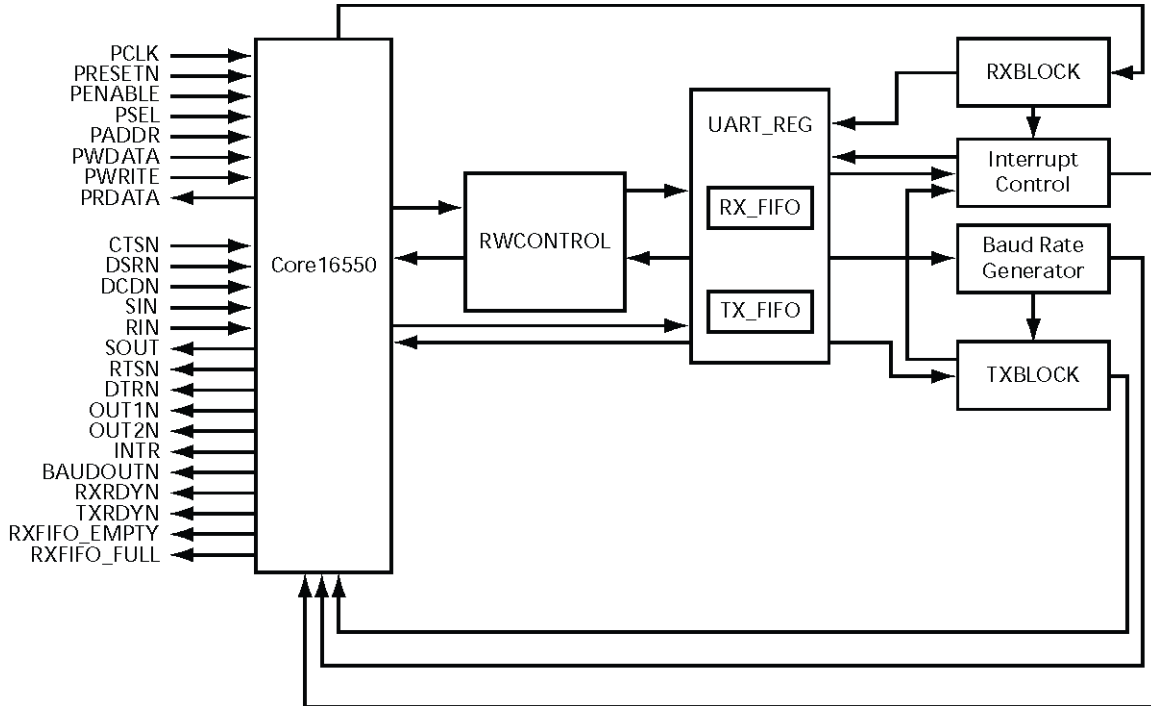
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## 1. Functional Block Description [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

This section provides a short description for each element of the internal block diagram as displayed in the following figure.

**Figure 1-1. Core16550 Block Diagram**



### 1.1. Elements of the Internal Block Diagram [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The following section provides information about elements of the the internal block diagram.

#### 1.1.1. RWControl [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The RWControl block is responsible for handling the communications with the processor (parallel) side of the system. All the writing and reading of Internal registers are accomplished through this block.

#### 1.1.2. UART\_Reg [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The UART\_Reg block holds all of the device Internal registers.

#### 1.1.3. RXBlock [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

This is the receiver block. RXBlock receives the incoming serial word. It is programmable to recognize data widths, such as 5, 6, 7 or 8 bits; various parity settings, such as even, odd or no-parity; and different stop bits, such as 1, 1½ and 2 bits. RXBlock checks for errors in the input data stream, such as overrun errors, frame errors, parity errors and break errors. If the incoming word has no problems, it is placed in the receiver FIFO.

#### 1.1.4. Interrupt Control [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Interrupt Control block sends an interrupt signal back to the processor, depending on the state of the FIFO and its received and transmitted data. The Interrupt Identification register provides the level of the interrupt. Interrupts are sent for empty transmission/receipt buffers (or FIFOs), an error in receiving a character, or other conditions requiring the attention of the processor.

### 1.1.5. Baud Rate Generator [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

This block takes the input PCLK and divides it by a programmed value (from 1 to  $2^{16} - 1$ ). The result is divided by 16 to create the transmission clock (BAUDOUT).

### 1.1.6. TXBlock [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Transmit block handles the transmission of data written to the Transmit FIFO. It adds the required Start, Parity and Stop bits to the data being transmitted so the receiving device can do the proper error handling and receiving.

## 1.2. Software Interface [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Core16550 register definitions and address mappings are described in this section. The following table shows the Core16550 register summary.

**Table 1-1.** Core16550 Register Summary

| PADDR[4:0]<br>(Address) | Divisor Latch Access<br>Bit <sup>1</sup><br>(DLAB) | Name                              | Symbol | Default (reset)<br>Value | No. of Bits | Read/Write |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 00                      | 0                                                  | Receiver Buffer Register          | RBR    | XX                       | 8           | R          |
| 00                      | 0                                                  | Transmitter Holding Register      | THR    | XX                       | 8           | W          |
| 00                      | 1                                                  | Divisor Latch (LSB)               | DLR    | 01h                      | 8           | R/W        |
| 04                      | 1                                                  | Divisor Latch (MSB)               | DMR    | 00h                      | 8           | R/W        |
| 04                      | 0                                                  | Interrupt Enable Register         | IER    | 00h                      | 8           | R/W        |
| 08                      | X                                                  | Interrupt Identification Register | IIR    | C1h                      | 8           | R          |
| 08                      | X                                                  | FIFO Control Register             | FCR    | 01h                      | 8           | W          |
| 0C                      | X                                                  | Line Control Register             | LCR    | 00h                      | 8           | R/W        |
| 10                      | X                                                  | Modem Control Register            | MCR    | 00h                      | 8           | R/W        |
| 14                      | X                                                  | Line Status Register              | LSR    | 60h                      | 8           | R          |
| 18                      | X                                                  | Modem Status Register             | MSR    | 00h                      | 8           | R          |
| 1C                      | X                                                  | Scratch Register                  | SR     | 00h                      | 8           | R/W        |



#### Important:

1. DLAB is the MSB of the Line Control Register (LCR bit 7).

### 1.2.1. Receiver Buffer Register [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Receiver Buffer register is defined in the following table.

**Table 1-2.** Receiver Buffer Register (Read Only)—Address 0 DLAB 0

| Bits | Name | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                             |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7..0 | RBR  | XX            | 0..FFh       | Received data bits. Bit 0 is the LSB, and is the first received bit. |

### 1.2.2. Transmitter Holding Register [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Transmitter Holding register is defined in the following table.

**Table 1-3.** Transmitter Holding Register—Write Only

| Bits | Name | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                           |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7..0 | THR  | XX            | 0..FFh       | To transmit data bits. Bit 0 is the LSB, and is transmitted first. |

### 1.2.3. FIFO Control Register [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The FIFO Control register is defined in the following table.

**Table 1-4.** FIFO Control Register—Write Only

| Bits (7:0) | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0          | 1             | 0, 1         | Enables both the Transceiver (Tx) and Receiver (Rx) FIFOs. This bit must be set to 1 when other FCR bits are written to or they will not be programmed.<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled                                                     |
| 1          | 0             | 0, 1         | Clears all bytes in the Rx FIFO and resets its counter logic. The Shift register is not cleared.<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled                                                                                                            |
| 2          | 0             | 0, 1         | Clears all bytes in the Tx FIFO and resets its counter logic. The Shift register is not cleared.<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled                                                                                                            |
| 3          | 0             | 0, 1         | 0: Single transfer DMA: Transfer made between CPU bus cycles<br>1: Multi-transfer DMA: Transfers made until Rx FIFO empty or Transmission System Operator (TSO) Transmit (XMIT) FIFO filled. FCR[0] must be set to 1 to set FCR[3] to 1. |
| 4, 5       | 0             | 0, 1         | Reserved for future use.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 6, 7       | 0             | 0, 1         | These bits are used to set the trigger level for the Rx FIFO interrupt.<br>7 6 Rx FIFO Trigger Level (bytes)<br>0 0 01<br>0 1 04<br>1 0 08<br>1 1 14                                                                                     |

#### 1.2.4. The Divisor Control Registers [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Baud Rate (BR) clock is generated by dividing the input reference clock (PCLK) by 16 and the divisor value.

$$BR = \frac{PCLK}{16 \cdot \text{DivisorValue}}$$

The following table lists an example of divisor values for desired BR when using an 18.432 MHz reference clock.

**Table 1-5.** Divisor Latch (LS and MS)

| Bits | Name | Default State | Valid States | Function                 |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 7..0 | DLR  | 01h           | 01..FFh      | The LSB of divisor value |
| 7..0 | DMR  | 00h           | 00..FFh      | The MSB of divisor value |

**Table 1-6.** Baud Rates and Divisor Values for 18.432 MHz Reference Clock

| Baud Rate | Decimal Divisor (Divisor Value) | Percent Error |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 50        | 23040                           | 0.0000%       |
| 75        | 15360                           | 0.0000%       |
| 110       | 10473                           | -0.2865%      |
| 134.5     | 8565                            | 0.0876%       |
| 150       | 7680                            | 0.0000%       |
| 300       | 3840                            | 0.0000%       |
| 600       | 1920                            | 0.0000%       |
| 1,200     | 920                             | 4.3478%       |
| 1,800     | 640                             | 0.0000%       |

**Table 1-6.** Baud Rates and Divisor Values for 18.432 MHz Reference Clock (continued)

| Baud Rate | Decimal Divisor (Divisor Value) | Percent Error |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 2,000     | 576                             | 0.0000%       |
| 2,400     | 480                             | 0.0000%       |
| 3,600     | 320                             | 0.0000%       |
| 4,800     | 240                             | 0.0000%       |
| 7,200     | 160                             | 0.0000%       |
| 9,600     | 120                             | 0.0000%       |
| 19,200    | 60                              | 0.0000%       |
| 38,400    | 30                              | 0.0000%       |
| 56,000    | 21                              | -2.0408%      |

**1.2.5. Interrupt Enable Register** [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Interrupt Enable register is defined in the following table.

**Table 1-7.** Interrupt Enable Register

| Bits | Name     | Default State | Valid State | Function                                                                                |
|------|----------|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0    | ERBFI    | 0             | 0, 1        | Enables "Received Data Available Interrupt"<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled                |
| 1    | ETBEI    | 0             | 0, 1        | Enables the "Transmitter Holding Register Empty Interrupt"<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled |
| 2    | ELSI     | 0             | 0, 1        | Enables the "Receiver Line Status Interrupt"<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled               |
| 3    | EDSSI    | 0             | 0, 1        | Enables the "Modem Status Interrupt"<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled                       |
| 7..4 | Reserved | 0             | 0           | Always 0                                                                                |

**1.2.6. Interrupt Identification Register** [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Interrupt Identification register is listed in the following table.

**Table 1-8.** Interrupt Identification Register

| Bits | Name     | Default State | Valid States | Function                       |
|------|----------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 3..0 | IIR      | 1h            | 0..Ch        | Interrupt identification bits. |
| 5..4 | Reserved | 00            | 00           | Always 00                      |
| 7..6 | Mode     | 11            | 11           | 11: FIFO mode                  |

The Interrupt Identification register field is defined in the following table.

**Table 1-9.** Interrupt Identification Register Field (IIR)

| IIR Value[3:0] | Priority Level | Interrupt Type          | Interrupt Source                                              | Interrupt Reset Control                                                        |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0110           | Highest        | Receiver line status    | Overrun error, parity error, framing error or break interrupt | Reading the Line Status register                                               |
| 0100           | Second         | Received data available | Receiver data available                                       | Reading the Receiver Buffer register or the FIFO drops below the trigger level |

**Table 1-9.** Interrupt Identification Register Field (IIR) (continued)

| IIR Value[3:0] | Priority Level | Interrupt Type                     | Interrupt Source                                                                                                                          | Interrupt Reset Control                                          |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1100           | Second         | Character timeout indication       | No characters are read from the Rx FIFO during the last four character times and there was at least one character in it during this time. | Reading the Receiver Buffer register                             |
| 0010           | Third          | Transmitter Holding register empty | Transmitter Holding register empty                                                                                                        | Reading the IIR or writing into the Transmitter Holding register |
| 0000           | Fourth         | Modem status                       | Clear to Send, Data Set Ready, Ring Indicator or Data Carrier Detect                                                                      | Reading the Modern Status register                               |

### 1.2.7. Line Control Register [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Line Control register is listed in the following table.

**Table 1-10.** Line Control Register

| Bits | Name | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1..0 | WLS  | 0             | 0..3h        | Word Length Select<br>00: 5 bits<br>01: 6 bits<br>10: 7 bits<br>11: 8 bits                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2    | STB  | 0             | 0, 1         | Number of Stop Bits<br>0: 1 Stop bit<br>1: 1½ Stop bits when WLS = 00<br>2: Stop bits in other cases                                                                                                                                                        |
| 3    | PEN  | 0             | 0, 1         | Parity Enable<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled. Parity is added in transmission and checked in receiving.                                                                                                                                                       |
| 4    | EPS  | 0             | 0, 1         | Even Parity Select<br>0: Odd parity<br>1 : Even parity                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 5    | SP   | 0             | 0, 1         | Stick Parity<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled<br>Following are the parity details, when stick parity is enabled:<br>Bits 4..3<br>11: 0 will be sent as a Parity bit, and checked in receiving.<br>01: 1 will be sent as a Parity bit, and checked in receiving. |
| 6    | SB   | 0             | 0, 1         | Set Break<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Set break. SOUT is forced to 0. This does not have any effect on transmitter logic. The break is disabled by setting the bit to 0.                                                                                           |
| 7    | DLAB | 0             | 0, 1         | Divisor Latch Access Bit<br>0: Disabled. Normal Addressing mode in use.<br>1: Enabled. Enables access to the Divisor Latch registers during read or write operation to address 0 and 1.                                                                     |

### 1.2.8. Modem Control Register [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Modem Control register is listed in the following table.

**Table 1-11. Modem Control Register**

| Bits | Name     | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------|----------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0    | DTR      | 0             | 0, 1         | Controls the Data Terminal Ready (DTRn) output.<br>0: DTRn <= 1<br>1: DTRn <= 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1    | RTS      | 0             | 0, 1         | Controls the Request to Send (RTSn) output.<br>0: RTSn <= 1<br>1: RTSn <= 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2    | Out1     | 0             | 0, 1         | Controls the Output1 (OUT1n) signal.<br>0: OUT1n <= 1<br>1: OUT1n <= 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3    | Out2     | 0             | 0, 1         | Controls the Output2 (OUT2n) signal.<br>0: OUT2n <= 1<br>1: OUT2n <= 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 4    | Loop     | 0             | 0, 1         | Loop enable bit<br>0: Disabled<br>1: Enabled. The following occurs in Loop mode:<br>SOUT is set to 1. The SIN, DSRn, CTSn, RIn and DCDn inputs are disconnected. The output of the Transmitter Shift register is looped back into the Receiver Shift register. The modem control outputs (DTRn, RTSn, OUT1n and OUT2n) are connected internally to the modem control inputs, and the modem control output pins are set at 1. In Loopback mode, the transmitted data is immediately received, allowing the CPU to check the operation of the UART. The interrupts are operating in Loop mode. |
| 7..4 | Reserved | 0h            | 0            | Reserved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

### 1.2.9. Line Status Register [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The Line Status register is defined in the following table.

**Table 1-12. Line Status Register—Read Only**

| Bits | Name | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0    | DR   | 0             | 0, 1         | Data Ready indicator<br>1 when a data byte has been received and stored in the receive buffer or the FIFO. DR is cleared to 0 when the CPU reads the data from the receive buffer or the FIFO.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1    | OE   | 0             | 0, 1         | Overrun Error indicator<br>Indicates that the new byte was received before the CPU read the byte from the receive buffer, and that the earlier data byte is destroyed. OE is cleared when the CPU reads the Line Status register. If the data continues to fill the FIFO beyond the trigger level, an overrun error occurs once the FIFO is full and the next character has been completely received in the Shift register. The character in the Shift register is overwritten, but it is not transferred to the FIFO. |
| 2    | PE   | 0             | 0, 1         | Parity Error indicator<br>Indicates that the received byte had a parity error. PE is cleared when the CPU reads the Line Status register. This error is revealed to the CPU when its associated character is at the top of the FIFO.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3    | FE   | 0             | 0, 1         | Framing Error indicator<br>Indicates that the received byte did not have a valid Stop bit. FE is cleared when the CPU reads the Line Status register. The UART will try to resynchronize after a framing error. To do this, it assumes that the framing error was due to the next Start bit, so it samples this Start bit twice, and then starts receiving the data. This error is revealed to the CPU when its associated character is at the top of the FIFO.                                                        |

**Table 1-12.** Line Status Register—Read Only (continued)

| Bits | Name | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4    | BI   | 0             | 0, 1         | Break Interrupt indicator<br>Indicates that the received data is at 0, longer than a full word transmission time (Start bit + Data bits + Parity + Stop bits). BI is cleared when the CPU reads the Line Status register. This error is revealed to the CPU when its associated character is at the top of the FIFO. When break occurs, only one zero character is loaded into the FIFO. |
| 5    | THRE | 1             | 0, 1         | Transmitter Holding Register Empty (THRE) indicator<br>Indicates that the UART is ready to transmit a new data byte. THRE causes an interrupt to the CPU when bit 1 (ETBEI) in the Interrupt Enable register is 1. This bit is set when the TX FIFO is empty. It is cleared when at least one byte is written to the TX FIFO.                                                            |
| 6    | TEMT | 1             | 0, 1         | Transmitter Empty indicator<br>This bit is set to 1 when both the transmitter FIFO and Shift registers are empty.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 7    | FIER | 0             | 1            | This bit is set when there is at least one parity error, framing error or break indication in the FIFO. FIER is cleared when the CPU reads the LSR if there are no subsequent errors in the FIFO.                                                                                                                                                                                        |

**1.2.10. Modem Status Register** ([Ask a Question](#))

The Modem Status register is listed in the following table.

**Table 1-13.** Modem Status Register—Read Only

| Bits | Name | Default State | Valid States | Function                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0    | DCTS | 0             | 0, 1         | Delta Clear to Send indicator.<br>Indicates that the CTSn input has changed state since the last time it was read by the CPU.                                                    |
| 1    | DDSR | 0             | 0, 1         | Delta Data Set Ready indicator<br>Indicates that the DSRn input has changed state since the last time it was read by the CPU.                                                    |
| 2    | TERI | 0             | 0, 1         | Trailing Edge of Ring Indicator detector.<br>Indicates that RI input has changed from 0 to 1.                                                                                    |
| 3    | DDCD | 0             | 0, 1         | Delta Data Carrier Detect indicator<br>Indicates that DCD input has changed state.<br><b>Note:</b> Whenever bit 0, 1, 2 or 3 is set to 1, a Modem Status interrupt is generated. |
| 4    | CTS  | 0             | 0, 1         | Clear to Send<br>The complement of the CTSn input. When bit 4 of the Modem Control Register (MCR) is set to 1 (loop), this bit is equivalent to DTR in the MCR.                  |
| 5    | DSR  | 0             | 0, 1         | Data Set Ready<br>The complement of the DSR input. When bit 4 of the MCR is set to 1 (loop), this bit is equivalent to RTSn in the MCR.                                          |
| 6    | RI   | 0             | 0, 1         | Ring Indicator<br>The complement of the RIn input. When bit 4 of the MCR is set to 1 (loop), this bit is equivalent to OUT1 in the MCR.                                          |
| 7    | DCD  | 0             | 0, 1         | Data Carrier Detect<br>The complement of DCDn input. When bit 4 of the MCR is set to 1 (loop), this bit is equivalent to OUT2 in the MCR.                                        |

**1.2.11. Scratch Register** ([Ask a Question](#))

The Scratch register is defined in the following table.

**Table 1-14.** Scratch Register

| Bits | Name | Default State | Function                                                   |
|------|------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7..0 | SCR  | 00h           | Read/Write register for CPU. No effects on UART operation. |

## 2. Tool Flows [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

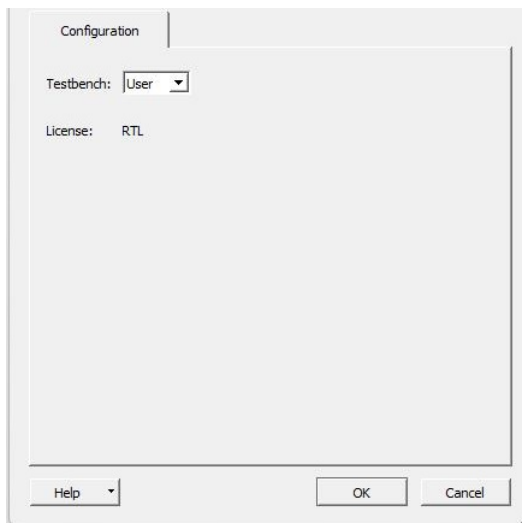
This section provides the details about the tool flows.

### 2.1. SmartDesign [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

Core16550 is available for download in the SmartDesign IP deployment design environment. The core is configured using the configuration GUI within SmartDesign, see the following figure.

For information about how to use SmartDesign to instantiate, configure, connect and generate cores, see the [SmartDesign User Guide](#).

**Figure 2-1.** Core16550 Configuration



### 2.2. Simulation Flows [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The user testbench for Core16550 is included in all releases.

To run simulations, select the **User Testbench Flow** option within SmartDesign and click Generate Design under the SmartDesign menu. The user testbench is selected through the Core Testbench Configuration GUI.

When the SmartDesign generates the Libero SoC project, it installs the user testbench files.

To run the user testbench, set the design root to the Core16550 instantiation in the **Libero SoC Design Hierarchy** pane and click the **Simulation** icon in the **SoC Design Flow** window. This invokes ModelSim® and automatically runs the simulation.

#### 2.2.1. Synthesis in Libero SoC [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

Click the **Synthesis** icon in Libero SoC. The **Synthesis** window appears. The Synplify® project. Set Synplify to use the Verilog 2001 standard if Verilog is being used. To run Synthesis, click the **Run** icon.

#### 2.2.2. Place-and-Route in Libero SoC [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

To set the design route appropriately and run Synthesis, click the **Layout** icon in Libero SoC and invoke Designer. Core16550 does not require any special place-and-route settings.

### 3. **Core16550** [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

This section provides information about parameters used in this core.

#### 3.1. **Parameters** [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

Core16550 does not support any top-level parameters.

## 4. Core Interfaces [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

This section provides input and output summary.

### 4.1. I/O Signal Description [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The following lists the Core16550 I/O definitions.

**Table 4-1.** I/O Signal Summary

| Name        | Type   | Polarity | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------|--------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PRESETN     | Input  | Low      | Master reset                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| PCLK        | Input  | —        | Master clock<br>PCLK is divided by the value of the Divisor registers. The result is then divided by 16 to produce the baud rate. The resultant signal is the BAUDOUT signal. The rising edge of this pin is used to strobe all input and output signals.                                                                         |
| PWRITE      | Input  | High     | APB write/read enable, active-high.<br>When HIGH, data is written to the specified address location. When LOW, data is read from the specified address location.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PADDR[4:0]  | Input  | —        | APB Address<br>This bus provides the link for the CPU to the address of the register of Core16550 to be read from or written to.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PSEL        | Input  | High     | APB select<br>When this is HIGH along with PENABLE, reading and writing to Core16550 is enabled.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PWDATA[7:0] | Input  | —        | Data input bus<br>Data on this bus will be written into the addressed register during a write cycle.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| PENABLE     | Input  | High     | APB enable<br>When this is HIGH along with PSEL, reading and writing to Core16550 is enabled.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| PRDATA[7:0] | Output | —        | Data output bus<br>This bus holds the value of the addressed register during a read cycle.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| CTSn        | Input  | Low      | Clear to Send<br>This active-low signal is an input showing when the attached device (modem) is ready to accept data. Core16550 passes this information to the CPU through the Modem Status register. This register also indicates that if the CTSn signal has changed since the last time, the register was read.                |
| DSRn        | Input  | Low      | Data Set Ready<br>This active-low signal is an input indicating when the attached device (modem) is ready to set up a link with Core16550. Core16550 passes this information to the CPU through the Modem Status register. This register also indicates if the DSRn signal has changed since the last time the register was read. |
| DCDn        | Input  | Low      | Data Carrier Detect<br>This active-low signal is an input indicating when the attached device (modem) has detected a carrier. Core16550 passes this information to the CPU through the Modem Status register. This register also indicates if the DCDn signal has changed since the last time the register is read.               |
| SIN         | Input  | —        | Serial Input Data<br>This data is transmitted into Core16550. It is synchronized with the PCLK input pin.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| RIn         | Input  | Low      | Ring Indicator<br>This active-low signal is an input showing when the attached device (modem) has sensed a ring signal on the telephone line. Core16550 passes this information to the CPU through the Modem Status register. This register also indicates when the RIn trailing edge was sensed.                                 |
| SOUT        | Output | —        | Serial output data<br>This data is transmitted from Core16550. It is synchronized with the BAUDOUT output pin.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| RTSn        | Output | Low      | Request to Send<br>This active-low output signal is used to inform the attached device (modem) that Core16550 is ready to send data. It is programmed by the CPU through the Modem Control register.                                                                                                                              |

**Table 4-1. I/O Signal Summary (continued)**

| Name         | Type   | Polarity | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------|--------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DTRn         | Output | Low      | Data Terminal Ready<br>This active-low output signal informs the attached device (modem) that Core16550 is ready to establish a communications link. It is programmed by the CPU through the Modem Control register.                                                                                                          |
| OUT1n        | Output | Low      | Output 1<br>This active-low output is a user-defined signal. CPU programs this signal through the Modem Control register and is set to the opposite value.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| OUT2n        | Output | Low      | Output 2<br>This active-low output signal is a user-defined signal. It is programmed by the CPU through the Modem Control register and is set to the opposite value. programmed.                                                                                                                                              |
| INTR         | Output | High     | Interrupt Pending<br>This active-high output signal is the interrupt output signal from Core16550. It is programmed to become active on certain events, informing the CPU that such an event has occurred, (for more details, see <a href="#">Interrupt Identification Register</a> ). The CPU then takes appropriate action. |
| BAUDOUTn     | Output | Low      | Baud out<br>This is an output clock signal derived from the input clock for synchronizing the data output stream from SOUT.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| RXRDYN       | Output | Low      | Receiver ready to receive transmissions.<br>The CPU is indicated by this active-low output signal that the receiver section of Core16550 is available for data to be read.                                                                                                                                                    |
| TXRDYN       | Output | Low      | Transmitter ready to transmit data.<br>This active-low signal indicates to the CPU that the transmitter section of Core16550 has space to write data for transmission.                                                                                                                                                        |
| rxfifo_empty | Output | High     | Receive FIFO empty.<br>This signal goes HIGH when the receive FIFO is empty.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| rxfifo_full  | Output | High     | Receive FIFO full.<br>This signal goes High when the receive FIFO is full.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## 5. Timing Diagrams [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

This section provides timing diagrams of this core.

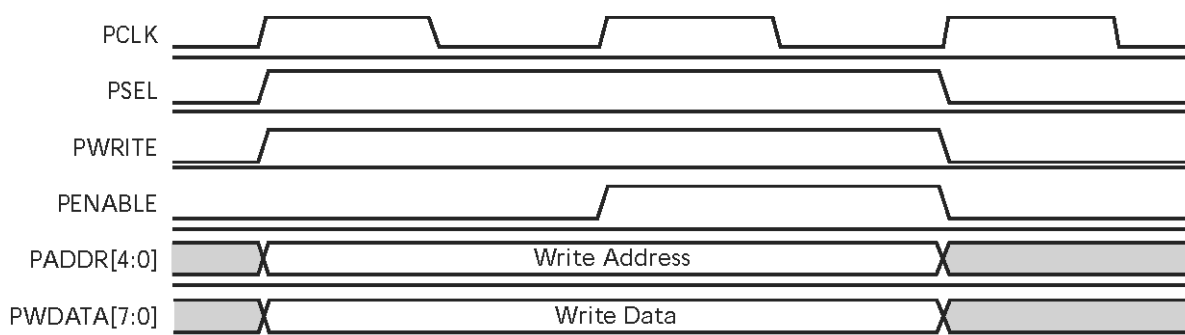
### 5.1. Data Write Cycle and Data Read Cycle [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

[Figure 5-1](#) and [Figure 5-2](#) depict write cycle and read cycle timing relationships relative to the APB system clock, PCLK.

#### 5.1.1. Register Write [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The following figure shows the Address, Select and Enable signals are latched and must be valid prior to the rising edge of PCLK. Writing occurs at the rising edge of the PCLK signal.

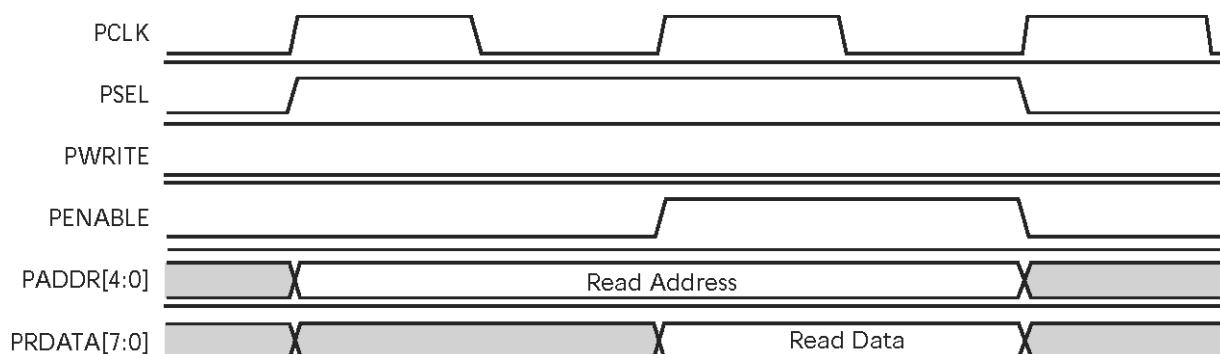
**Figure 5-1. Data Write Cycle**



#### 5.1.2. Register Read [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The following figure shows the Address, Select and Enable signals are latched and must be valid prior to the rising edge of PCLK. Reading occurs at the rising edge of the PCLK signal.

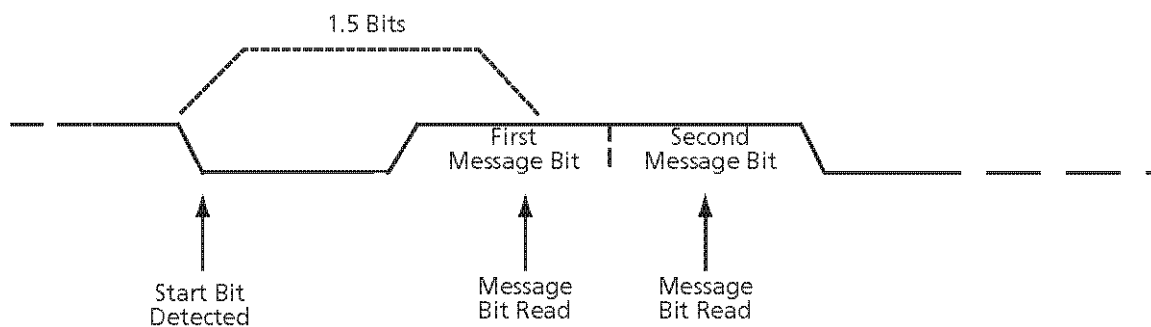
**Figure 5-2. Data Read Cycle**



For more details on the descriptions and timing waveforms, see [AMBA specification](#).

### 5.2. Receiver Synchronization [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

When the receiver detects a Low state in the incoming data stream, it synchronizes to it. After the start edge, the UART waits  $1.5 \times$  (the normal bit length). This causes each subsequent bit to be read at the middle of its width. The following figure depicts this synchronization process.

**Figure 5-3. Receiver Synchronization**

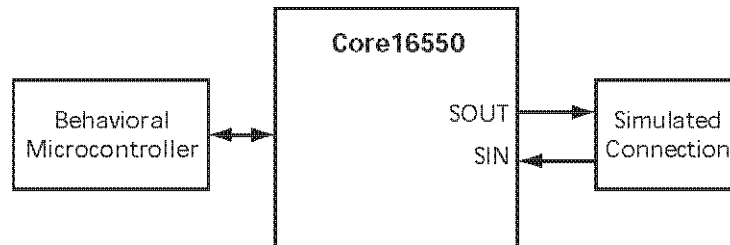
## 6. Testbench Operation [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

Only one testbench is provided with Core16550: Verilog user testbench. This is a simple-to-use testbench written in Verilog. This testbench is intended for customer modification.

### 6.1. User Testbench [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The following figure shows the block diagram of the example user design and testbench.

**Figure 6-1.** Core16550 User Testbench



The user testbench includes a simple example design that serves as a reference for users who want to implement their own designs.

The testbench for example, user design implements a subset of the functionality tested in the verification testbench, for more details, see [User Testbench](#). Conceptually, as shown in [Figure 6-1](#), instantiation of Core16550 is simulated using a behavioral microcontroller and a simulated loopback connection. For example, user testbench demonstrates the transmit and receive by the same Core16550 unit, so you can gain a basic understanding of how to use this core.

The user testbench demonstrates the basic setup, transmit and receive operations of Core16550. The user testbench performs the following steps:

1. Write to the control registers.
2. Check received data.
3. Turn on transmit and receive.
4. Read the control registers.
5. Transmit and receive one byte.

## 7. Device Utilization and Performance [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The following table lists the Core16550 utilization and performance data.

**Table 7-1.** Core16550 Utilization and Performance PolarFire and PolarFire SoC

| Device Details |                        | Resources |     |                | RAM   |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------|-----|----------------|-------|
| Family         | Device                 | 4LUT      | DFF | Logic Elements | μSRAM |
| PolarFire®     | MPF100T- FCSG325I      | 752       | 284 | 753            | 2     |
| PolarFire® SoC | MPFS250TS- FCSG536I    | 716       | 284 | 720            | 2     |
| RTG4™          | RT4G150- 1CG1657M      | 871       | 351 | 874            | 2     |
| IGLOO® 2       | M2GL050TFB GA896STD    | 754       | 271 | 1021           | 2     |
| SmartFusion® 2 | M2S050TFBG A896STD     | 754       | 271 | 1021           | 2     |
| SmartFusion®   | A2F500M3G- STD         | 1163      | 243 | 1406           | 2     |
| IGLOO®/IGLOOE  | AGL600- STD/AGLE600 V2 | 1010      | 237 | 1247           | 2     |
| Fusion         | AFS600-STD             | 1010      | 237 | 1247           | 2     |
| ProASIC® 3/E   | A3P600-STD             | 1010      | 237 | 1247           | 2     |
| ProASIC Plus®  | APA075-STD             | 1209      | 233 | 1442           | 2     |
| RTAX-S         | RTAX250S- STD          | 608       | 229 | 837            | 2     |
| Axcelerator®   | AX125-STD              | 608       | 229 | 837            | 2     |

## 8. Resolved Issues [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The following table lists all the resolved issues for the various Core16550 releases.

**Table 8-1.** Resolved Issues

| Version | Changes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| v3.4    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Core16550 uses System Verilog Keyword “break” as register name which was causing syntax error issue. This has been fixed by replacing the keyword with another name.</li><li>• Added PolarFire® family support</li></ul> |

## 9. Revision History [\(Ask a Question\)](#)

The revision history describes the changes that were implemented in the document. The changes are listed by revision, starting with the most current publication.

| Revision | Date    | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A        | 12/2024 | <p>The following is the list of changes in revision A of the document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This document is migrated to Microchip standards.</li> <li>The document number is changed to "DS50003798" from "UG0110".</li> <li>Added PolarFire<sup>®</sup>, PolarFire Soc, and RT PolarFire to the <a href="#">Introduction</a> and <a href="#">Device Utilization and Performance</a>.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 4.0      | 02/2015 | Added "IGLOO2" and "RTG4" to the <a href="#">Introduction</a> and to <a href="#">Table 2</a> in the <a href="#">Device Utilization and Performance</a> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3.0      | 12/2012 | Added "SmartFusion2" to the <a href="#">Introduction</a> and to <a href="#">Table 2</a> in the <a href="#">Device Utilization and Performance</a> (SAR 43254).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 2.0      | 04/2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added "SmartFusion" to the <a href="#">Introduction</a> and to <a href="#">Table 2</a> in the <a href="#">Device Utilization and Performance</a> (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Added "AGLE600V2" to <a href="#">Table 2</a> in the <a href="#">Device Utilization and Performance</a>, as also modified the "Cell or Tiles" values for SmartFusion (SAR 11944).</li> <li>Updated Default (reset) Value for IIR and FCR in <a href="#">Table 1-1</a>, Core16550 Register Summary (SAR 37805).</li> <li>Updated FCR[3] definition in <a href="#">Table 1-4</a> (SAR 22657).</li> <li>Updated Default State for 7..6 Bit definition in <a href="#">Table 1-8</a> (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Replaced <a href="#">Figure 2-1</a> with a new image (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Deleted the "Evaluation" section and modified the <a href="#">Obfuscated</a> section (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Added references to Libero SoC, and the <a href="#">SmartDesign</a> and <a href="#">Simulation Flows</a> sections (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Removed all references to CoreConsole and Libero IDE, deleted the "CoreConsole" and "Importing into Libero IDE" sections (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Renamed the Place-and-Route in Libero IDE section to <a href="#">Place-and-Route in Libero SoC</a> (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Added "SmartFusion" Core Parameter (SAR 36238).</li> <li>Deleted the "Verification Testbench" section (SAR 37805). Evaluation license/RTL no longer relevant as Obfuscated licenses are available free.</li> </ul> |
| 1.0      | 01/2008 | The <a href="#">Introduction</a> was added in v2.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

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