

# Programming Flash Devices

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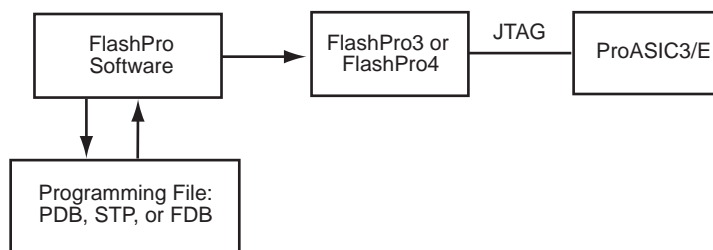
## Introduction

This document provides an overview of the various programming options available for the Microsemi flash families. The electronic version of this document includes active links to all programming resources, which are available at <http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/default.aspx>. For Microsemi antifuse devices, refer to the *Programming Antifuse Devices* document.

## Summary of Programming Support

FlashPro4 and FlashPro3 are high-performance in-system programming (ISP) tools targeted at the latest generation of low power flash devices offered by the SmartFusion,<sup>®</sup> Fusion,<sup>®</sup> IGLOO,<sup>®</sup> and ProASIC<sup>®</sup>3 families, including ARM-enabled devices. FlashPro4 and FlashPro3 offer extremely high performance through the use of USB 2.0, are high-speed compliant for full use of the 480 Mbps bandwidth, and can program ProASIC3 devices in under 30 seconds. Powered exclusively via USB, FlashPro4 and FlashPro3 provide a VPUMP voltage of 3.3 V for programming these devices.

FlashPro4 replaced FlashPro3 in 2010. FlashPro4 supports SmartFusion, Fusion, ProASIC3, and IGLOO devices as well as future generation flash devices. FlashPro4 also adds 1.2 V programming for IGLOO nano V2 devices. FlashPro4 is compatible with FlashPro3; however it adds a programming mode (PROG\_MODE) signal to the previously unused pin 4 of the JTAG connector. The PROG\_MODE goes high during programming and can be used to turn on a 1.5 V external supply for those devices that require 1.5 V for programming. If both FlashPro3 and FlashPro4 programmers are used for programming the same boards, pin 4 of the JTAG connector must not be connected to anything on the board because FlashPro4 uses pin 4 for PROG\_MODE.



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**Figure 1 • FlashPro Programming Setup**

## Programming Support in Flash Devices

The flash FPGAs listed in [Table 1](#) support flash in-system programming and the functions described in this document.

**Table 1 • Flash-Based FPGAs**

Series	Family*	Description
IGLOO	<a href="#">IGLOO</a>	Ultra-low power 1.2 V to 1.5 V FPGAs with Flash*Freeze technology
	<a href="#">IGLOOe</a>	Higher density IGLOO FPGAs with six PLLs and additional I/O standards
	<a href="#">IGLOO nano</a>	The industry's lowest-power, smallest-size solution, supporting 1.2 V to 1.5 V core voltage with Flash*Freeze technology
	<a href="#">IGLOO PLUS</a>	IGLOO FPGAs with enhanced I/O capabilities
ProASIC3	<a href="#">ProASIC3</a>	Low power, high-performance 1.5 V FPGAs
	<a href="#">ProASIC3E</a>	Higher density ProASIC3 FPGAs with six PLLs and additional I/O standards
	<a href="#">ProASIC3 nano</a>	Lowest-cost solution with enhanced I/O capabilities
	<a href="#">ProASIC3L</a>	ProASIC3 FPGAs supporting 1.2 V to 1.5 V core voltage with Flash*Freeze technology
	<a href="#">RT ProASIC3</a>	Radiation-tolerant RT3PE600L and RT3PE3000L
	<a href="#">Military ProASIC3/EL</a>	Military temperature A3PE600L, A3P1000, and A3PE3000L
	<a href="#">Automotive ProASIC3</a>	ProASIC3 FPGAs qualified for automotive applications
SmartFusion	<a href="#">SmartFusion</a>	Mixed-signal FPGA integrating FPGA fabric, programmable microcontroller subsystem (MSS), including programmable analog and ARM® Cortex™-M3 hard processor and flash memory in a monolithic device
Fusion	<a href="#">Fusion</a>	Mixed signal FPGA integrating ProASIC3 FPGA fabric, programmable analog block, support for ARM® Cortex™-M1 soft processors, and flash memory into a monolithic device
ProASIC	<a href="#">ProASIC</a>	First generation ProASIC devices
	<a href="#">ProASIC<sup>PLUS</sup></a>	Second generation ProASIC devices

**Note:** \*The device names link to the appropriate datasheet, including product brief, DC and switching characteristics, and packaging information.

### IGLOO Terminology

In documentation, the terms IGLOO series and IGLOO devices refer to all of the IGLOO devices as listed in [Table 1](#). Where the information applies to only one product line or limited devices, these exclusions will be explicitly stated.

### ProASIC3 Terminology

In documentation, the terms ProASIC3 series and ProASIC3 devices refer to all of the ProASIC3 devices as listed in [Table 1](#). Where the information applies to only one product line or limited devices, these exclusions will be explicitly stated.

To further understand the differences between the IGLOO and ProASIC3 devices, refer to the [Industry's Lowest Power FPGAs Portfolio](#).

# General Flash Programming Information

## Programming Basics

When choosing a programming solution, there are a number of options available. This section provides a brief overview of those options. The next sections provide more detail on those options as they apply to Microsemi FPGAs.

### ***Reprogrammable or One-Time-Programmable (OTP)***

Depending on the technology chosen, devices may be reprogrammable or one-time-programmable. As the name implies, a reprogrammable device can be programmed many times. Generally, the contents of such a device will be completely overwritten when it is reprogrammed. All Microsemi flash devices are reprogrammable.

An OTP device is programmable one time only. Once programmed, no more changes can be made to the contents. Microsemi flash devices provide the option of disabling the reprogrammability for security purposes. This combines the convenience of reprogrammability during design verification with the security of an OTP technology for highly sensitive designs.

### ***Device Programmer or In-System Programming***

There are two fundamental ways to program an FPGA: using a device programmer or, if the technology permits, using in-system programming. A device programmer is a piece of equipment in a lab or on the production floor that is used for programming FPGA devices. The devices are placed into a socket mounted in a programming adapter module, and the appropriate electrical interface is applied. The programmed device can then be placed on the board. A typical programmer, used during development, programs a single device at a time and is referred to as a single-site engineering programmer.

With ISP, the device is already mounted onto the system printed circuit board when programming occurs. Typically, ISP programming is performed via a JTAG interface on the FPGA. The JTAG pins can be controlled either by an on-board resource, such as a microprocessor, or by an off-board programmer through a header connection. Once mounted, it can be programmed repeatedly and erased. If the application requires it, the system can be designed to reprogram itself using a microprocessor, without the use of any external programmer.

If multiple devices need to be programmed with the same program, various multi-site programming hardware is available in order to program many devices in parallel. Microsemi In House Programming is also available for this purpose.

## Programming Features for Microsemi Devices

### ***Flash Devices***

The flash devices supplied by Microsemi are reprogrammable by either a generic device programmer or ISP. Microsemi supports ISP using JTAG, which is supported by the FlashPro4 and FlashPro3, FlashPro Lite, Silicon Sculptor 3, and Silicon Sculptor II programmers.

Levels of ISP support vary depending on the device chosen:

- All SmartFusion, Fusion, IGLOO, and ProASIC3 devices support ISP.
- IGLOO, IGLOOe, IGLOO nano V5, and IGLOO PLUS devices can be programmed in-system when the device is using a 1.5 V supply voltage to the FPGA core.
- IGLOO nano V2 devices can be programmed at 1.2 V core voltage (when using FlashPro4 only) or 1.5 V. IGLOO nano V5 devices are programmed with a VCC core voltage of 1.5 V.

## Types of Programming for Flash Devices

The number of devices to be programmed will influence the optimal programming methodology. Those available are listed below:

- In-system programming
  - Using a programmer
  - Using a microprocessor or microcontroller
- Device programmers
  - Single-site programmers
  - Multi-site programmers, batch programmers, or gang programmers
  - Automated production (robotic) programmers
- Volume programming services
  - Microsemi in-house programming
  - Programming centers

### ***In-System Programming***

#### **Device Type Supported: Flash**

ISP refers to programming the FPGA after it has been mounted on the system printed circuit board. The FPGA may be preprogrammed and later reprogrammed using ISP.

The advantage of using ISP is the ability to update the FPGA design many times without any changes to the board. This eliminates the requirement of using a socket for the FPGA, saving cost and improving reliability. It also reduces programming hardware expenses, as the ISP methodology is die-/package-independent.

There are two methods of in-system programming: external and internal.

- Programmer ISP—Refer to the ["In-System Programming \(ISP\) of Microsemi's Low Power Flash Devices Using FlashPro4/3/3X"](#) section on page 295 for more information.

Using an external programmer and a cable, the device can be programmed through a header on the system board. In Microsemi SoC Products Group documentation, this is referred to as external ISP. Microsemi provides FlashPro4, FlashPro3, FlashPro Lite, or Silicon Sculptor 3 to perform external ISP. Note that Silicon Sculptor II and Silicon Sculptor 3 can only provide ISP for ProASIC and ProASIC<sup>PLUS</sup>® families, not for SmartFusion, Fusion, IGLOO, or ProASIC3. Silicon Sculptor II and Silicon Sculptor 3 can be used for programming ProASIC and ProASIC<sup>PLUS</sup> devices by using an adapter module (part number SMPA-ISP-ACTEL-3).

  - Advantages: Allows local control of programming and data files for maximum security. The programming algorithms and hardware are available from Microsemi. The only hardware required on the board is a programming header.
  - Limitations: A negligible board space requirement for the programming header and JTAG signal routing
- Microprocessor ISP—Refer to the "Microprocessor Programming of Microsemi's Low Power Flash Devices" chapter of an appropriate FPGA fabric user's guide for more information.

Using a microprocessor and an external or internal memory, you can store the program in memory and use the microprocessor to perform the programming. In Microsemi documentation, this is referred to as internal ISP. Both the code for the programming algorithm and the FPGA programming file must be stored in memory on the board. Programming voltages must also be generated on the board.

  - Advantages: The programming code is stored in the system memory. An external programmer is not required during programming.
  - Limitations: This is the approach that requires the most design work, since some way of getting and/or storing the data is needed; a system interface to the device must be designed; and the low-level API to the programming firmware must be written and linked into the code provided by Microsemi. While there are benefits to this methodology, serious thought and planning should go into the decision.

## **Device Programmers**

### **Single Device Programmer**

Single device programmers are used to program a device before it is mounted on the system board.

The advantage of using device programmers is that no programming hardware is required on the system board. Therefore, no additional components or board space are required.

Adapter modules are purchased with single device programmers to support the FPGA packages used. The FPGA is placed in the adapter module and the programming software is run from a PC. Microsemi supplies the programming software for all of the Microsemi programmers. The software allows for the selection of the correct die/package and programming files. It will then program and verify the device.

- **Single-site programmers**

A single-site programmer programs one device at a time. Microsemi offers Silicon Sculptor 3, built by BP Microsystems, as a single-site programmer. Silicon Sculptor 3 and associated software are available only from Microsemi.

- **Advantages:** Lower cost than multi-site programmers. No additional overhead for programming on the system board. Allows local control of programming and data files for maximum security. Allows on-demand programming on-site.
- **Limitations:** Only programs one device at a time.

- **Multi-site programmers**

Often referred to as batch or gang programmers, multi-site programmers can program multiple devices at the same time using the same programming file. This is often used for large volume programming and by programming houses. The sites often have independent processors and memory enabling the sites to operate concurrently, meaning each site may start programming the same file independently. This enables the operator to change one device while the other sites continue programming, which increases throughput. Multiple adapter modules for the same package are required when using a multi-site programmer. Silicon Sculptor I, II, and 3 programmers can be cascaded to program multiple devices in a chain. Multi-site programmers, such as the BP2610 and BP2710, can also be purchased from BP Microsystems. When using BP Microsystems multi-site programmers, users must use programming adapter modules available only from Microsemi. Visit the Microsemi SoC Products Group website to view the part numbers of the desired adapter module:

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program\\_debug/ss/modules.aspx](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program_debug/ss/modules.aspx).

Also when using BP Microsystems programmers, customers must use Microsemi programming software to ensure the best programming result will occur.

- **Advantages:** Provides the capability of programming multiple devices at the same time. No additional overhead for programming on the system board. Allows local control of programming and data files for maximum security.
- **Limitations:** More expensive than a single-site programmer

- **Automated production (robotic) programmers**

Automated production programmers are based on multi-site programmers. They consist of a large input tray holding multiple parts and a robotic arm to select and place parts into appropriate programming sockets automatically. When the programming of the parts is complete, the parts are removed and placed in a finished tray. The automated programmers are often used in volume programming houses to program parts for which the programming time is small. BP Microsystems part number BP4710, BP4610, BP3710 MK2, and BP3610 are available for this purpose. Auto programmers cannot be used to program RTAX-S devices.

Where an auto-programmer is used, the appropriate open-top adapter module from BP Microsystems must be used.

## Volume Programming Services

### Device Type Supported: Flash and Antifuse

Once the design is stable for applications with large production volumes, preprogrammed devices can be purchased. [Table 2](#) describes the volume programming services.

**Table 2 • Volume Programming Services**

Programmer	Vendor	Availability
In-House Programming	Microsemi	Contact Microsemi Sales
Distributor Programming Centers	Memec Unique	Contact Distribution
Independent Programming Centers	Various	Contact Vendor

**Advantages:** As programming is outsourced, this solution is easier to implement than creating a substantial in-house programming capability. As programming houses specialize in large-volume programming, this is often the most cost-effective solution.

**Limitations:** There are some logistical issues with the use of a programming service provider, such as the transfer of programming files and the approval of First Articles. By definition, the programming file must be released to a third-party programming house. Nondisclosure agreements (NDAs) can be signed to help ensure data protection; however, for extremely security-conscious designs, this may not be an option.

- **Microsemi In-House Programming**

When purchasing Microsemi devices in volume, IHP can be requested as part of the purchase. If this option is chosen, there is a small cost adder for each device programmed. Each device is marked with a special mark to distinguish it from blank parts. Programming files for the design will be sent to Microsemi. Sample parts with the design programmed, First Articles, will be returned for customer approval. Once approval of First Articles has been received, Microsemi will proceed with programming the remainder of the order. To request Microsemi IHP, contact your local Microsemi representative.

- **Distributor Programming Centers**

If purchases are made through a distributor, many distributors will provide programming for their customers. Consult with your preferred distributor about this option.

## Programming Solutions

Details for the available programmers can be found in the programmer user's guides listed in the "Related Documents" section on page 11.

All the programmers except FlashPro4, FlashPro3, FlashPro Lite, and FlashPro require adapter modules, which are designed to support device packages. All modules are listed on the Microsemi SoC Products Group website at

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program\\_debug/ss/modules.aspx](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program_debug/ss/modules.aspx). They are not listed in this document, since this list is updated frequently with new package options and any upgrades required to improve programming yield or support new families.

**Table 3 • Programming Solutions**

Programmer	Vendor	ISP	Single Device	Multi-Device	Availability
FlashPro4	Microsemi	Only	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Available
FlashPro3	Microsemi	Only	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Available
FlashPro Lite <sup>2</sup>	Microsemi	Only	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Available
FlashPro	Microsemi	Only	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Discontinued
Silicon Sculptor 3	Microsemi	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Cascade option (up to two)	Available
Silicon Sculptor II	Microsemi	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Cascade option (up to two)	Available
Silicon Sculptor	Microsemi	Yes	Yes	Cascade option (up to four)	Discontinued
Sculptor 6X	Microsemi	No	Yes	Yes	Discontinued
BP MicroProgrammers	BP Microsystems	No	Yes	Yes	Contact BP Microsystems at <a href="http://www.bpmicro.com">www.bpmicro.com</a>

**Notes:**

1. Multiple devices can be connected in the same JTAG chain for programming.
2. If FlashPro Lite is used for programming, the programmer derives all of its power from the target pc board's VDD supply. The FlashPro Lite's VPP and VPN power supplies use the target pc board's VDD as a power source. The target pc board must supply power to both the VDDP and VDD power pins of the ProASIC<sup>PLUS</sup> device in addition to supplying VDD to the FlashPro Lite. The target pc board needs to provide at least 500 mA of current to the FlashPro Lite VDD connection for programming.
3. Silicon Sculptor II and Silicon Sculptor 3 can only provide ISP for ProASIC and ProASIC<sup>PLUS</sup> families, not for Fusion, IGLOO, or ProASIC3 devices.

## Programmer Ordering Codes

The products shown in Table 4 can be ordered through Microsemi sales and will be shipped directly from Microsemi. Products can also be ordered from Microsemi distributors, but will still be shipped directly from Microsemi. Table 4 includes ordering codes for the full kit, as well as codes for replacement items and any related hardware. Some additional products can be purchased from external suppliers for use with the programmers. Ordering codes for adapter modules used with Silicon Sculptor are available at [http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program\\_debug/ss/modules.aspx](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program_debug/ss/modules.aspx).

**Table 4 • Programming Ordering Codes**

Description	Vendor	Ordering Code	Comment
FlashPro4 ISP programmer	Microsemi	FLASHPRO 4	Uses a 2x5, RA male header connector
FlashPro Lite ISP programmer	Microsemi	FLASHPRO LITE	Supports small programming header or large header through header converter (not included)
Silicon Sculptor 3	Microsemi	SILICON-SCULPTOR 3	USB 2.0 high-speed production programmer
Silicon Sculptor II	Microsemi	SILICON-SCULPTOR II	Requires add-on adapter modules to support devices
Silicon Sculptor ISP module	Microsemi	SMPA-ISP-ACTEL-3-KIT	Ships with both large and small header support
ISP cable for small header	Microsemi	ISP-CABLE-S	Supplied with SMPA-ISP-ACTEL-3-KIT
ISP cable for large header	Microsemi	PA-ISP-CABLE	Supplied with SMPA-ISP-ACTEL-3-KIT

## Programmer Device Support

Refer to [www.microsemi.com/soc](http://www.microsemi.com/soc) for the current information on programmer and device support.

## Certified Programming Solutions

The Microsemi-certified programmers for flash devices are FlashPro4, FlashPro3, FlashPro Lite, FlashPro, Silicon Sculptor II, Silicon Sculptor 3, and any programmer that is built by BP Microsystems. All other programmers are considered noncertified programmers.

- FlashPro4, FlashPro3, FlashPro Lite, FlashPro

The Microsemi family of FlashPro device programmers provides in-system programming in an easy-to-use, compact system that supports all flash families. Whether programming a board containing a single device or multiple devices connected in a chain, the Microsemi line of FlashPro programmers enables fast programming and reprogramming. Programming with the FlashPro series of programmers saves board space and money as it eliminates the need for sockets on the board. There are no built-in algorithms, so there is no delay between product release and programming support. The FlashPro programmer is no longer available.

- Silicon Sculptor 3, Silicon Sculptor II

Silicon Sculptor 3 and Silicon Sculptor II are robust, compact, single-device programmers with standalone software for the PC. They are designed to enable concurrent programming of multiple units from the same PC with speeds equivalent to or faster than previous Microsemi programmers.

- Noncertified Programmers

Microsemi does not test programming solutions from other vendors, and DOES NOT guarantee programming yield. Also, Microsemi will not perform any failure analysis on devices programmed on non-certified programmers. Please refer to the [Programming and Functional Failure Guidelines](#) document for more information.



- Programming Centers  
Microsemi programming hardware policy also applies to programming centers. Microsemi expects all programming centers to use certified programmers to program Microsemi devices. If a programming center uses noncertified programmers to program Microsemi devices, the "Noncertified Programmers" policy applies.

## Important Programming Guidelines

### Preprogramming Setup

Before programming, several steps are required to ensure an optimal programming yield.

#### ***Use Proper Handling and Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) Precautions***

Microsemi FPGAs are sensitive electronic devices that are susceptible to damage from ESD and other types of mishandling. For more information about ESD, refer to the [Quality and Reliability Guide](#), beginning with page 41.

#### ***Use the Latest Version of the Designer Software to Generate Your Programming File (recommended)***

The files used to program Microsemi flash devices (\*.bit, \*.stp, \*.pdb) contain important information about the switches that will be programmed in the FPGA. Find the latest version and corresponding release notes at <http://www.microsemi.com/soc/download/software/designer/>. Also, programming files must always be zipped during file transfer to avoid the possibility of file corruption.

#### ***Use the Latest Version of the Programming Software***

The programming software is frequently updated to accommodate yield enhancements in FPGA manufacturing. These updates ensure maximum programming yield and minimum programming times. Before programming, always check the version of software being used to ensure it is the most recent. Depending on the programming software, refer to one of the following:

- FlashPro: [http://www.microsemi.com/soc/download/program\\_debug/flashpro/](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/download/program_debug/flashpro/)
- Silicon Sculptor: [http://www.microsemi.com/soc/download/program\\_debug/ss/](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/download/program_debug/ss/)

#### ***Use the Most Recent Adapter Module with Silicon Sculptor***

Occasionally, Microsemi makes modifications to the adapter modules to improve programming yields and programming times. To identify the latest version of each module before programming, visit [http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program\\_debug/ss/modules.aspx](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program_debug/ss/modules.aspx).

#### ***Perform Routine Hardware Self-Diagnostic Test***

- Adapter modules must be regularly cleaned. Adapter modules need to be inserted carefully into the programmer to make sure the DIN connectors (pins at the back side) are not damaged.
- FlashPro

The self-test is only applicable when programming with FlashPro and FlashPro3 programmers. It is not supported with FlashPro4 or FlashPro Lite. To run the self-diagnostic test, follow the instructions given in the "Performing a Self-Test" section of [http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/FlashPro\\_UG.pdf](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/FlashPro_UG.pdf).

- Silicon Sculptor

The self-diagnostic test verifies correct operation of the pin drivers, power supply, CPU, memory, and adapter module. This test should be performed with an adapter module installed and before every programming session. At minimum, the test must be executed every week. To perform self-diagnostic testing using the Silicon Sculptor software, perform the following steps, depending on the operating system:

- DOS: From anywhere in the software, type **ALT + D**.
- Windows: Click **Device** > choose **Actel Diagnostic** > select the **Test** tab > click **OK**.

Silicon Sculptor programmers must be verified annually for calibration. Refer to the [Silicon Sculptor Verification of Calibration Work Instruction](#) document on the website.

## **Signal Integrity While Using ISP**

For ISP of flash devices, customers are expected to follow the board-level guidelines provided on the Microsemi SoC Products Group website. These guidelines are discussed in the datasheets and application notes (refer to the “Related Documents” section of the datasheet for application note links). Customers are also expected to troubleshoot board-level signal integrity issues by measuring voltages and taking oscilloscope plots.

## **Programming Failure Allowances**

Microsemi has strict policies regarding programming failure allowances. Please refer to [Programming and Functional Failure Guidelines](#) on the Microsemi SoC Products Group website for details.

## **Contacting the Customer Support Group**

Highly skilled engineers staff the Customer Applications Center from 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Pacific time, Monday through Friday. You can contact the center by one of the following methods:

### **Electronic Mail**

You can communicate your technical questions to our email address and receive answers back by email, fax, or phone. Also, if you have design problems, you can email your design files to receive assistance. Microsemi monitors the email account throughout the day. When sending your request to us, please be sure to include your full name, company name, and contact information for efficient processing of your request. The technical support email address is [soc\\_tech@microsemi.com](mailto:soc_tech@microsemi.com).

### **Telephone**

Our Technical Support Hotline answers all calls. The center retrieves information, such as your name, company name, telephone number, and question. Once this is done, a case number is assigned. Then the center forwards the information to a queue where the first available applications engineer receives the data and returns your call. The phone hours are from 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Pacific time, Monday through Friday.

The Customer Applications Center number is (800) 262-1060.

European customers can call +44 (0) 1256 305 600.

## Related Documents

Below is a list of related documents, their location on the Microsemi SoC Products Group website, and a brief summary of each document.

### Application Notes

*Programming Antifuse Devices*

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/AntifuseProgram\\_AN.pdf](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/AntifuseProgram_AN.pdf)

*Implementation of Security in Actel's ProASIC and ProASIC<sup>PLUS</sup> Flash-Based FPGAs*

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/Flash\\_Security\\_AN.pdf](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/Flash_Security_AN.pdf)

### User's Guides

#### **FlashPro Programmers**

FlashPro4,<sup>1</sup> FlashPro3, FlashPro Lite, and FlashPro<sup>2</sup>

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program\\_debug/flashpro/default.aspx](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program_debug/flashpro/default.aspx)

*FlashPro User's Guide*

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/FlashPro\\_UG.pdf](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/FlashPro_UG.pdf)

The FlashPro User's Guide includes hardware and software setup, self-test instructions, use instructions, and a troubleshooting / error message guide.

#### **Silicon Sculptor 3 and Silicon Sculptor II**

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program\\_debug/ss/default.aspx](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/hardware/program_debug/ss/default.aspx)

### Other Documents

<http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/solutions/security/default.aspx#flashlock>

The security resource center describes security in Microsemi Flash FPGAs.

*Quality and Reliability Guide*

<http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/RelGuide.pdf>

*Programming and Functional Failure Guidelines*

[http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/FA\\_Policies\\_Guidelines\\_5-06-00002.pdf](http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/FA_Policies_Guidelines_5-06-00002.pdf)

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1. FlashPro4 replaced FlashPro3 in Q1 2010.  
2. FlashPro is no longer available.

## List of Changes

The following table lists critical changes that were made in each revision of the chapter.

Date	Changes	Page
July 2010	FlashPro4 is a replacement for FlashPro3 and has been added to this chapter. FlashPro is no longer available.	N/A
	The chapter was updated to include SmartFusion devices.	N/A
	The following were deleted: "Live at Power-Up (LAPU) or Boot PROM" section "Design Security" section Table 14-2 • Programming Features for Actel Devices and much of the text in the "Programming Features for Microsemi Devices" section "Programming Flash FPGAs" section "Return Material Authorization (RMA) Policies" section	N/A
	The "Device Programmers" section was revised.	5
	The Independent Programming Centers information was removed from the "Volume Programming Services" section.	6
	Table 3 • Programming Solutions was revised to add FlashPro4 and note that FlashPro is discontinued. A note was added for FlashPro Lite regarding power supply requirements.	7
	Most items were removed from Table 4 • Programming Ordering Codes, including FlashPro3 and FlashPro.	8
	The "Programmer Device Support" section was deleted and replaced with a reference to the Microsemi SoC Products Group website for the latest information.	8
	The "Certified Programming Solutions" section was revised to add FlashPro4 and remove Silicon Sculptor I and Silicon Sculptor 6X. Reference to <i>Programming and Functional Failure Guidelines</i> was added.	8
	The file type *.pdb was added to the "Use the Latest Version of the Designer Software to Generate Your Programming File (recommended)" section.	9
	Instructions on cleaning and careful insertion were added to the "Perform Routine Hardware Self-Diagnostic Test" section. Information was added regarding testing Silicon Sculptor programmers with an adapter module installed before every programming session verifying their calibration annually.	9
	The "Signal Integrity While Using ISP" section is new.	10
	The "Programming Failure Allowances" section was revised.	10

Date	Changes	Page
v1.3 (December 2008)	The " <a href="#">Programming Support in Flash Devices</a> " section was updated to include IGLOO nano and ProASIC3 nano devices.	<a href="#">2</a>
	The " <a href="#">Flash Devices</a> " section was updated to include information for IGLOO nano devices. The following sentence was added: IGLOO PLUS devices can also be operated at any voltage between 1.2 V and 1.5 V; the Designer software allows 50 mV increments in the voltage.	<a href="#">3</a>
	<a href="#">Table 4 · Programming Ordering Codes</a> was updated to replace FP3-26PIN-ADAPTER with FP3-10PIN-ADAPTER-KIT.	<a href="#">8</a>
	<a href="#">Table 14-6 · Programmer Device Support</a> was updated to add IGLOO nano and ProASIC3 nano devices. AGL400 was added to the IGLOO portion of the table.	<a href="#">317</a>
v1.2 (October 2008)	The " <a href="#">Programming Support in Flash Devices</a> " section was revised to include new families and make the information more concise.	<a href="#">2</a>
	<a href="#">Figure 1 · FlashPro Programming Setup</a> and the " <a href="#">Programming Support in Flash Devices</a> " section are new.	<a href="#">1, 2</a>
	<a href="#">Table 14-6 · Programmer Device Support</a> was updated to include A3PE600L with the other ProASIC3L devices, and the RT ProASIC3 family was added.	<a href="#">317</a>
v1.1 (March 2008)	The " <a href="#">Flash Devices</a> " section was updated to include the IGLOO PLUS family. The text, "Voltage switching is required in-system to switch from a 1.2 V core to 1.5 V core for programming," was revised to state, "Although the device can operate at 1.2 V core voltage, the device can only be reprogrammed when the core voltage is 1.5 V. Voltage switching is required in-system to switch from a 1.2 V supply ( $V_{CC}$ , $V_{CCI}$ , and $V_{JTAG}$ ) to 1.5 V for programming."	<a href="#">3</a>
	The ProASIC3L family was added to <a href="#">Table 14-6 · Programmer Device Support</a> as a separate set of rows rather than combined with ProASIC3 and ProASIC3E devices. The IGLOO PLUS family was included, and AGL015 and A3P015 were added.	<a href="#">317</a>



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