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### Xilinx links with Irish researchers

Tuesday, April 10 2007

by [Maxim Kelly](#)

*Programmable chip maker Xilinx has teamed up with researchers from Trinity College's Centre for Telecommunications Value Chain Research (CTVR) in Dublin.*

The US multinational, which employs more around 450 staff at its European headquarters in Dublin, said work had already begun on a "significant project" at the CTVR which it would support financially and contribute its own in-house research expertise to.

The research will concentrate on adaptive radio technology for mobile phones. Adaptive radio is a wide area but the CTVR is understood to be interested in exploring technologies designed to enable a mobile phone to 'intelligently' alter its radio frequency system to work on any country's cellular phone network.

At the moment, handsets that work on one mobile network standard have to be manually reprogrammed to function on networks in other countries. CTVR aims to produce the software that will allow a mobile phone to reconfigure itself automatically to each network, while Xilinx is looking at the hardware side in terms of reprogrammed logic chips that can implement this software when embedded into mobile handsets.

The CTVR was established to facilitate advanced research in Irish third-level institutions into technologies expected to underpin the networking and telecommunications industries of the future. It is supported by Science Foundation Ireland and by the private sector. Lucent Bell Labs was the first major industry partner; Xilinx now becomes the second.

"We are delighted to welcome an acknowledged industry leader such as Xilinx on board," said CTVR director Professor Donal O'Mahony. "That Xilinx has shown such faith in us is testament to the quality of talent available in Irish third-level research institutions and a vindication of the mission of CTVR to be a centre for the development of commercially significant products derived from world-class advanced research."

"This is a unique opportunity for Xilinx to participate in a consortium of relevant industry and academic partners," added Dr. Robert Esser, director of Xilinx Labs in Ireland. "We have already established our own research laboratory at our Irish facility in Dublin and this programme is a great fit for us."

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Xilinx opened its own research lab at its European facility in Dublin in 2005. Supported by IDA Ireland, the EUR7.5 million research centre was set up to concentrate on emerging network architecture.

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