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US007856545B2

(12) United States Patent Casselman

(54) FPGA CO-PROCESSOR FOR ACCELERATED COMPUTATION

- (75) Inventor: Steven Casselman, Sunnyvale, CA (US)
- (73) Assignee: **DRC Computer Corporation**, Sunnyvale, CA (US)
- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 727 days.
- (21) Appl. No.: 11/829,801
- (22) Filed: Jul. 27, 2007

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2008/0028186 A1 Jan. 31, 2008

Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Provisional application No. 60/820,730, filed on Jul. 28, 2006.
- (51) Int. Cl. *G06F 15/00* (2006.01) *G06F 15/76* (2006.01)

(52)	U.S. Cl.	712/34
(58)	Field of Classification Search	712/34

See application file for complete search history.

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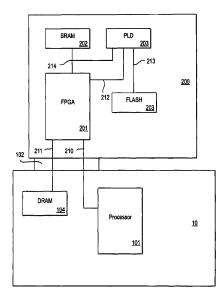
Primary Examiner—Eddie P Chan Assistant Examiner—Corey Faherty (74) Attempt Agent on Firm The Wakested F

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm-The Webostad Firm

(57) ABSTRACT

A co-processor module for accelerating computational performance includes a Field Programmable Gate Array ("FPGA") and a Programmable Logic Device ("PLD") coupled to the FPGA and configured to control start-up configuration of the FPGA. A non-volatile memory is coupled to the PLD and configured to store a start-up bitstream for the start-up configuration of the FPGA. A mechanical and electrical interface is for being plugged into a microprocessor socket of a motherboard for direct communication with at least one microprocessor capable of being coupled to the motherboard. After completion of a start-up cycle, the FPGA is configured for direct communication with the at least one microprocessor via a microprocessor bus to which the microprocessor socket is coupled.

14 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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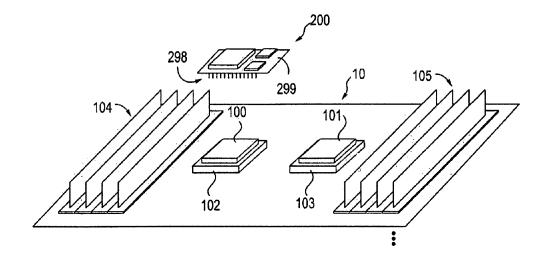
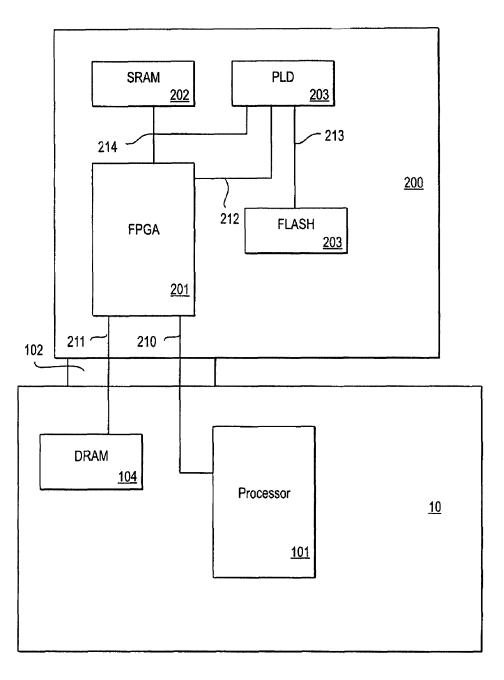


FIG. 1

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