

**SPEECH BY PROFESSOR YEO KIAT SENG, INTERIM DIRECTOR, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY AT THE LAUNCH OF THE IC DESIGN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (VIRTUS), ON 15 DEC 2009.**

1. Guest-of-Honour, Mr Damian Chan, Director of Electronics, Singapore Economic Development Board, distinguished guests and speakers, symposium delegates, fellow colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Singapore, to ISIC-2009. For friends who are not familiar with Singapore, we are a city-state located at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula. It has a population of 5 million and possesses many of the attributes of the world's great tourism capitals - an excellent transport and communications infrastructure, a safe and visitor-friendly environment and great shopping, dining and lifestyle experiences.
2. Allow me to share some information about this conference. ISIC dates back to 1985 and is now recognized as one of the major international conferences in the highly important field of theory, design, and implementation of integrated circuits & systems. ISIC-2009 is organized by Nanyang Technological University and IEEE Singapore Section. It is supported by the IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society Singapore Chapter, Singapore Exhibition & Convention Bureau and Singapore's Semiconductor Community (M.I.D.A.S.). Its theme, "Green Integrated Circuits & Systems", will be highlighted today by two keynote addresses given by distinguished speakers, Professor Bram Nauta from the Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Twente, the Netherlands and Mr. Frank P. Averdung, Chief Executive Officer, SUSS MicroTec AG, Germany. I am confident that the two-day programme including 14 Special Sessions, 16 Regular Oral Sessions, and 2 Poster Sessions in all topics concerning IC design, technologies and applications will provide exciting opportunities for us to share and discuss new ideas, results and challenges.

3. Today is also a special occasion for us to witness the launch of the new IC design centre of excellence which is jointly funded by Nanyang Technological University and Singapore Economic Development Board. With a total funding of S\$50 million, the new centre look forward to become a global IC design power hub for creative and innovative excellence.
4. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Organizing Committee for their hard work, our sponsors, all distinguished keynote, tutorial speakers and participants for their continuing support to ISIC, and to the Secretariat of this event for doing a great job.
5. I wish all delegates a stimulating and fruitful time at the Symposium, and an enjoyable stay in Singapore.