Notice: Windows 2000 EOL Customer Communication - March 28, 2006

Dear Cadence Customer:

Each computer hardware manufacturer offers multiple hardware architectures and levels of operating systems. New versions of the operating systems are released periodically. Cadence must adjust its support policies to keep up with this natural progression to be synchronized with the workstations and servers our customers are using.

To that end, Cadence will end support for the Windows 2000 OS and Windows XP Professional will become the baseline Windows OS for new Cadence releases beginning January 1, 2007.

Existing Windows 2000 releases and releases up to Dec 31, 2006 will not be affected by this change for the lifecycle of the releases. We will continue to provide you with all scheduled update releases and the same level of software maintenance you have today. However, no new product enhancements (beyond bug fixes) will be released on Windows 2000 after January 1, 2007.

Cadence is committed to continuously enhancing our product quality and customer support and to working with our computing platform partners to ensure that our products run on a variety of UNIX-, Linux-, and Windows-based systems. This change to our Windows support will allow us to take advantage of advances in Microsoft's technology.

We strongly encourage you to move to Windows XP Professional OS as soon as possible. For more information about Cadence products on the Windows platform, please visit our support website at www.cadence.com/support.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss an appropriate transition plan, please contact your Cadence account manager.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Stear
VP, Operations
Cadence Design Systems, Inc.