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# Synopsys chips in for design services

## Richard Ball

Synopsys has formally announced the creation of its Professional Services division, which aims to provide partial or complete chip design.

"With designs becoming much more complex, over the last year and a half Synopsys' customers have said they need help solving the complex design problems," said Scott Houghton, the firm's senior v-p of professional services.

The business unit has over 400 designers in 17 centres, including five in Europe.

"Our focus is on the toughest system-on-chip design problems," said Houghton.

Houghton is confident the division can make money. "We're ensuring that from day one it's profitable and remains profitable," he said.

The firm has already signed a deal with Intel to provide design for its recently announced Asic service.

Meanwhile ARM is ensuring Synopsys' designers can make best use of its cores. "Most of the designs we touch have an ARM core," Houghton pointed out.



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