RISC-V Global Forum 2020 was RISC-V International’s first-ever virtual event. The conference had 863 registered attendees with 719 unique users on the platform, a 83% attendance rate! Feedback from the attendees was positive, with an overall average satisfaction rating of 87%.

Content

The event received 53 submissions with an acceptance rate of 55%. Of the accepted speakers, 88% were from member companies. For keynotes, 75% of speakers were from member companies.

The one-day conference offered attendees 51 sessions, including keynotes, breakout sessions, lightning talks, and ask the expert sessions. From feedback received, attendees gave an average session rating of 4.6 out of 5.

The two session tracks provided were Technical and Industry. The schedule was curated by the conference program committee, compiled of 5 community members for the Technical track and 5 community members for the Industry track. We looked to the conference program committee to create a diverse program that reflected current trends and interests in the industry.

Keynote talks were selected by the RISC-V International planning committee, bringing thought-provoking speakers to the keynote stage. Keynote speakers included Calista Redmond, RISC-V International; Dr. Guangnan Ni, Chinese Academy of Engineering; Stefan Wallentowitz, Munich University of Applied Sciences; Loic Lietar, GreenWaves Technologies SAS; Krste Asanovic, RISC-V International; Jean-Marc Denis, SiPearl; Zvonimir Bandic, Western Digital Corporation; Frans Sijsternman, NVIDIA; Joe Xie, NVIDIA; David Patterson, RISC-V International; Guru Chahal, Lightspeed Venture Partners; and Shahin Khan, OrionX.net.
Diversity & Inclusion

RISC-V Global Forum drew attendees from 42 countries.

For our first virtual event, 11% of attendees were women and gender non-conforming, out of 70% respondents.

Of the keynote speakers, 67% identified as men, and 8% as women or gender non-conforming, with 25% preferring not to answer. For track sessions, 61% of speakers identified as men, and 7% as women or gender non-conforming, out of 68% respondents. Increasing gender diversity and attendance of other underrepresented groups is a priority for RISC-V International moving forward.

RISC-V offered scholarships to 21 diversity applicants.

Networking

Attendees were able to utilize the new RISC-V International Slack workspace to chat about everything from a specific session track to ‘ask the experts’ and connecting to new community members. A total of 484 members joined the workspace the week of the event and over 9,000 messages were sent.

The RISC-V International Slack workspace remains open and will continue to be a resource and networking area for the community.

Social Snapshot

@risc_v CEO @Calista_Redmond is kicking off the RISC-V global forum online with an opening keynote.
PR & Marketing


Pre-event marketing activities included email marketing, media and analyst relations, and social media campaigns.

We were pleased to see several RISC-V International members join the event as sponsors - Western Digital as Platinum; Adacore, CloudBEAR, Huawei, IAR Systems, and OpenHW Group as Gold; Cobham Gaisler, GigaDevice Semiconductor Inc., NSITEXE, and Qualcomm as Silver; and Andes Technology, Futurewei, SiFive, Sparkfun, Tactical Computing Labs, and Yikexin Research Institute as Bronze sponsors. Their commitment to the project and this event speaks volumes about their leadership and stewardship.

Social Stats

The engagement rate on Twitter was 1.1%! Our tweets earned over 70k impressions during the event, which is 23% of the total impressions for the month of September.

Conclusion

Thank you for attending, sponsoring, presenting, and networking via Slack for our first online global event. Planning this event on short notice to replace our in-person workshops was a challenge, but, based on the feedback, a positive experience for those who participated as we brought together the world-wide community.

We didn't know what to expect for attendance and hoped for between 500 and 1,000 attendees. We were ecstatic when registration crossed the 860 mark! With 83% attendance and our diverse attendees, we had active and engaged conversations during the event on our networking platforms and social media.

Technology and education, collaboration with the community, and networking are the backbone of the RISC-V community and the RISC-V Global Forum accomplished all three.

A snapshot of event demographics and survey results are below, in addition to social and media highlights.
Event Demographics

Total Registration: 863
719 (83%) Attendees
42 Countries

36% of attendees came from the United States

Other countries with a sizeable audience at the event include:
- 8% China
- 7% India
- 6% Japan, Spain & Taiwan
- 5% Sweden & UK

177 Companies Participated (27% non-member companies)
566 member codes used (66% of attendees)
2,950 total leads captured at virtual exhibit booths (an average of 115 leads per booth)

Gender Diversity
- 59% Men
- 11% Women & Gender Non-Conforming
- 30% prefer not to answer

21 Diversity Scholarships offered
Attendee Demographics

Attendee Job Function
- Systems/Embedded Developer 20%
- Architect 14%
- Manager - Technical Teams 9%
- Student 9%
- Marketing 7%
- Executive Leader 7%
- Professor/Academic 5%
- Application Developer (Front-end/Back-end/Mobile/Full Stack) 3%
- Manager - Other 3%
- Product/Biz Dev 3%
- Kernel/Operating Systems Developer 2%
- Media/Analyst 2%
- DevOps/SRE/Sysadmin 1%
- Legal/Compliance 1%
- Other 14%

Industry
- Information Technology 57%
- Industrials 15%
- Professional Services 9%
- Non Profit Organization 8%
- Telecommunications 5%
- Consumer Discretionary 1%
- Consumer Staples 1%
- Energy 1%
- Financials 1%
- Health Care 1%
- Materials 1%

Job Level
- Individual Contributor 24%
- Manager 16%
- Academic 14%
- Director 12%
- CXO/ED 7%
- VP/SVP/GM 5%
- Other 22%

Years of IT Experience
- 0–4 Years 23%
- 5–9 Years 14%
- 10+ Years 63%
Resources

Event website
Presentations (Sched)
Videos (YouTube)
Proceedings

Year-Over-Year Comparisons
This comparison will continue to expand as we do events in future years. We look forward to seeing these stats grow.

Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendee</td>
<td>762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Code Used</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sponsorship

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SPONSOR LEVEL</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diamond</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Unique</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Top 10 Rated Sessions

1. **BM-310 Small and Efficient MCU Core**
2. **Stay Ahead with the Latest Advances in RISC-V Development Tools**
3. **Unlocking JavaScript: V8 on RISC-V**
4. **Keynote: The First Decade of RISC-V: A Worldwide Phenomenon**
5. **Keynote: State of the Union**
6. **RISC-V True Random Number Generation: Probably Too Important to be Left to Chance**
7. **Using Formal Verification to Vaccinate Chips Against Catastrophic Bugs**
8. **Keynote: Closing Remarks**
9. **Verifying All the Flexibility of RISC-V within SoC DV Test Plans**
10. **Where Is the 32-Bit Glibc Port? - Alistair Francis, Western Digital**

Attendee Feedback

“I liked the Forum a lot, it was **really well organized**, and in fact, the more online activities I’ve attended during these months, the more I like them.”

“It was a pleasure and the platform worked well and there were interesting discussions in many of the sessions I attended - it was a long day from an 8am start in the UK through to past midnight - as I wanted to monitor the quality of those sessions I supported in the programme committee.”

“I’ve done about a half-dozen of these virtual workshops over the summer and this one was **certainly better organized than most**. Many thanks!”

“Excellent keynotes, the “mechanics” of the virtual conference worked very well.”

“Good format for the Q&A session after the talks with the live video screen.”
Online Reach & Traffic

Social Results
Timeframe September 3, 2020
Compared to September 2020 (RISC-V Global Forum) and December 2019 (RISC-V Summit 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME PERIOD</th>
<th>TWEETS</th>
<th>IMPRESSIONS</th>
<th>ENGAGEMENT RATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 3, 2020</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>70.6k</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2020</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>302k</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2019</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>290k</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Global Forum, we actively live tweeted and re-tweeted content to share the activities of Global Forum and drive our Twitter audience to the event and sessions.

YouTube
As of September 30, total YouTube views of the Global Forum playlist was 1,198.

The top 5 videos viewed:

1. **Using Formal to Vaccinate RISC-V Designs Against Catastrophic Bugs**
   Dr. Ashish Darbari, AXIOMISE *(2,222 VIEWS)*

2. **PicoRio: An Open-Source, RISC-V Small-Board Computer To Elevate The RISC-V Software...**
   Zhangxi Tan *(1,206 VIEWS)*

3. **Nutshell: A Linux-Compatible RISC-V Processor Designed by Undergraduates**
   Huaqiang Wang *(727 VIEWS)*

4. **Keynote: RISC-V Right here. Right now.**
   Calista Redmond, CEO, RISC-V International *(568 VIEWS)*

5. **Cloud-based Verification of Open Source RISC-V Cores Using the Metrics Cloud Platform and Codasip SweRV Support Package**
   Roddy Urquhart, Codasip & Dan Ganousis, Metrics Design Automation *(443 VIEWS)*

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Social Snapshot

1. **Using Formal to Vaccinate RISC-V Designs Against Catastrophic Bugs**
   Dr. Ashish Darbari, AXIOMISE *(2,222 VIEWS)*

2. **PicoRio: An Open-Source, RISC-V Small-Board Computer To Elevate The RISC-V Software...**
   Zhangxi Tan *(1,206 VIEWS)*

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   Roddy Urquhart, Codasip & Dan Ganousis, Metrics Design Automation *(443 VIEWS)*
Media Results

Earned Media Coverage Snapshot (Sept. 2–30):

- SiFive + Barcelona Supercomputing Center – 69 mentions in media articles, press releases and blogs.

Media Coverage Synopsis

During the RISC-V Global Forum, a majority of the trade and technology innovation press including Electronics Weekly, New Electronics, Linux Reviews, TechRadar, Tom’s Hardware and others, reported on RISC-V member companies’ news and announcements. Overall, reporters and journalists were laser focused on member companies’ announcements stemming from Imagination Technology, RIOS Laboratory and SiFive, to name a few.

Social Snapshot

Our 1st video-report from the @risc_v Global Forum with HPC highlights including @EuProcessor (and @SIPEARL_SAS), #OpenBlas on RISC-V and #SemiDynamics’ new high-bandwidth vector-capable cores.

@risc_v is seen as a technology that could provide the basis for #European developed #exascale #supercomputer in 2023. From this point of view it is interesting to have a look at the #European presence in the #riscvGlobalForum
Notable Media Coverage
(through Tuesday, Sept. 30):

**AiThority**: SiFive and Barcelona Supercomputing Center Advance Industry Adoption of RISC-V Vector Extension

**Cadence**: The European Processor Initiative

**CNX Software**: PicoRio Linux RISC-V SBC is an Open Source Alternative to Raspberry Pi Board

**Design and Reuse**: SiFive and Barcelona Supercomputing Center Advance Industry Adoption of RISC-V Vector Extension

**DigiTimes**: Imagination Launches the First RISC-V Computer Architecture Course

**Electronics Weekly**: Imagination Launches RISC-V Architecture Course

**Embedded Computing Design**: Imagination Announces Completion of New RISC-V Computer Architecture Course

**Explica**: An Alternative RISC-V Board to the Raspberry Pi

**Hackster.io**: RIOS Lab Pledges to Bring Linux-Capable RISC-V to the Raspberry Pi Price Point with the PicoRio SBC

**Heise Magazine**: Raspi Competitor with RISC-V: RIOS PicoRio in Development

**Liliputing**: PicoRio dev board PC with a RISC-V chip will be a low-cost, open source Raspberry Pi alternative

**LinuxReviews**: The Linux-Compatible RaspberryPi-like PicoRio Pygmy RISC-V SOC Could Be A Game-Changer For RISC-V

**New Electronics**: RIOS Laboratory and Imagination Look to Grow RISC-V Ecosystem

**Primeur Magazine**: RISC-V Global Forum Report 1 - HPC highlights

**Primeur Magazine**: RISC-V Global Forum Report 2 - RISC-V in Space & PicoRico, a “Raspberry Pi” Based on RISC-V

**Primeur Magazine**: RISC-V Global Forum Report 3 - RISC-V in China; is RISC-V Investable? Closing Remarks.

**Primeur Magazine**: SiFive and Barcelona Supercomputing Center Advance Industry Adoption of RISC-V Vector Extension

**TechRadar**: GPU Company Imagination Technologies to Teach Students How to Design a CPU

**TechWarrent.com**: RIOS Laboratory is Working On PicoRio Development Board with RISC-V-SoC

**Tom's Hardware**: New PicoRio SBC to Feature RISC-V Open-Source Processor

**Tweakers.net**: RIOS Laboratory is Working on PicoRio Development Board with RISC-V-SoC

**Yahoo! Finance**: SiFive and Barcelona Supercomputing Center Advance Industry Adoption of RISC-V Vector Extension
Media Coverage Quote Highlights

“...RISC-V is an architecture to watch these days.”
– Anton Shilov, TechRadar

“It’s (Imagination’s RISC-V Computer Architecture Course) openness allows designers of all levels to participate in processor design, and there is no need to worry about authorization issues in the early stages of design. This will drive a new generation of implementation modes!”
– Wu Guanyi, Digitimes (Taiwan)

“These updates (to SiFive’s RISC-V-based Core IP) will improve performance in Artificial Intelligence workloads where data streaming performance is important, and be deployed to all customers using the award-winning SiFive’s Core Designer automatically.”
– staff, AiThority

“If only there was a RISC-V board similar to the Raspberry Pi board and with a similar price point... The good news is that the RISC-V International Open Source (RIOS) Laboratory is collaborating with Imagination technologies to bring PicoRIO RISC-V SBC to market at a price point similar to Raspberry Pi.”
– Jean-Luc Aufranc, CNX-Software

“RISC-V is the most promising development in the search for an Open Source processor.”
– staff, Explica

Social Snapshot

SiFive And Barcelona Supercomputing Center Advance Industry Adoption Of RISC-V Vector Extension
ow.ly/1QR23orGzp @SiFive #blockchain #artificialintelligence #AInews #AiThority

11:45 PM · Sep 7, 2020 · Hootsuite Inc.
3 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 4 Likes

The Linux-Compatible RaspberryPi-like PicoRio #Pygmy #RISC-V SOC Could Be A Game-Changer For RISC-V. The first version will let you run a regular Linux distro on a cheap consumer board with no GPU. A second version with a GPU will be coming next summer.

10:59 PM · Sep 7, 2020 · Twitter Web App
3 Retweets 2 Likes
Media & Analyst Attendance

Twenty key press attended the RISC-V Global Forum, including influential technology and business reporters like Android Authority's Gary Sims, Bloomberg Opinions' Tim Culpan, The Register's Chris Williams and VentureBeat's Dean Takahashi. Additionally, Industry analysts from leading firms such as IDC's Mario Morales and Shane Rau, Moors Insights & Strategy’s Anshel Sag and Bill Curtis, and TIRIAS Research’s Kevin Krewell participated at the event.

Below is a full list of media and analysts RSVPS:

- Bloomberg Opinion, Tim Culpan
- CCS Insight, Geoff Blaber
- Embedded Computing Design, Brandon Lewis
- Embedded Computing Design, Rich Nass
- Gary Sims, Gary Sims
- Golem, Marc Sauter
- IDC, Mario Morales
- IDC, Shane Rau
- Informa, Brian Buntz (IT World Today)
- Informa, Christine Hall (IT Pro Today)
- Informa/Design News, John Blyer
- insideHPC, Doug Black
- insideHPC, Stephanie Ellars
- Moor Insights & Strategy, Anshel Sag
- Moor Insights & Strategy, Bill Curtis
- OSS Capital, Kevin Xu
- Pedestal Research, Laurie Balch
- Semiconductor Engineering, Ann Mutschler
- TECHnalysis Research, Bob O'Donnell
- The Register, Chris Williams
- TIRIAS Research, Kevin Krewell
- VentureBeat, Dean Takahashi

News Distribution

Racepoint Global (RPG) developed and shared a RISC-V Global Forum press kit, which consisted of all member companies’ news and announcements slated for the event. RPG delivered press kits under embargo as well as conducted day-of outreach with key press and analysts to spread awareness and garner earned media coverage.