



## Javelin ASIC Devices Turns Your Ideas Into Silicon Without the Hassle

— *Bob Frostholm* —

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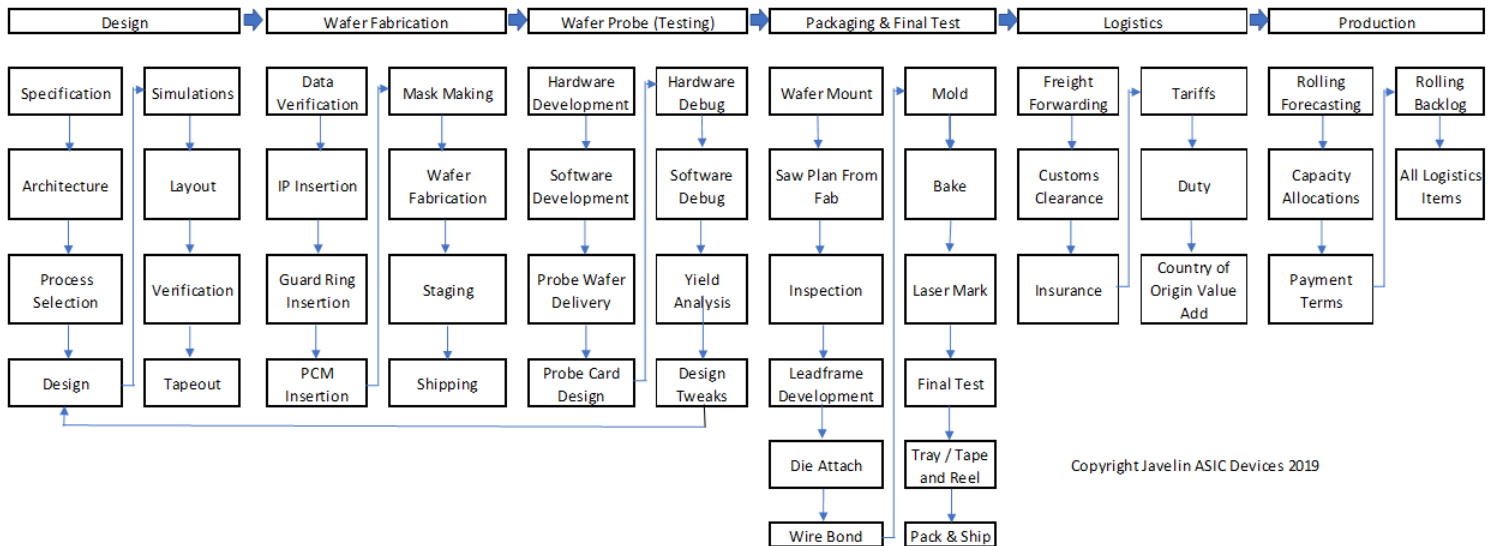
All projects begin with a feasibility study. It provides an opportunity to assess which aspects of the ASIC may pose risks from either a design or manufacturing perspective, and highlights options to alleviate them early in the process before large financial commitments are made.

This early de-risking sets the stage for a successful relationship between the engineering teams at Javelin and the customer.

The design phase starts with the joint creation of a complete device specification, derived in part from knowledge gained in the feasibility study. This is a working document that serves as a guideline for defining the operation and performance of the ASIC, as well as the electrical limits that will be used by Javelin for the wafer probe and final testing of the packaged device. The design phase culminates with the release of a database (called tape-out) to the silicon wafer foundry, from which optical masks, and ultimately the ASIC chips, are produced.

Wafer fabrication is outsourced to wafer foundry experts. Javelin carefully chooses its foundries and fabrication facilities with an eye toward mitigating risks such as earthquakes, fires, floods, tornadoes, and geopolitical turmoil.

Wafer testing and final testing involve very specialized test equipment capable of accurately assessing the unique electrical requirements of the device. While many companies use off-the-shelf test systems, Javelin designs and manufactures two custom test systems for each ASIC, assuring that the part conforms to the most ridged requirements while providing portability if needed. Wafer testing and final testing are both done locally in Silicon Valley, where our engineers have immediate access for maintenance, repair, and troubleshooting as required.



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