32-Bit Logic Families in LFBGA Packages:

96 and 114 Ball Low-Profile Fine-Pitch BGA Packages

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32-Bit Logic Families in LFBGA Packages:
96 and 114 Ball Low-Profile Fine-Pitch BGA Packages

Application Note

October 26th, 1998 by:
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1 Introduction

With increasing systems and circuit complexity and the constant downward pressure on system prices, the requirements for bus interface solutions demand new approaches to system needs. One of the major challenges and goals of the digital processing industry is to continue decreasing the overall system costs as system complexity increases. Consequently, circuit integration and board miniaturization have become key words and key trends in present and future applications. A direct consequence of these trends is the need for wider bus interfacing. Today, as many networking, telecom and computer systems begin using DSP’s and MPU’s that require 32-bit, or even 64-bit wide interfacing, there is an increasing demand for 32-bit wide buffer, driver and transceiver functions. These new functions will become the standard in the years to come. To address evolving customer requirements, three suppliers, Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments have come together to define a package for 32-bit functions. Collectively Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments evaluated many customer inputs and identified a Low-Profile Fine-Pitch Ball Grid Array (LFBGA) package solution that would best serve customers’ needs. Studies have shown that the LFBGA is an optimal solution for reducing the inductance, improving thermal performance and minimizing board real estate in support of integrated bus functions. Together, our objective is to provide multi-source products in a package that enables significant electrical improvements when compared to existing packages, as well as cost savings to the OEM manufacturing process. From a supplier standpoint, we can now guarantee the multi-sourcing of a package that will become the standard in the very near future.

The purpose of this document is to discuss the two new LFBGA solutions, the 96 and 114 ball LFBGA packages. Five 32-bit functions will initially be introduced in LFBGA package. Additional products will be manufactured per market interest and customer demand. A definition and description of the 96 and 114 ball LFBGA packages are discussed in this application note. Content and technical exhibits from the application note should be used to develop PCB layouts using the 96 and/or 114 ball LFBGA packages. Examples of routing, layout and mechanical dimensions are also included in this document. The initial introduction of the 32-bit logic is noted in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LVCH Functions</th>
<th>Number of Balls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>74LVCH32244</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74LVCH32245</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74LVCH32373</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74LVCH32374</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74ALVCH32501</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALVCH Function</th>
<th>Package</th>
<th>GND</th>
<th>VCC</th>
<th>No Connection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>74ALVCH32501</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.1 – Initial 32-Bit Functions
LFBGA packages offer lower inductance and parasitic capacitance than any other TSSOP, TVSOP and MillipaQ™ packages. The LFBGA package characteristics supports improvements in ground bounce, $V_{cc}$ undershoot, pin-to-pin skew, and signal propagation delay of 20 to 50 ps.

The definition of these two packages in terms of standardization, both physical and mechanical, was developed by Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments to provide the industry pin out compatible solutions.
2 Examples of Applications with LFBGA Packages

2.1 Industry Expressed Requirements for 32-Bit Logic

With the growing trend towards increased bus widths, OEMs are looking to consolidate logic functions in an effort to effectively make use of board real estate. This requirement from customers is prevalent across many end equipments. The requirement to reduce board real estate also necessitates a packaging solution, which integrates logic as well as addresses improved thermal packaging characteristics in addition to minimizing pin-to-pin skew. The selection of the 96 and 114 Ball LFBGA addresses all of these careabouts with improved performance and standardization of pin outs agreed upon by Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments. In the initial 8 month study, consisting of 15 OEMs and several worldwide subcontractors, we found that the preferred pitch for introducing logic in either the LFBGA is a 0.8 mm with a 0.5 mm ball diameter. Both packages are being offered by Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments to support customer requirements and enable easier PCB design/layout along with a more robust solder joint based on life cycle studies.

While other solutions were looked at such as staggered depopulated balls, with a smaller pitch, as well as, a smaller ball diameter, none were considered suitable to address the current market needs for OEM’s and the subcontractors. The LFBGA packages selected by IDT, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments is the optimal solution as it addresses our current customer needs. More details for package comparison are noted within the other subsections of this application note.

2.2 Customer Needs and Problems Targeted

Workstations:
- Workstation buses extend to 128-, 256-bit, or wider bus structures
- Require denser and faster logic products

PCs:
- The trend is to integrate as much logic as possible into fewer packages
- Due to space constraint, PC Cards require dense integration and small package foot-prints
- PCI bus structures may require 5-V tolerance, in addition to integrating logic circuits

Datacommunication:
“Intelligent” routers and switches require more logic to support interfaces and build real time lookup tables for routing addresses with statistics.
Telecommunication:
- Base stations are becoming small and ubiquitous requiring the repackaging of many circuits into dense boards
- New complex and smaller equipment must interface with legacy equipment.

2.3 Application Examples
- PC Motherboards
- Data communications
- Telecommunications
- Back Planes
- Base stations
- Cellular and cordless telephone

2.4 Existing or Alternative Solutions: A Comparison

While other packages have been introduced to address integrated logic solutions, these packages have only had limited success, such as the 100-pin TQFPs or the 80/96-pin MillipaQ™. As a comparison, these two solutions have a reduce number of ground and V\text{CC}' pins leading one to believe that ground bounce and pin-to-pin skew cannot be optimally designed to address these design issues.

Comparisons of the foot print space show that the 100-pin TQFP and 80/96-pin MillipaQ™ packages takes up respectively 245% and 66% more area than the corresponding 96 ball LFBGA. For further details refer to tables 2.1 and 2.2.

The 96 ball LFBGA package provides an optimal area/bit ratio and improved pin-to-pin skews. Pin-to-pin skew is minimized by the number of pin signals connected to the same ground connection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Footprint Area (mm\textsuperscript{2})</th>
<th>Area/Bit (mm\textsuperscript{2})</th>
<th>Weight (g)</th>
<th>Total # of Balls or Pins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-96</td>
<td>74.25</td>
<td>2.32</td>
<td>0.132</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MillipaQ™ 80/96 pin</td>
<td>123.0</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>0.332</td>
<td>80/96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x TVSOP 48 pin</td>
<td>132.5</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>0.227</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x TSSOP 48 pin</td>
<td>213.0</td>
<td>6.66</td>
<td>0.383</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x SSOP 48 pin</td>
<td>342.0</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>1.180</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TQFP 100 pin</td>
<td>256.0</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>0.660</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 1: The Area/Bit is computed for 32 bits and assumes a 1.3 mm PCB spacing for two-package solution.
Note 2: The MillipaQ™ offers 32-bit logic functions with reduced ground and V\text{CC}'s; such configuration compromises the signal integrity of the logic functions.

Table 2.1 – Comparison of Foot Print Size with LFBGA-96
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Footprint Area (mm²)</th>
<th>Area/Bit (mm²)</th>
<th>Weight (g)</th>
<th>Total # of Balls or Pins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-114</td>
<td>88.00</td>
<td>2.44</td>
<td>0.167</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x TVSOP 56 pin</td>
<td>153.0</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>0.271</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x TSSOP 56 pin</td>
<td>237.3</td>
<td>6.59</td>
<td>0.423</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x SSOP 56 pin</td>
<td>394.6</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>1.360</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TQFP 120 pin</td>
<td>256.0</td>
<td>7.11</td>
<td>0.660</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 1: The Area/Bit is computed for 36 bits and assumes a 1.3 mm PCB spacing for two-package solution.

Table 2.2 - Comparison of Foot Print Size with LFBGA-114
3 Package Descriptions

Figure 3.1 shows a cross section of the LFBGA package.

![Figure 3.1 - LFBGA Cross Section](image)

Table 3.1 summarizes the package attributes for the LFBGA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LFBGA-96</th>
<th>LFBGA-114</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ball count</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball configuration (rows, columns)</td>
<td>6 x 16</td>
<td>6 x 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Square Rectangular</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball-to-ball pitch (mm)</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball diameter (mm)</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Package body width (mm)</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Package body length (mm)</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Package thickness (mm)</td>
<td>1.2 min – 1.5 max</td>
<td>1.2 min – 1.5 max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Package weight (mg)</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shipping media tape &amp; reel (units)</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desiccant pack</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.1 – LFBGA Package Attributes
3.1 LFBGA Package Characteristics

3.1.1 LFBGA-96 Package Dimensions

Ball organization: \(6 \times 16 = 96\) balls; grid = 0.8 mm;
Footprint: \(74.25\ \text{mm}^2\)

**Figure 3.2 - LFBGA-96 Package Layout**

Advantages:
- Industry accepted 0.8 mm pitch industry standard; easy pad-via-to-ball routing
- Easy customer PCB layout; easy to locate near connectors
- Robust solderability due to standard 0.5 mm ball size
LFBGA-96 Pin Out Configuration:

Note: The pin out configuration below adopts the same naming convention applied in the industry to logic devices in 48-pin packages (i.e. TSSOP, SSOP, TVSOP).

Electrical:

The electrical parameters of a package are dependent upon parasitic elements, which include inductance, capacitance, and electrical or propagation delays throughout the package. The following values summarize the nominal parasitic components of the LFBGA-96 package: self inductance 2.2nH, pin-to-ground capacitance 0.2pF. One should note that the reported values for the LFBGA package are about 35% better than the TVSOP package and greater that 50% compared to the TSSOP package. Overall the LFBGA package is better than any existing industry standard package on the market today.

Figure 3.4 provides an electrical comparison of the LFBGA-96 with other industry standard packages.

Figure 3.3 – Top View Pin Assignment
3.1.2 LFBGA-114 Package Dimensions

Ball organization: 6 x 19 = 114 balls (112 used); grid = 0.8 mm;
Footprint: 88 mm²

Advantages:
- Industry accepted 0.8 mm pitch; easy pad-via-to-ball routing
- Easy customer PCB layout; easy to locate near connectors
- Robust solderability due to standard 0.5 mm ball size

Figure 3.5 - LFBGA-114 Package Layout
LFBGA-114 Pin Out Configuration:

Note: The pin out configuration below adopts the same naming convention applied in the industry to logic devices in 56-pin packages (i.e. TSSOP, SSOP, TVSOP).

Electrical:

The electrical parameters of a package are dependent upon parasitic elements, which include inductance, capacitance and electrical propagation delays throughout the package. One should note that the reported values for the LFBGA-114 package are about 35 % better than the TVSOP package and greater than 50 % compared to the TSSOP package. Overall the LFBGA packages are better than any existing industry standard package on the market today.
3.1.3 LFBGA Power Dissipation

The power dissipation of LFBGA is very much dependent upon the thermal conduction paths between the chip and the printed circuit board (PCB). The 96 and 114 ball LFBGA package outline is small, thereby limiting the amount of power dissipation due to convection or radiation, so the PCB becomes the major heat source for the package. The thermal performance of the packages is good when the chip overlaps the solder balls due to the fact that the balls under the chip act as thermal conduction paths to the PCB. The thermal resistance of LFBGA packages is 35% better than the TVSOP package and 30% better than the TSSOP package.

A well-designed PCB board further enhances the power dissipation of both LFBGA packages. By adding thermal vias (i.e. via from the solder ball to the top buried ground plane), a significant benefit of 15 to 20% is obtained over existing PCB designs.

Note: The maximum power dissipation is calculated using a junction temperature of 150°C.

Figure 3.7 - Thermal Comparisons on Multi-Layer JEDEC Board
Note: The maximum power dissipation is calculated using a junction temperature of 150°C.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air Velocity (ft/min)</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>150</th>
<th>250</th>
<th>500</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \theta_{JA} ) (°C/W)</td>
<td>39.8</td>
<td>38.0</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>35.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3.8 – LFBGA Thermal Derating Curves without Thermal Vias Using Multilayer JEDEC Board

Note: The maximum power dissipation is calculated using a junction temperature of 150°C.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air Velocity (ft/min)</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>150</th>
<th>250</th>
<th>500</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \theta_{JA} ) (°C/W)</td>
<td>36.1</td>
<td>34.4</td>
<td>33.6</td>
<td>32.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3.9 – LFBGA Thermal Derating Curves with Thermal Vias Using Multilayer JEDEC Board
3.2 LFBGA vs. TVSOP, TSSOP, and MillipaQ™ footprint

Comparison of the normalized thermal dissipation for the TSSOP, TVSOP, and the LFBGA-96 shows that the LFBGA-96 with thermal vias exceeds by a factor of 2 the capability of 2 x 48 TSSOP packages.

Figure 3.10 – Package Comparisons

Figure 3.11 – Normalized Power Dissipation at 25°C

Note: Calculations are based on the data from figure 3.7 and figure 3.10.
3.3 Benefits to the Customer

The following table summarizes key features and corresponding benefit for logic products assembled in LFBGA packages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offer the minimum footprint to industry</td>
<td>Uses the smallest real estate among industry standard packages. Cost savings for PC boards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimize the skew parameter</td>
<td>Provides the user with a reliable solution in new faster bus configurations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimize package propagation delay</td>
<td>Provides the user with additional design margin in high speed buses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rise time and fall time is 1ns typical</td>
<td>Again, $t_r$ and $t_f$ are optimized to meet good duty cycle at 100 MHz and 133 MHz while keeping the ground bounce under 500 mV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower ground bounce</td>
<td>Allows more noise margin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selected as a JEDEC standard package</td>
<td>Meet mechanical and electrical specifications define by the IDT/Philips/TI working group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No external components other than bypass capacitors</td>
<td>Can use 2.5V or other special supply from 2.5 to 3.3V.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports/enables high speed applications</td>
<td>LFBGA packages has less capacitance pin-to-pin inductance and ground inductance. This provides better support for high-speed applications.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.2 – Feature/Benefits of LFBGA Packages

3.4 Contribution to JEDEC Definition

The 96 and 114 ball LFBGA packages have received JEDEC (Joint Electronics Device Engineering Council) JC-11 under semiconductor package standard MO-205 and EIAJ (Electronic Industry Association Japan) registration. IDT, Texas Instruments and Philips Semiconductors have also submitted to JEDEC a proposed 96 and 114 ball LFBGA pin-out to the JC-40 council and final voting by JEDEC participants is expected by the end of 1998.

3.5 Evaluation Units

For evaluation units, contact authorized distributors or for more information refer to the following URLs:

Integrated Device Technology URL: [http://www.idt.com](http://www.idt.com)
Philips Semiconductors URL: [http://www.philipslogic.com](http://www.philipslogic.com)
[http://www.semiconductors.philips.com/logic](http://www.semiconductors.philips.com/logic)
Texas Instruments URL: [http://www.ti.com/sc/lfbga](http://www.ti.com/sc/lfbga)
The following section describes the symbolization of these new LFBGA packages.

4.1 Marking

Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments use laser marking to identify the vendor, product number, year and month of fabrication, manufacturing site, lot trace code. Each vendor adopted a specific package designator for the LFBGA packages and is reported in table 4.1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Integrated Device Technology</strong></th>
<th><strong>Philips Semiconductors</strong></th>
<th><strong>Texas Instruments</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-96</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>GKE</td>
<td>GKE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-114</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>GKF</td>
<td>GKF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 4.1 – Vendor Package Designator*

Marking examples for the LVCH32244 device:

**Integrated Device Technology**

- **Part #**: LVCH322244A
- **Date Code, Marking Location**: Lot number, Assembly Location
- **Logo**: LVCH322244A X9848Y
- **Xmax10xX**

**Philips Semiconductors**

- **Part #**: LVCH32244A
- **Lot number, Site**: Date Code
- **Lot Trace**: YYWW

**Texas Instruments**

- **Part #**: CH244A
- **Year, Month, Site**: Lot trace code
- **Logo**: CH244A YMS
- **LLLLL**

*Table 4.2 – Vendor Part Number Marked on Top of Package*
4.2 Tape & Reel

The embossed Tape & Reel method is preferred by automatic pick-and-place machines. Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments offer Tape & Reel packaging for the 96 and 114 ball LFBGA packages. The packaging materials used include Carrier Tape, Cover Tape and a Reel. All material used meets industry guidelines for ESD protection and the design is in full compliance with EIA Standard 481-A, “Taping of Surface Mount Components for Automatic Placement.” The dimensions that are of interest to the end-user are tape width (W), pocket pitch (P) and quantity per reel. The figure below illustrates the Tape & Reel design for LFBGA package.

![Figure 4.1 – Tape & Reel Mechanical Dimensions](image-url)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Cover Tape Width (W)</th>
<th>Pocket Pitch (P)</th>
<th>Reel Width</th>
<th>Reel Diameter</th>
<th>Quantity Per Reel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-96</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-114</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.3 – Tape & Reel Assembly Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Pocket Width (A₀)</th>
<th>Pocket Length (B₀)</th>
<th>Pocket Depth (K₀)</th>
<th>Pedestal Depth (K₁)</th>
<th>Hole to Pocket Centerline (F)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-96</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LFBGA-114</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All dimensions are in millimeters

Table 4.4 – Tape & Reel Dimension for LFBGA Package

4.3 Sockets, and Socket Manufacturer (Ordering Information)

Yamaichi Socket numbers:
LFBGA-96 PN# IC280-096-144
LFBGA-114 PN# IC280-114-145

Yamaichi Electronics USA, Inc.
2235 Zanker Road
San Jose, CA 95131
Tel: (408) 456-0797

Loranger Socket numbers:
LFBGA-96 PN# 135055096U6617
LFBGA-114 PN# 169055114U6617

Loranger International Corp.
817 Fourth Avenue
Warren, PA 16365
Tel: (814) 723-2250
California Contact Office Tel: (408) 727-4234
5 PCB Manufacturing Considerations

The following section describes the assembly on PCBs of the LFBGA products.

5.1 Land Pads
The design of the land pads for LFBGA packages on the printed circuit board is critical, if the end-user wants to achieve good manufacturability and optimum reliability. An optimum design is when the diameter of the land pad is equal to the diameter of the package vias; (i.e. the fatigue life of the solder balls is enhanced when the ratio of these dimensions is equal to 1.0).

There are two methods of defining land pads on PCB – *solder mask defined* and *non-solder mask defined*. In the *solder mask defined*, the desired land area is defined by the opening of the solder mask. The advantage of this technique is that the land pad size is controlled and the solder mask promotes the adhesion of the copper pad to the PCB. However, the copper pad dimension is larger which makes routing more difficult. In the *non-solder mask defined*, the land area is etched inside the solder mask area. The final land pad dimension is dependent on the accuracy of the copper etching method. The advantage of *non-solder mask defined* over the *solder mask defined* methods is routability (it allows larger trace width/spacing between the solder balls). Figure 5.1 illustrates the land pad dimension for the 96 and 114 ball LFBGA package using the solder mask defined and non-solder mask defined method.

Figure 5.1 – LFBGA Recommended Land Pad Design

5.2 Line and Spaces
This section describes the maximum trace width/spacing dimension allowed for 0.8mm ball pitch LFBGA packages with 0.5 mm ball diameter. It becomes a challenge to the designers to route this package on a single layer board unless the PCB supplier has fine pitch trace width/spacing capabilities. PCB capabilities are currently in the 4 to 5 mil (100 – 125 µm) trace width/spacing range and using a finer pitch trace width/spacing will increase the overall PCB cost to the end-user. The optimum design is to use current PCB capability, which allows one signal to be routed between the land pads. Using the recommended land pad dimension outlined in section 5.1, the PCB supplier needs to have trace width/spacing capabilities of 4.2 mil (107 µm) and 5.9 mil (150 µm) respectively for the solder mask and non-solder mask defined pads.

Figure 5.2 represents a visual layout as described in section 5.2 and 5.3.

![Figure 5.2 – LFBGA Trace Width/Spacing Dimensions (mm)](image-url)
5.3 Vias

Via density can be just as challenging to the designers when routing a high-density board. Via density is defined as the number of vias in a particular board area. Using smaller vias increases the via density and the routability of the board by requiring less board space. Holes can be mechanically drilled down to 6 mil (152 µm), however, mechanically drilled holes less than 12 mil (305 µm) begin to add cost to the PCB. To avoid higher PCB costs, other via technology exist (such as laser, punched and plasma-etched) and can be used to form smaller holes. The invention of the micro-via has solved many of the problems associated with via density. Micro-vias are often created using a plasma-etched technique, which penetrates layers of dielectric and allows signal routing to the internal layers. Current micro-via technology allows a 2.4 to 4.0 mil (60 – 100 µm) via diameter. Micro-vias can also be designed directly into the land pad thereby obsoleting trace fan-outs.

Table 5.1 summarizes the maximum via diameter that can be used for routing the LFBGA package using recommended land pad dimensions outlined in section 5.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Solder Mask Defined Land Pad</th>
<th>Non-solder Mask Defined Land Pad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trace width/spacing</td>
<td>0.107 mm (4.2 mil)</td>
<td>0.150 mm (5.9 mil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drill bit diameter</td>
<td>0.23 to 0.25 mm (9 to 10 mil)</td>
<td>0.35 to 0.38 mm (14 to 15 mil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unplated hole</td>
<td>0.23 to 0.25 mm (9 to 10 mil)</td>
<td>0.35 to 0.38 mm (14 to 15 mil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finished via size (plated)</td>
<td>0.178 to 0.2 mm (7 to 8 mil)</td>
<td>0.30 to 0.33 mm (12 to 13 mil)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Unplated via diameter assumes a 0.2 mm (8 mil) via land dimension and a 0.1 mm (4 mil) clearance between the via land to the adjacent land pad.

Table 5.1 – Maximum Via Diameter
5.4 Routing

The figures below are examples of a PCB routing with two layers of PCB interconnect:

Note 1: Ground balls are connected together within the PCB.

Figure 5.3 – LFBGA-96 Recommended Routing

Note 1: Ground balls are connected together within the PCB.

Figure 5.4 – LFBGA-114 Recommended Routing
6 Conclusion

This joint study by Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments shows the 96 and 114 LBGA packages as the most effective solution for addressing performance issues: (1) minimal skew due to package layout design; (2) improved thermal power dissipation by taking advantage of the chip overlap over the solder balls; and (3) reduced inductance as functions in these packages take advantage of less capacitance for pin-to-pin inductance, thereby enabling support for high speed applications with close to 2X the bandwidth.

In terms of board integration and miniaturization, these LFBGA packages will reduce board space by up to 65% compared to the corresponding TSSOP package for the same functionality.

Additionally, designers may take advantage of improved reliability and reduced manufacturability costs when the diameter of the PCB land pad is equal to the diameter of package vias as explained in section 5.

With the introduction of the LFBGA by Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments, OEMs are assured of an agreed upon JEDEC standardized package, pin out and availability of the product families and functions to be initially introduced. Integrated Device Technology, Philips Semiconductors and Texas Instruments will continue to work with the market identifying new requirements in terms of product family, and functions.

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