A 63µW-Standby-Power Microcontroller with On-Chip Hybrid Regulator Scheme


Semiconductor & Integrated Circuits, Hitachi, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan
*Hitachi Device Engineering Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan
**Hitachi ULSI Systems Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan

We present a 32-bit RISC microcontroller having an on-chip DC/DC converter. The chip standby power including the DC/DC converter is reduced to 63µW with a new hybrid regulator scheme in which the microcontroller selects a switching regulator in active mode and a series regulator in standby mode. The achieved standby power corresponds to only about 1% the standby power with a conventional scheme which always uses a switching regulator.