# SiC: More devices, more business and more applications

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## Overall power electronics industry outlook



## Définitions

### • A <u>power discrete</u>, or component is a single-die packaged power device.

- It is made of:
  - A semiconductor die (chip)
  - Interconnection
  - A lead frame (with 2, 3 or more pins)
  - A plastic package
- It represents the largest part of power market.
- Semiconductor devices are mostly transistors (MOSFETS, IGBT, BJT...) and Diodes.

### • A <u>power module</u> is the assembly of several power semiconductor dies in one package.

- It is made of:
  - Several semiconductor dies (chip)
  - Interconnections
  - Large substrate (usually DBC)
  - Gel filling
  - A plastic package
- It is a more and more common type of device since enhances the switching/temperature/weight/cost performance.
- Semiconductor devices are mostly IGBTs or MOSFET (Regular or Super-Junction)
- Power converter, also called <u>Inverter</u> is the assembly of several power modules as well as passives (Capacitors, Inductors, resistors...), logic and control circuits, protection devices, cooling systems and connectors.





### **Power Electronics**

### 2012 – 2020 value chain analysis: wafer, device, system



### **Power electronics market metrics** 2006-2020 overall PE market size, split by device type



Source: Yole Développement

#### It includes:

- Power discretes: MOSFET, rectifier, IGBT, Bipolar....
- Power modules: IGBT, diode or MOSFET modules, IPM
- Power IC: power management IC: mainly voltage regulators (POL) and drivers

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# 2012 power electronics market by application and main expectations to 2015



### **Overall Power Electronics Market by Applications**

Expected 2013-2015 main trends are:

- Significant increase of Automotive sector following EV and HEV ramp-up
- Renewable energies and smart-grid implementation will drive industry sector ramp-up.
- Steady erosion of Consumer segment due to pressure on price (However, volumes (units) will keep on increase)

## **Regional analysis**



- Overall Asia is still the landing-field for more than 65% of power products.
   Indeed, most of the integrators are located in China, Japan or Korea.
- Europe is very dynamic as well with top players in traction, grid, PV inverter, motor control...

- The big-names of the power electronics industry are historically from Japan. 9 companies of the TOP-20 are Japanese.
- Very few power manufacturers in Asia except in Japan
- Europe and US are sharing 4 of the TOP-5 companies

### What TAM for SiC (& GaN)? Market size, split by voltage range





Breakdown over a total market size of ~\$18.6B in 2012

## SiC Industry Outlook



## The New Entrants and The Exits Since 2010



### The new entrants

- Material:
  - <u>Epiworld (CN)</u>: <u>www.epiworld.cn</u> is proposing epi services for 3", 4" and 6". They are equipped with Aixtron G4 6x6" and several pieces of inspection equipment
  - <u>SiCC (CN)</u>. <u>www.sicc.cc</u> is proposing 2, 3 and 4" n-type and S.I. SiC epi-ready wafers. Established since late 2010 as a spin-off of Shandong Univ.
  - <u>TYSTC (CN)</u>: <u>www.sicty.com</u> <u>Tianyu Semiconductor Technology Co</u>., Ltd. founded in Jan 2009, produces and markets SiC epi-wafers. They have 3 epi-reactors running (Aixtron).
- Devices:
  - <u>Kingway Technology Co. Ltd.</u>, (CN) <u>www.thekingway.com</u> a high-tech enterprise located in Beijing, China, was founded in 2010 by a group of veterans with Ph.D. Degrees and solid industrial experiences back from the US. Kingway focuses on epitaxial growth of SiC and GaN materials, design / fabrication of high power, high voltage devices and modules.
  - Anvil Semiconductors Ltd., (UK) a developer of small power converters using SiC power semiconductor switches.
  - <u>Widetronix Inc</u>. (US) is a manufacturer of high voltage SiC epitaxial wafers and power conversion devices. The company is located in Ithaca, New York.
  - Ascatron (SW), a spin-off from ACREO is dedicated to fabrication of SiC semiconductors, from epi to diced wafers.
  - · IBS (FR) http://www.ion-beam-services.com/ who is positioned as an SiC foundry service provider
  - Fraunhofer IISB. Since 2012, IISB propose a foundry service for SiC devices, from epi to packaged chips

#### The Exits

- Material:
  - <u>NeoSemiTech</u> (Kr) has stopped its SiC activities, keeping focused on GaAS and Si for solar.
  - Caracal (US) who went bankruptcy
- Devices: SemiSouth who closed down late 2012

### The M&A

- <u>Crysband (Kr)</u> has been acquired by SKC (Kr)
- SiCed (D) that is now 100% Infineon
- Fairchild has acquired TranSiC (April 2011) for \$17M

## Power electronics SiC device manufacturing Current business model in the SiC world





### SiC Switches. Who is active? Late 2012 status

Company	MOSFET	JFET			BJT	IGBT	Thyristor	IC
		Normally-on	Normally-off	Cascode				
ACREO (SW)	X							
Cissoid (B)	X							
CREE (US)	X	X			x	X	X	
DENSO (J)	Х							
Fairchild (SW)					x			
Fuji (J)	Х					X		
GE (US)	Х							
GeneSiC (US)					×		X	
Global Power Device (US)	Х		(	NY '				
Hitachi (J)	Х					X		
Infineon (D)		X		X (hybrid Si-SiC)				
MicroSemi (US)		х	Х	X (full SiC)	x			
Mitsubishi Electric (J)	Х					X		
Nissan Motor (J)	Х							
Northrop Grumman (US)	X	X	X	X (full-SiC)				
Panasonic (J)	x							
Raytheon (UK)		X						X
Rockwell (US)		X						
Rohm (J)	X					X		
Shindengen (J)					x			
Sumitomo SEI (J)		X						
Toshiba (J)	X	X						
United Silicon Carbide (US)	X	X	X		Х		X	X
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## Tentative BoM analysis of WBG devices use in PV Inverters Case study with SiC devices



## **Solar Market Segment**



- Photovoltaic plants' nominal power depends on the application:
  - Residential: Home building installations
    - Typically around 3 kW of nominal power
  - Industrial and Commercial building installations
    - From 10kW to 100kW of nominal power
  - Solar farms
    - Up to 10 MW of nominal power



Picture: Example of a solar farm power plant



## PV inverters commercial products with SiC Full-SiC products



- SMA and RefuSol inverters are today's only inverters with Full-SiC
  - SMA is using JFET
    - JFET power modules
    - 3 Level circuit topology
  - RefuSol
    - 3 Level circuit topology
- No specific modifications of inverter architecture is observed yet
  - All passives are still of the same type and size, more or less
  - Conditions of operation are similar: standard temperature, voltage, frequency...
  - Topology modification are also possible using Silicon devices
  - The objective was only to bring higher efficiency





SMA Tri-power 20kW SiC inverter Model: 20000TL HE

### PV inverters commercial products with SiC Hybrid Si/SiC products (1/2)



### • 2 examples of hybrid products:

- Enphase (US): M215 micro-inverter
  - 2 SiC diodes 1200V/5A

	ENPHASE M215 Main Characteristics				
Input (DC)	Max power 260W  Max Voltage 45V  Max Current 10.5A				
Output (AC)	Max power 215W  Nominal Current 0.9A (at 240Vac / single phase) to 1A (at 208Vac / three-phase)  Frequency 60Hz  Utilization : Single phase or Three-phase				
CEC efficiency	• 96.0%				
Cooling concept	Natural convection, no fan				
Interfaces	Power Line Communications (PLC)  Status LED				

Enphase M215 micro-inverter

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- Power One (US): Aurora Trio 10KW inverter (PVI-10.0-TL)
  - 2 SiC diodes 1200V/22A (TO247) for DC-DC boost converter stage
  - Input:
    - Max voltage: 900V
    - Max current: 36 Amp
  - Max. efficiency: 97.8%
  - Transformer-less topology

PowerOne Aurora Trio 10kW inverter

### PV inverters commercial products with SiC Hybrid Si/SiC products (2/2)



- Power One (US): Aurora Micro-inverter 205W (Micro-0.25-I-OUTD-230)
  - 2 CREE SiC diodes 1200V/5A (TO263) + 2 CREE diodes 600V/4A (TO252)



Courtesy of System+ Consulting

> CREE Inc. C2D05120E DIODE SCHOT 1200V 5A ZREC SIC TO263-2 Marking C2D05120 (x2)

**PV** Inverter

## Bill of Material comparison Si vs. SiC Hypothesis. Transformer-less topology

#### 5kW PV inverter single-phase

- DC-DC boost converter + H-bridge DC-AC Inverter
- Imax=30A. Vin max=280V
- Boost converter: 1 diode chip + 1 transistor chips.
  Each are 600V/50Amp
- H-bridge Inverter: 4 diode chips + 4 transistor chips. Each are 600V/50Amp
- 20kW PV inverter 3-phase
  - DC-DC boost converter + 3-leg DC-AC Inverter
  - Imax=35A Vin max=800V
  - DC-DC boost converter : 1 diode chips + 1 transistor chips. Each are 1200V/50Amp
  - 3-leg Inverter: 6 diode chips + 6 transistor chips.
    Each are 1200V/50Amp

#### 50kW PV inverter 3-phase

- DC-DC boost converter + 3-leg DC-AC Inverter
- Imax=90A Vin max=800V
- DC-DC boost converter : 2 diode chips + 2 transistor chips. Each are 1200V/50Amp
- 3-leg Inverter: 12 diode chips + 12 transistor chips.
  Each are 1200V/50Amp
- Only power conversion parts and transformer are considered. Fuse, interface, screen, logic, buttons, memories, multimedia, final housing are not analyzed here
- BoM is calculated as for an integrator buying components from off-the-shelf at market price
- All component prices, expect power devices, are eroding -3%/year



Proposed PV inverter single-phase topology including DC-DC boost converter and 2-leg DC-AC inverter. SMA Sunny-boy model



## Bill of Material comparison Si vs. SiC Results for 50kW 3-phase



## Payback time estimation

How SiC moves the fundamental economics of a PV inverter

- When moving from Si to SiC, 3 parameters dramatically change the fundamental economics of a PV inverter:
  SiC devices (chips) are (and will probably remain) more
  - expensive than Silicon ones. The Bill-of-Material of the power module core will mechanically increase when using SiC



SiC will allow gaining +1.3 points on the European efficiency with a maximum that could reach 96.7% (compared to 95.4% with Silicon). Money will be saved when selling the electricity production at local feed-in tariff



SiC will allow running the inverter at a higher switching frequency (typically 32kHz, instead of 12kHz). Such a high frequency will dramatically decrease the size and so the cost of surrounding passive devices (inductors and capacitors)

## Payback time estimation Overall results



### SiC Market Penetration The 2 scenarios for EV/HEV



- In order to take into account the uncertainty of the implementation of SiC devices in EV/HEV segment, we have defined 2 scenarios with different market dynamics:
  - Nominal scenario: The implementation of SiC devices will start from 2015 followed by a ramp-up of SiC adoption that will take up to 11% shares over Si IGBT by 2020
  - Pessimistic scenario: Here the SiC will take off by 2016 with only a slow ramp-up in production to reach only 2.5% of usage by 2020
- Another "worst scenario" could have also been defined where SiC is totally excluded from EV/HEV. However, we stay confident that SiC will have a roll to play in EV/HEV before 2020

### 10-year Projection of SiC Power Device Market Size (EV pessimistic scenario)



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Développement

# % of SiC revenues by company headquarter location. 2002-2020

### % of SiC revenues by headquarter location



## Conclusions



- SiC is now implemented in several power systems and is gaining momentum and credibility.
- We stay convinced that the most pertinent market for SiC lands in high and very high voltage (> 1.2kV), where applications are less cost-driven and where few incumbent technologies can't compete in performance. This transition is on its way as several device/module makers have already planned such products at short term.
- Thus, even though EV/HEV skips SiC, industry could expand among other apps. Now, the only question remains: Is there enough business to make so many contenders live decently ? Probably yes as green-techs are also expanding fast, strongly requesting SiC. But, any new comers should carefully manage its strategy and properly size its capex according to the market size...

# Thank you for your attention ! ... and don't miss these 2 events:

- International SiC Power Electronics Applications Workshop. ISiCPEAW 2013. June 9 to 11, 2013 – Stockholm, Sweden
- Focus → The latest results and innovations on the use of SiC technology in power electronics applications.
- Format → 3 days event including conferences, exhibition and b2b meetings.

In 2012, 200+ attendees.

 Organized by → The Swedish SiC Power Center, and Yole Développement and Enterprise Europe Network



- Yole Développement and Serma Technologies have combined their industry knowledge to create Successful Semiconductor Fabless 2013 (SSF 2013) taking place in Paris, from April 10 - 12. We would like to invite you to join and exchange with industry leaders about today's Fabless business model.
- SPEAKERS: Amkor Technology, FEI Europe, GaN Systems, imec, Nanium and poLight ... as well as plenty of constructive debates and invaluable networking time.



