

# FutureHorizons



The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

## FH MONDAY

19 November 2018

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### Q3 Chip Sales Reach All-time High

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### TALK TO US



### Apple Said to Inspire Intel 5G Chip

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### EVENTS

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– 12 Nov 2018 – London UK

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### Crypto Crash not Doing Nvidia Favors

SAN FRANCISCO — The end of the cryptocurrency mining boom that boosted Nvidia's revenue for more than a year hit the graphics chip vendor hard in the third quarter, dragging sales below Wall Street's expectations.

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## **Intel Combines Optane Options With New Processor Class**

Only months after announcing it would slowly wind down its 3D Xpoint collaboration with Micron Technology, Intel Corp. has outlined where it sees the persistent memory delivering the most benefits.

Its latest data center strategy includes two new members of its Xeon process family. The Xeon E-2100 processor is available immediately, while its Cascade Lake advanced performance processor will be released in the first half of next year.

The E-2100 processor is aimed at small- and medium-size business and cloud service providers to support workloads on entry-level servers, as well as across all computing segments for sensitive workloads that need enhanced data protections. Cascade Lake, however, is a new class of scalable Xeon processor, said Lisa Spelman, vice president and general manager of Intel Xeon products and data center marketing.

## **Imagination Rolls IP for Image Compression, Navigation**

LONDON — Imagination Technologies used the Linley Fall Conference in Silicon Valley to announce two new IP cores, one for low power consumption location information and another for visually lossless image compression.

Imagination's new global navigation satellite system (GNSS) IP offering, the Enigma Location GNSS IP core, supports GPS, GLONASS, Galileo, and BeiDou as well as several satellite-based augmentation systems (SBAS) including WAAS and EGNOS. The IP is optimized for battery-powered remote IoT sensors and edge devices, wearables, health monitors, consumer mobile products, automotive after-sales products such as insurance boxes and road tolling equipment, and asset tracking devices.

## **Q3 Chip Sales Reach All-time High**

SAN FRANCISCO — Global semiconductor sales hit yet another all-time high in the third quarter, as the chip industry remains comfortably on track to pass the its revenue record of \$412 billion set last year.

Third quarter chip sales totaled \$122.7 billion, an increase of 4.1% compared to the second quarter and 13.8% compared to the the third quarter of 2017, according to the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA).

"While year-to-year growth has tapered in recent months, September marked the global industry's highest-ever monthly sales, and Q3 was its top-grossing quarter on record," said " John Neuffer, SIA president and CEO, in a statement.

The SIA, which reports chip sales statistics compiled by the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS) organization, said the three-month rolling average of sales hit \$40.9 billion in September, up 2% from August and up 13.8% compared to September 2017.

## **Apple Said To Inspire Intel 5G Chip**

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Intel announced plans for an integrated 5G modem, targeting 2020, when the market is expected to be in full gear. The news could accelerate work on an integrated chipset from Qualcomm, which is expected to pick up the vast majority of the few sockets for 5G-only modems through 2019.

Intel said that its XMM 8160, a 5G modem chipset also supporting LTE and 2G/3G, will ship in the second half of 2019, six months earlier than first planned. It will support data rates up to 6 Gbits/s and come in versions for millimeter-wave and sub-6-GHz bands, supporting standalone and non-standalone 5G modes.

An earlier 5G-only modem, the XMM 8060, "is becoming a development platform" rather than a commercial product, said an Intel spokeswoman. Thus, Intel "will miss the 2019 5G launches, but it is targeting large-scale rollouts from customers such as Apple and [partner] Spreadtrum," said Malik Saadi, vice president of strategic technologies for market watcher ABI Research.

## **Crypto Crash Not Doing Nvidia Favors**

SAN FRANCISCO — The end of the cryptocurrency mining boom that boosted Nvidia's revenue for more than a year hit the graphics chip vendor hard in the third quarter, dragging sales below Wall Street's expectations.

Nvidia also issued a fourth quarter forecast that came in below analysts' targets, citing excess inventory of GPUs based on its Pascal architecture in the sales channel.

Nvidia had warned after its second quarter results that its revenue boost from cryptocurrency mining had essentially dried up as cryptocurrency values declined. But Jensen Huang, Nvidia's CEO, said in a conference call with analysts following the third quarter financial report Thursday that the magnitude of the inventory glut in the channel — caused by slower sales of the Pascal GPUs used for cryptocurrency mining — caught the company largely by surprise until near the end of the quarter.