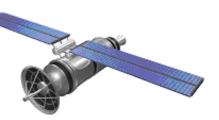
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The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

FH MONDAY

1 August 2016

Smartwatch market nosedives amidst Apple decline

For the first time, the worldwide smartwatch market saw a year-over-year decline of 32%, thanks to falling sales of industry-leading Apple Watch.

Qualcomm Pursues Boost in Wireless EV Charge

How soon will electric car drivers be able to cut the cord when recharging their cars?

If you're still skeptical because of competing wireless charging technologies that don't work together, Qualcomm says you're not up to date.

UMC Sees Jump in 28nm Demand

United Microelectronics Corp. (UMC), Taiwan's second largest foundry, said it's seeing stronger demand for 28nm products, driven by customers in the smartphone business.

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Startup's IoT SoC Packs a Punch

An ambitious startup claims it has an SoC that will deliver breakthrough performance-perwatt and software for it that can run high data-rate networks at ultra-low power levels.

Greenwaves Technologies' GAP8 chip and GreenOFDM code aim to bring new levels of processing and communications to nodes on the Internet of Things.

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Alpha and Omega Semiconductor

Alpha and Omega Semiconductor Limited (AOS) (Nasdaq:AOSL), a designer, developer and global supplier of a broad range of power semiconductors, today announced the release of the AOZ5166QI-01, the high efficiency power modules which are fully compliant with Intel's DrMOS specifications.

Future Horizons Ltd, • 44 Bethel Road • Sevenoaks • Kent TN13 3UE • England Tel: +44 1732 740440 • Fax: +44 1732 740442

Smartwatch Market Nosedives Amidst Apple Decline

For the first time, the worldwide smartwatch market saw a year-over-year decline of 32%, thanks to falling sales of industry-leading Apple Watch.

Preliminary data from the International Data Corporation (IDC) Worldwide Quarterly Wearable Device Tracker showed that smartwatch vendors shipped 3.5 million units in the second quarter of 2016, which was down substantially from the 5.1 million shipped a year ago.

Apple held the top rank by shipping 1.6 million watches. However, it was the only vendor among the top 5 to experience an annual decline in shipments. In fairness to Apple, the year-over-year comparison is to the initial launch quarter of the Apple Watch, which is in many ways the same product offered in the most recent quarter with price reductions.

Qualcomm Pursues Boost in Wireless EV Charge

If you're still skeptical because of competing wireless charging technologies that don't work together, Qualcomm says you're not up to date.

The market momentum behind wireless EV charging has picked up steam. Multiple RFQs from major car OEMs are flying around, Anthony Thompson, vice president of business development and marketing at Qualcomm, told EE Times.

Qualcomm revealed Tuesday a Wireless Electric Vehicle Charging license agreement with Lear Corporation (Southfield, Michigan), a global supplier of automotive seating and electrical systems.

UMC Sees Jump In 28nm Demand

United Microelectronics Corp. (UMC), Taiwan's second largest foundry, said it's seeing stronger demand for 28nm products, driven by customers in the smartphone business.

The company said revenue from communications chips increased to 55% of second-quarter sales, up from 48% in the first quarter this year.

UMC's most advanced process technology, 0.28nm, represented 17% of its total sales in the second quarter, increasing from 8% in the first quarter. That's in line with the company's forecast three months ago that by the second quarter of 2016, 28nm would account for 15% to 20% of its overall sales revenue.

Startup's IoT SoC Packs a Punch

An ambitious startup claims it has an SoC that will deliver breakthrough performance-per-watt and software for it that can run high data-rate networks at ultra-low power levels. Greenwaves Technologies' GAP8 chip and GreenOFDM code aim to bring new levels of processing and communications to nodes on the Internet of Things.

The eight-core chip includes a dedicated block which can process Google's Tensorflow algorithm for machine-learning tasks like image recognition. The OFDM code ultimately aims to be a new and more efficient physical layer, supporting links up to 10 Mbit/second for any IoT network.

The ten-person company was formed in January when the developers behind the separate chip and software efforts met and decided to team up. They are now seeking \$3 million in financing to bring the products to market next year.

Alpha And Omega Semiconductor Introduces A High Efficiency Drmos Power Modules With Optimized Performance

Alpha and Omega Semiconductor Limited (AOS) (Nasdaq:AOSL), a designer, developer and global supplier of a broad range of power semiconductors, today announced the release of the AOZ5166QI-01, the high efficiency power modules which are fully compliant with Intel's DrMOS specifications. The AOZ5166QI-01 is housed in a 40-pin 6mm x 6mm QFN package that integrates an optimized dual gate driver and two MOSFETs, which together produce a high efficiency DC-DC synchronous buck power stage. The new device enables high power density voltage regulator solutions ideal for servers, work stations, graphic cards and high-end desktop PC applications.