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The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

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3D Printing of electronic devices to hit $420-Million

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Cadence, Mathworks tieup on IoT simulation

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Tesla buys German engineer for European expansion

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TALK TO US

IoT: What NXP Has, What Qualcomm Lacks

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SMIC to Build South China’s First 12-Inch Fab

Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC), China’s largest foundry, said it is proceeding with plans to build South China’s first 12-inch fab at an existing facility in the city of Shenzhen, near Hong Kong.

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3D Printing Of Electronic Devices To Hit $420-Million

Opportunities for 3D printing in the electronics industry will generate $428-million in revenues by 2022 and go on to achieve $2.8-billion in revenues by 2025, according to a recent SmarTech Publishing report that identifies and quantifies the commercial opportunities presented by 3D printing of electronic components and related circuitry.

The report underscores growing interest in using 3D printing to fabricate customized circuitry, sensors and antennas, with longer-term applications possible for other types of electronic components. While the current focus is on prototyping, there is also clearly an opportunity to use 3DP for electronic devices that are regularly produced in relatively low volumes – high speed optoelectronics and military/aerospace electronics are good examples here. In the consumer electronics space there is also a high potential 3D printers both for product design and for mass customization of products such as cell phone cases.

Cadence, Mathworks Tieup On Iot Simulation

Cadence Design Systems is collaborating with MathWorks to streamline system-level design and circuit-level implementation for mixed-signal Internet of Things (IoT) and automotive applications.

Under the partnership, designers can now use the Cadence PSpice analog and mixed-signal simulator, perform MATLAB and Simulink behavioural-level modelling, analysis and visualisation, and utilise all post-process MATLAB analysis and measurement functions in a single, integrated system design and debug environment.

Simulink is a multi-domain simulation environment for dynamic systems that is used for algorithm development, system modelling and simulation, and verification in a broad range of applications in automotive, aerospace, semiconductor, communications and autonomous systems designs. PSpice is a SPICE-based simulator used for simulation of mixed-signal electrical and electronic circuits.

Tesla Buys German Engineer For European Expansion

Tesla announced an expansion into Europe on Tuesday, acquiring one company and revealing plans to open one or two “gigafactories” in the coming years.

The all-electric car company is buying Grohmann Engineering, a German manufacturing specialist, to increase its production capabilities on the continent as it attempts to scale up manufacturing for its mass-market Model 3 car.

The Silicon Valley group, which produced fewer than 55,000 units last year, has pledged to make 500,000 cars a year by 2018.

“We want to make Germany, essentially, a part of Tesla,” Elon Musk, chief executive, said on a conference call from Grohmann’s home town of Prüm. “This represents a significant endorsement of German technology.”

IoT: What NXP Has, What Qualcomm Lacks

MADISON, Wis. — NXP Semiconductors is rolling out a Modular IoT Gateway solution this week at Electronica in Munich, one of the largest trade fairs for the electronics industry.

The launch of NXP’s new IoT Gateway product comes 11 days after Qualcomm officially announced plans to acquire NXP.

Neither NXP nor Qualcomm is commenting on the eventual outcome of the planned M&A (the deal is not expected to close until the end of 2017) and its impact on the IoT market.

The consensus among industry observers is the Qualcomm/NXP marriage will give birth to a genuine IoT powerhouse. Qualcomm brings cellular connectivity, while NXP brings high data security. The combined companies will address two IoT fundamentals –

SMIC to Build South China’s First 12-Inch Fab

TAIPEI — Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC), China’s largest foundry, said it is proceeding with plans to build South China’s first 12-inch fab at an existing facility in the city of Shenzhen, near Hong Kong.

The company said in a press release that the new fab is aimed at meeting demand for internet of things (IoT) chips using mature technology and some second-hand equipment for production. Construction is scheduled to start by the end of 2016, and production will ramp up by the end of 2017.

"Shenzhen has the largest electronic information industrial base in China,” SMIC Chairman Zixue Zhou, said in the statement. “By launching the new 12-inch production line, SMIC will further improve our capacity, better serve our customers, and facilitate the development of Shenzhen's IC ecosystem."