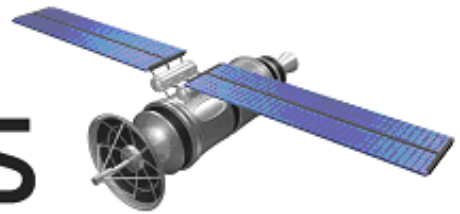


# FutureHorizons



The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

## FH MONDAY

7 March 2016

### India's tech start-ups eye Chinese saviours

For anxious Indian start-ups seeking to raise capital as their country's tech bubble deflates, the investment plans of companies such as China's Cheetah Mobile could hardly come at a better time.

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### Chinese smartphone maker OnePlus dials into India

Premium Chinese smartphone maker OnePlus is planning an aggressive expansion in India, in the latest sign that upscale manufacturers think they can finally crack open one of the world's most price-sensitive mobile markets.

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### Aixtron and Exagan move GaN-on-Si to 200mm

Aixtron, a provider of deposition equipment, has shipped an AIX G5+ C system to French power GaN start-up Exagan, a spin-off from semiconductor materials firm Soitec and European research centre CEA-Leti.

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### TALK TO US



### IT firm Wipro teams up with Verveba

IT service provider Wipro Limited teams up with telecom network engineering company Verveba Telecom to combine Wipro's expertise in the telecom industry and Verveba's Mobile Radio Network Optimisation Technology.

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### 3-D Printing Promises to Change Manufacturing

Atoms, unlike bits, are hard to manipulate. Advances in how we rearrange them come slowly, but the payoff can be enormous. Think new, never-before-seen products mass-produced from materials that once seemed exotic. Next to microchips, there is no more powerful unlocking technology than materials science.

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## India's tech start-ups eye Chinese saviours

For anxious Indian start-ups seeking to raise capital as their country's tech bubble deflates, the investment plans of companies such as China's Cheetah Mobile could hardly come at a better time.

"The consensus in China seems to be that India will be the next growth engine for the entire global internet market, because of its population, economic growth and rising internet penetration," says Alex Yao, senior vice-president at the Beijing-based group, which makes utility software for Android smartphones.

To tap that opportunity, Cheetah is planning a flurry of Indian investments, a process it began last November by leading a Rs880m (\$12m) round for GOQii, the wearable fitness device maker founded by Indian entrepreneur Vishal Gondal.

Mr Yao says he plans at least 20 more deals over the next two years, as part of efforts to tie-up with local companies that can help the New York-listed Cheetah's wider expansion plans in India.

## Chinese smartphone maker OnePlus dials into India

Sheets of plastic cover the screens of OnePlus X smartphones at the OnePlus manufacturing facility in Dongguan, China, on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015. OnePlus is part of a crop of upstart Chinese companies that are intensifying competition throughout the industry and crushing profit at established giants such as HTC Corp. and Samsung Electronics Co. Photographer: Qilai Shen/Bloomberg

India's cost-conscious market has proved tough going for top tier phonemakers, with the average smartphone selling for roughly \$120, less than half the equivalent of prices in China.

However, recent moves by the likes of Apple and OnePlus appear to signal a shift in the market after a year of rocketing growth during 2015, which pushed the country's total number of smartphone users above 250m.

## Aixtron and Exagan move GaN-on-Si to 200mm substrates

Aixtron, a provider of deposition equipment, has shipped an AIX G5+ C system to French power GaN start-up Exagan, a spin-off from semiconductor materials firm Soitec and European research centre CEA-Leti.

Exagan will use Aixtron's deposition tool to start volume production of GaN-on-Si materials for power-switching devices.

Fabrice Letertre, COO and co-founder of Exagan, comments: "Aixtron and our parent company CEA-Leti have enjoyed a long and successful R&D relationship developing GaN-on-Si technology. Now Exagan is partnering with Aixtron to deliver on our industrial roadmap by using epi to reach our cost milestones.

"By implementing an efficient GaN-on-Si manufacturing process on 200 mm silicon substrates, we are aligning GaN technology with silicon manufacturing standards. This makes our G-FET products the most cost-efficient wide-bandgap solution for the solar, IT electronics, connectivity and automotive markets."

## IT firm Wipro teams up with Verveba

IT service provider Wipro Limited teams up with telecom network engineering company Verveba Telecom to combine Wipro's expertise in the telecom industry and Verveba's Mobile Radio Network Optimisation Technology.

"Verveba's solution augments our Telecom Network Services portfolio for communications industry by delivering better business outcomes through cost reduction, improvement in turnaround time and process simplification across the multi-technology Radio Network Optimisation field," said Wipro senior VP Anil K Jain in a statement.

The companies aim to combine the skills and talent of its workforce to further business development activities and expanding solutions to telecom service providers around the globe.

## 3-D Printing Promises to Change Manufacturing

Atoms, unlike bits, are hard to manipulate. Advances in how we rearrange them come slowly, but the payoff can be enormous.

Think new, never-before-seen products mass-produced from materials that once seemed exotic. Next to microchips, there is no more powerful unlocking technology than materials science.

Not long ago I held the product of such a potentially game-changing technology in my hands—a small, intricately detailed component for a valve. It looked like the shell of a nautilus from an alien planet. With its combination of lightness, strength and finish, the component felt very much like the future. And not just the next five years, but the next 50.